



## Elizabeth Betty Burnham

August 2, 1954 - February 13, 2018

In loving memory of Elizabeth (Betty) Burnham who died peacefully in the early evening of February 13, 2018, surrounded by family and friends, at the too early age of 63.

Betty was born in Jennings, Louisiana the daughter of Elizabeth (Howard) and John Burnham on August 2, 1954. The family moved to Bloomington, Indiana when Betty was six where she continued her education and the making of life-long friends.

Betty's education began at the old University School in Bloomington, studying the normal subjects and then continued at home where every sibling had to learn to play three instruments. Then after a certain age, they were allowed to specialize playing one instrument. Betty chose the Harp, an instrument bigger than she was and a beast to lug around to gigs but she loved it.

Betty breezed through U School with the help of some very intelligent genes she inherited from her mother and father. For example, Betty's mother, Elizabeth, graduated from the University of Texas in Austin in 1935 and Betty's grandmother, Kathleen Laws Corley, graduated from the same University of Texas in Austin in 1911 as Phi Beta Kappa. We should all be so lucky!

Betty's journey through U School was so, hmmm, precocious, that she didn't bother with graduating high school and just jumped right into college. Betty graduated with honors with a BSN in Nursing but still had to get her GED due to state law requiring a high school diploma to be a nurse.

While getting her education at IU, she found the time to become one of the

founding members of the Indiana University Women's Soccer team. Some quotes from her former teammates, "Betty, I don't know if you will remember your old goalkeeper friend but I certainly remember you, the very little Energizer Bunny with an amazing leg who was as tough as nails!", also "Betty is not a big person, but her kick was monumental. She's the kind of person who has defined "I've got your back" on and off the field.", and finally, "Betty and her perfect "I Mean Business" braids and headband. You never wanted to make a mistake in the back to disappoint Betty but you always knew Betty was there if you did. And off the field she was a softie."

Betty had a long successful career at Bloomington Hospital where she began as a pediatric nurse and ended working there as the Manager of Infection Control and Employee Health. Anyone remember Betty Bugs?

Before leaving Bloomington, Betty received her MBA from Indiana Wesleyan University and then left for Arizona with her husband Michael where she continued to work in Infection Control and Employee Health.

While living in Arizona Betty and her husband kept busy outside of work by playing in the City of Scottsdale Volleyball League. Her first year she played on the same team as her husband and placed second in the league. The next year she was recruited away from her husband's team and they took first place. They gave her the trophy and her husband never heard the end of that story!

Betty loved to travel and to explore other cultures. Her soccer playing took her to England, Scotland, and Iceland and then she was able to spend a year in Italy studying Italian and Music at the Conservatory in Bologna.

Betty's pets, Watson the Wonder Dog and Pumpkin the Cat, had a special place in her heart as did other 'critters' that crossed her path. Watson the Wonder Dog especially enjoyed watching the soccer games Betty played with the IU Women's Soccer team, providing the half time entertainment for the fans by chest-trapping the ball and scoring goals. I think there was a little pork in Watson he was such a ham!

Betty had the energy of a 100 people wrapped up in her little body. She did

more in her short years on earth than most of us will ever accomplish in several lifetimes. She was a gifted musician, honors graduate, multi-talented athlete (did I mention she even won medals in slalom skiing?) and was the most loving, caring, kindest person I have ever known.

Betty is survived by her husband, Michael Hostetler, brother Thomas of Bloomington, IN, brother James (Gay Marie) of Oak Ridge, TN, brother Edward (Ananda) Villa Park, Ill, brother William (Marcia) of Ann Arbor, MI, and sister Helen (George) of Kings Mountain, NC. Her parents, John A. Burnham and Elizabeth (Howard) Burnham predeceased her.

A Funeral Service will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington. Family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. until the time of service. Memorial contributions can be made in her honor at a charity of your choice. You are invited to share a memory or leave an online condolence to the family at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **24.** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

## Service

FEB **24.** 6:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
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# Tribute Wall



“ It's been a year, and I can barely stand not having my loving friend, my sweet Betty, our life plan was to be together in retirement, looking for a retirement house, in the sun, looking after each other, traveling together just being there for each other, taking care of each other's family. Oh Betty, how I miss you my friend, how I have cried, how I have laughed thinking of our comfortable conversations, how I have wondered why you chose to leave us and choose the beautiful path of heaven and leave us here without you here. We were suppose to get old together, laugh together, be together, oh how I miss you, how I miss you. I don't understand God's Plan, but I will accept it. I am letting you know, the little girl we are funding in your honor, is a straight A student, at the Episcopal School in Tela, Honduras - second grade, her name is Antonella, her birthday is February 10 - probably God's Plan, Marina King



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**Marina King** - February 19, 2019 at 08:59 PM

MK

Update: Betty my friend you are in Heaven yukking it up- it is now 2026 - Easter- that beautiful little girl- now speaks perfect english, she said: "Tell Ms. Betty I tried soccer, but I kept tripping, so now I am the Captain of the Volleyball team because I am tall, taller than anybody else, teacher says -probably because I eat so well". Betty we have saved a child. I miss you 🥹 my friend.

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**Marina King** - April 06 at 08:58 AM

CH

“ Betty was a bundle of energy and made us all better by her presence! She contributed so much to Bloomington Hospital and our staff and patients - blessed to have worked with her during her career at our hospital. Sincerely saddened - Connie Hill

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**Connie Hill** - February 22, 2018 at 11:59 AM

L(

“ Betty was a wonderful person. She made a huge impact on my life. I might have chosen a different career if not for her influence. Thank you for always making me feel special and for so many wonderful memories.

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**Lisa (Wynn)Repp** - February 19, 2018 at 08:55 PM

CR

“ Oh Betty,  
Smart, funny, dedicated ,caring.  
Here but gone, known, now mind-bound.  
Her energy not created nor destroyed -  
but refined then transformed ... love

Claude, Boel, Selma, Ella

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**Claude Ragle** - February 17, 2018 at 02:15 PM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Elizabeth Betty Burnham.



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February 17, 2018 at 10:24 AM

TC

“ Our deepest sympathies for the loss of your loved one. May God's Word strengthen you during this difficult time. (Isaiah 41:10, 13)

*Tricia*

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**Tricia Collay** - February 17, 2018 at 08:49 AM

NL

“ Dear Michael,

*Larry and I send our most sincere sympathy.*

*You will be in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Larry and Nancy*

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**Nancy Lux** - February 16, 2018 at 12:07 PM

GD

“ GENE AND JEAN ANN DAVIS purchased the Peach, Orange & White Rose Fireside Basket for the family of Elizabeth Betty Burnham.



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**GENE AND JEAN ANN DAVIS** - February 16, 2018 at 10:24 AM

TR

“ Sending prayers for you and your family,  
-Trina Starnes



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**Trina** - February 16, 2018 at 08:13 AM

RT

*I'm heartbroken! to hear of of her passing! She was too young and beautiful as a person to leave us. I enjoyed working with her at Bloomington Hospital. She always had the prettiest smile that was genuine ,and would go out of her way to help! I had the pleasure of helping her and her mom with painting at their house on the IU campus back in the 80's. I will never forget her mom surprising me one day at my farm while I was working on a piece of equipment behind the barn! I turn around at suddenly there was her mom standing behind me watching me? She had been visiting a neighbor down the road and decided to go for a walk. I'm in the boondocks! It's truly a small world. She also sold doughnuts at 2 nd. and Walnut st. 😊 I went to school with her at the old University School. She was living proof that any person can achieve their goals in life! Rick Trinkle*

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**Rick Trinkle** - February 17, 2018 at 10:54 AM

BJ

“ *Wishing you the peace of God which transcends all understanding to bring you comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your heart.*

*My deepest condolences to the family of my dear friend Betty; may she rest in peace.*

*Billie Jordan*

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**Billie Jordan** - February 15, 2018 at 07:00 PM

BJ

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Billie Jordan** - February 15, 2018 at 06:22 PM

BJ

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Billie Jordan** - February 15, 2018 at 06:20 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Allen Funeral Home and Crematory** - February 15, 2018 at 03:26 PM