



Donna Reed Beeker

January 27, 1937 - July 7, 2020

Donna (Reed) Beeker, 83, of Bloomington, passed away July 7, 2020, at Community North Hospital in Indianapolis.

Donna was born on January 27, 1937 in Ghent, Kentucky to the late William G. and Lillian R. (Beach) Reed. She was a 1955 graduate of Carrolton High School in Carrolton, Kentucky and a 1959 graduate of the University of Kentucky. She moved to Indiana in the early '60s to pursue a Master's degree and quickly became a part of the University's public radio and television community, working on a number of programs at WFIU. Here, she met Emmet R. Beeker, Jr., an engineer from "the television side" (WTIU), whom she married on August 27, 1969.

In her early professional life, Donna was in radio and television and public relations. Her entrepreneurial spirit led her to assist a number of local businesses with tax preparation and in developing an equine video production business, working alongside her husband.

She was a member of the Bloomington Press Club and UK Alumni Association. She relished watching UK basketball and was an ardent Cincinnati Reds fan for 70+ years. Her appreciation for horses grew into a family business where she encouraged her daughter's passion in showing miniature horses. She appreciated nature and flowers in any setting and

enjoyed watching birds and butterflies. She loved her family and spending time listening to and telling stories. She will be greatly missed.

Donna is survived by her sister, Barbara Majors of Roswell, GA; her children, Barbara Beeker of Indianapolis; Emmet (Gilberta) Beeker, III of Springfield, VA; Dan (Viola) Beeker of Bloomington; Charles Beeker of Bloomington; Catherine Beeker of Bloomington; She is also survived by her 7 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Emmet, and sister Billie Lou Johnson.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00am Saturday, July 11, 2020 at the Allen Funeral Home 4155 S. Old St Rd 37 Bloomington. With Rev Shawn Green officiating. Burial will follow at the Payne Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 10:00am to service time Saturday at the funeral home.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Service

JUL 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
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Tribute Wall

CO

“ *If only I had known Donna. She must have been a wonderful woman to have raised such fine, loving children. Your hearts must be broken. The only one of you I really know is Charlie, the best botany lab and study partner anybody ever had. I am so sorry for your loss.*

Cindy Oswald - July 15, 2020 at 11:29 AM

CJ

“ *Barbara,
I'm sorry to hear about your mother's passing. I have many fond memories of the two of you coming to my mom's beauty shop for years. Your mom's love for you was evident in her tales about your adventures with your miniature horses. Thinking of you at this time, and praying you find peace and comfort in your many wonderful memories of your mom.
Cymme (Hardy) Jent*

C Jent - July 14, 2020 at 11:13 PM

BN

“ *I will always remember Donna and her husband, Dick, graciously sharing their home and their land for our Beeker Bashes for many years (7?), which were great fun!! Some of us camped on their land and others stayed at nearby motels, but we ALWAYS gathered together for the great home-cooked meals. And sometimes I think there must have been at least 50 people at some of those meals, and the "bash" went on for 2-3 days!! I can still see Donna in the kitchen with many others getting these meals together. Donna seemed always happy and not harried at these events, and she and Dick and all the people who were there will always hold a special place in my heart. RIP, Donna, and thank you.*

Barbara Neyhouse - July 13, 2020 at 11:11 AM

EB

“ Donna loved nature and living on the "Ferny Farm." I remember, especially, the beautiful hummingbirds that would flock at the corner of the house. Donna made home a place to relax and escape from the bustle; a place to enjoy life.

Emmet Beeker - July 11, 2020 at 11:22 AM

CB

“ Donna was the first person I would invite to a cocktail party, if I were to have a cocktail party. For Donna no one was a stranger for long, within 5 minutes she knew more about them than I could have gleaned from years of their acquaintance. This inquisitiveness extended far beyond individuals, rather to all that came onto her extensive radar, from the most minute to more the grandiose. “Have you ever seen hummingbirds flying from flower to flower? Did you know they fly upside down!”, “There was hot air balloon over the trees this morning! It seems our neighbor has a new hobby.” or “Out of over 100 people you were hired by those neighbors.” Now how the heck does she get information like that, and so quickly? A very good journalist, I say. She could turn what would have been a fairly matter-of-fact story into the greatest, fun adventure, which Barbie and I both can attest to on our last visit together to see Donna. She was one of a kind. She and our father, Emmet Jr, had a beautiful love story, supporting and complimenting one another, loving Barbie, watching her turn into the beautiful woman we know today. They enjoyed each day, taking it as it came. May Donna be eternally inquisitive, and always have a listening, loving ear. Cathy Beeker

Catherine Beeker - July 11, 2020 at 11:05 AM

CG

I remember visiting your home next to Bryan Park in 5th grade like it was yesterday. I always felt welcome and enjoyed playing games of which mouse trap was my most memorable. Your home was always busy with brothers and seemed really free flowing. I'm sure Donna was An important part of making it such a fun place to be. My condolences to all of you. Take care, Cathy Greene

Cathy Greene - July 13, 2020 at 03:21 PM



“ *Love's Embrace Roses – Purple was purchased for the family of Donna Reed Beeker.*



July 10, 2020 at 08:55 AM

SM

“ *My favorite memories of Donna are of her telling stories. She always told them in her own time, and they were always funny. She was a kind and jolly presence in my teenage life. <3*

Shannon Morgan - July 09, 2020 at 02:47 PM