



Debra Whitmer Bodkin

June 1, 1956 - October 1, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Debra Whitmer Bodkin, age 68, on October 1, 2024. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and friend. Known for her generosity and love.

Debra was born on June 1, 1956, to the late Norman "Buck" Elmo Whitmer, a WWII veteran, and the late Catherine "Cat" Cleary Whitmer.

She is survived by Samuel Bodkin, her son Jeremy (Shaula) Bodkin, her daughter Jenny (Rich) Newberger, and her beloved grandchildren Oliver, Myles, Beau, and Stella. She is also survived by her brother, William "Butch" (Hilda) Whitmer, sister, Linda Churchill, loved in-laws, nieces, nephew, friends and family.

She loved to laugh, cook, read, play rummy, and most of all, be with her family. She was the kindest soul and loved beyond measure.

A Celebration of Life will be on Saturday, October 5, 2024, at 2:00 P.M.

Stoney Creek Church of the Brethren 6381 Crooked Run Road, Basye VA 22810.

Pastor Louie Shafer will officiate.

We kindly ask that you wear colorful attire instead of the traditional black to honor Debbie's love of life and joy.

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I lived/grew up at the top of Hudson Cross Roads and grew up with Debbie in the church. We had many fun times in the Stoney Creek Church Youth Group and I remember fun gatherings at Debbie's house. Since my father was ill & mother was caregiver for him, myself, & 3 sisters (2 severely handicapped), & I didn't always have a way to church, Buck & Cat & family would sometimes pick me up & take me to church. A memory I also have is Debbie was in 1st grade & I was one year younger than Debbie; at Triplett Elementary, there was one day that a 1st grader could bring an "up and coming 1st grader" to school, & I was fortunate enough to be the one that Debbie took to school that day. I was also in the FBLA with Debbie at Stonewall Jackson High School. I am so very sorry for the loss of Debbie; it is so very hard to lose your mother/grandmother/sister/aunt. The service for Debbie on Saturday showed how many people respected and loved her. Many, many people will miss her. Prayers that you will find comfort every day knowing she loved you and would want you to continue to live a full & happy life until you meet again.

Mona Moomaw Seay - October 07, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Debbie had a sweet soul. She and Nancy put on a great wedding for us and was there the day our daughter was born. I wish we could have had more time with her but have faith we will see her again. Prayers and hugs for all who love and miss her.

Craig, Courtney, and Ava Coffman - October 05, 2024 at 12:00 AM

KY

“ *Worked with Deb at SRMH. She was always laughing and smiling. Many memories of Deb coming to the ED to get patients. Unfortunately, life is but a vapor. Until we meet again. Prayers and heartfelt condolences to the family.*



Kathy Jill Young - October 05, 2024 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *So sorry and shocked to hear of Debbie's passing. If I would have known earlier, I would have been at the funeral. I started working at RMH on March 25, 1974 and she started radiology school in June 1974. She was always pleasant and fun to be around. The last time I saw her was in June of 2019. She took an x-ray of my mother's hip after she had fallen and fractured it. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

Debbie Gaines Jones - October 05, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ IÃçâ,¬â,,çm gonna miss you until I hopefully get to walk through those gates and wrap my arms around you again one day!!! Momma you was the strongest woman IÃçâ,¬â,,çd ever know!!! Thank you being the BEST Mother a son could ever ask for!!! Sorry I wasnÃçâ,¬â,,çt the easiest kid to raise. Since you left the phone just keeps ringing and ringing and people all day the same thing, what a good person you was and how you was like a mother to them too! And usually something about a favorite meal you cooked for them! They broke the mold when they made you Mom! There is no replacement for you Mom. The void you left here in this valley is great and wide!!!! People talk about glue holding families together, Momma I feel like you was the glue holding (3) counties together! I hope IÃçâ,¬â,,çve honored all your last wishes Momma. IÃçâ,¬â,,çm happy youÃçâ,¬â,,çre not in pain or suffering, I truly am! Just wish you could have gave me a minute to say goodbye that is all. But I know all the stars lined up and God opened the door and you took the opportunity! IÃçâ,¬â,,çll never blame you for that nor would anyone! Pleas give Gran and Grandaddy a big hug for me IÃçâ,¬â,,çm gonna miss you guys like crazy!!! Please look over me and my kids make sure IÃçâ,¬â,,çm doing a good job every now and then! I got a family to raise and then IÃçâ,¬â,,çll be along one day. Please tell the big guy to leave the light on for me so I never lose my path! The way you loved others more than yourself was so obvious Momma. You are beyond the shadow of a doubt the best Mom I could have ever dreamed of!!! I miss you Momma! ThereÃçâ,¬â,,çs a hole in my heart without you here. Please visit often. Love your baby boy!

Jeremy - October 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ To the family, I am so very sorry for your loss! Debbie was such a kind lady and co-worker, who never hesitated to help others. She had a smile that would light up the room. She had so many people in her life who loved her and will miss her deeply. My heart breaks for you all. I've never seen her as happy as when she would talk about her beautiful grandchildren. My deepest condolences to all who loved her. You are in my thoughts and prayers for peace and comfort.

Terrina Fulk - October 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM

L(

“ To the best sister anyone could have. Debbie, I am so sorry that I was so mean as a kid. You have bought me groceries, given me cash, taken me to almost all my crazy doctor appointments. I love you so much and I am going to miss you like crazy! Every time I had a question, I called you. I sure do wish there was a telephone up there. I can never live up to the wife, mother, and friend that you have been, but I will try just for you! Tell all the family I love them and give mom and dad a hug from me. I will love and miss you until we meet again.

Linda Whitmer Churchill (Sam) - October 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Debbie and I were classmates at SJHS back in the early 70's. She was such a wonderful friend and classmate. Her laugh could brighten any day and she was always willing to help with a project or share a laugh with us. She will be missed and please accept my condolences for your loss.

Debbi Miller Stevens - October 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Dear Deb: you were the best sister-in-law anyone could ask for. I will miss you more than words can speak. You took good care of my parents and us too. You were always there for us. And the many good meals you fixed will never be forgotten. You were a wonderful wife, mother and “gran”. It will be hard looking out my bedroom window and knowing you’re not there. But I’m glad you are now pain free and in a better place. Thanks again for being the best.

Lyle and cindy - October 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM

KQ

“ I grew up with Debbie at Hudson Cross Roads and was at her house a lot and tagged along with her and Cat on many outings. She was a great friend and clearly loved her family. She will be missed. You all are in my prayers.

Kathy Jones Quoyeser - October 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Your Mom was a lovely woman that loved her family and friends and she was an awesome cook. I remember Beau's baby shower! May God wrap His arms around you and cover you all with peace and comfort. We send our love to you all.

Dana Crittenden - October 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM