



Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden

December 10, 1964 - September 5, 2019

Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden, 54, of Bloomington, Indiana, passed away on September 5, 2019 at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Michigan. Rita was born on December 10, 1964 in Bloomington, Indiana the daughter of Everett Allen and Betty L. (Blackwell) Kerr.

Rita graduated in 1982 from Bloomington North High School and was on the National Honor Society, and then continued her studies at Indiana Wesleyan University receiving her bachelors degree in business. After high school she went to work for Cook and she worked there for 36 years serving as the Global Communication Director. She married Michael Troy Harden on October 14, 1995 in Bloomington, Indiana.

Rita was a member of Sherwood Oaks Christian Church West, and she was a member of the Monroe County 4H Club. Rita enjoyed reading, gardening her flowers, animals her dogs and cats, antiques, the countryside, traveling, and vacations with her husband, and she loved spending time with her family and friends. She will be missed by all who loved and knew her.

Rita is survived by her loving husband, Troy Harden; her son, Nickolas (Brittany) Moser; her daughter, Heather (Brian) Goshert and the pride and joys of her life, her four grandchildren, Ava and Everett Moser, Jacob Harden and Johnathon Goshert. Rita is also survived by her amazing parents Everett and

Betty Kerr, two sisters Rhea Dawn (Jim) Buskirk and Laura June (Jeff) Deck; and several nieces and nephews.

Rita was preceded in death by her grandparents.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 14, 2019 at the Allen Funeral Home 4155 S. Old St Rd 37, Bloomington. with Rev. John Robertson officiating. Burial will follow at Mt. Gilead Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 2:00pm to 8:00pm Friday, September 13, 2019, and from 10:00am to service time Saturday September 14, 2019 at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Rita's memory to American Diabetes Association. 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

Cemetery Details

Mt. Gilead

Bloomington, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 13. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Visitation

SEP 14. 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

SEP **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

JB

“ So sorry for the late addition to the memories for Rita....she and I worked together and she was such a special person.

About 6 or 7 years ago, and after learning that my grandmother's maiden name was Blackwell, she approached me and after talking about it a bit, we realized that somewhere down the line we were related in some fashion....distant cousins to some degree! So from that point forward we always referred to each other as "cuz" when we would see each other. I never saw her without a smile on her face and a pleasant way about her. Just a precious person through and through. Please know that she touched many lives each and every day and was loved by everyone. You all will be in our thoughts everyday.

John Blackketter

John Blackketter - October 13, 2019 at 08:40 PM

EF

“ To the Harden's, Rhea Dawn, Laura June, Everett & Betty & all the family. We are so sorry for your loss. We will be praying for you all on Saturday. We are not going to be able to be there but you will be in our thoughts tomorrow & the coming days. We didn't know Rita personally but remember you all talking about your baby sister. Praying for comfort & strength for the coming days.

Mary & Ernie Frazo

Ernie & Mary Frazo - September 13, 2019 at 09:25 PM



“ *Sincerest Sorrow - Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



September 12, 2019 at 05:39 PM



“ *Condolences to the family of Rita Harden, a wonderful person who will be deeply missed by those of us lucky enough to know her here on earth.*

Derek Voskuil - September 12, 2019 at 03:21 PM



“ *To the Harden and Kerr families, I'm so sure for your loss. I worked with Rita in the 80s. When we sat in the back row of the Cook office on Curry Pike. As so many people have mentioned, she was a joy to work with and had this sweet laugh.*



*My thoughts and prayers will be with you on Saturday.
Sincerely,
Debbie Hueston*

Debbie Hueston - September 12, 2019 at 09:13 AM



“ *Rita was one of the most genuine people I knew from Cook. Her beautiful smiles will always be remembered in our memory.*

DH Jo - September 11, 2019 at 08:11 PM

KN

“ *May her soul rest in peace..*

kaushik nath - September 11, 2019 at 07:39 PM

DW

“ *Please accept my deepest condolences.*

Donna Webb - September 11, 2019 at 07:00 PM

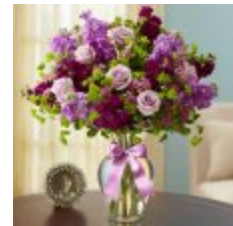
AB

“ *Rita was such a beautiful person inside and out. She was a wonderful colleague and friend and she will be missed deeply. Gone but never forgotten, she will live forever in my thoughts. Sending strength and love to Rita's family at this sad time.*

Annemarie Beglin - September 11, 2019 at 02:28 PM

LC

“ *Love your friends at Cook Canada purchased the Shades of Purple for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



Love your friends at Cook Canada - September 11, 2019 at 01:22 PM

KI

“ *I was lucky enough to have spent the last year working very closely with Rita. She was one of the most genuine and kind souls I have ever met. I will miss her beautiful smile and kind heart every day. Thinking of her family during this difficult time.*

Kiley - September 11, 2019 at 01:18 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



September 11, 2019 at 11:51 AM



“ *Rita's friends in CSD Cook Medical EMEA purchased the Lavender & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



Rita's friends in CSD Cook Medical EMEA - September 11, 2019 at 10:13 AM



“ *From Cook Ireland (Limerick, Ireland) purchased the Healing Tears - All White for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



From Cook Ireland (Limerick, Ireland) - September 11, 2019 at 10:11 AM



“ Hi Rita,
You always welcomed people with your bright smile. You had a very special gift of listening to people and made people feel listened. I can't and would not forget your calm kindness and smile. With people like you we lose a piece of Cook. My heartfelt sympathies with the family.



Dom Lee - September 11, 2019 at 10:09 AM

DD

“ Rita saw something in me I did not see when she offered me a position in Customer Relations at Cook. She was a great boss and her door was always open. Thank you Rita, my prayers are with your family at this time.

Donna Deckard - September 11, 2019 at 08:57 AM



“ White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.



September 11, 2019 at 08:17 AM

LW

“ I remember Rita always had a smile for everyone. Her light will live on in the hearts of us who loved her.

Lori Ann McClary Wagner

Lori McClary Wagner - September 10, 2019 at 08:44 PM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



September 10, 2019 at 08:39 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



September 10, 2019 at 01:36 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time. Although, I did not work with Rita often, she was a pleasure to work with during the times our paths crossed. She was someone that I admired and respected. Someone so special and kind, will never be forgotten.*

Doris Hawks - September 10, 2019 at 11:29 AM



“ *Rita was a terrific person. I am glad I was able to get to know her and spend time with her. She was always smiling and had a great sense of humor. She will be missed. To the family my thoughts and prayers are with you.*



Mary Koontz - September 10, 2019 at 10:38 AM

DD

“ *Debbie Davis lit a candle in memory of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden*



Debbie Davis - September 10, 2019 at 09:48 AM

MP

“ *Rita hired me in 2016. I remember the interview very fondly. I walked in and she had her signature smile on her face. She lead me to the table in her office and said “before we start I have to ask you a question. I heard a rumor that Larry Price is your dad- is that true?” I confirmed the rumor and she then went on to share her admiration of my dad. She was always generous, passionate, dedicated, and real. I am very thankful for her leadership and how she mentored me. Her role as my boss lead to a friendship. Forever grateful to have known her. There’s no one that can take her place.*

melissa price - September 10, 2019 at 08:28 AM

LW

“ *All my thoughts and deepest sympathy are with the family. Rita was a really good and inspiring colleague and valued throughout the Cook world. I started working with Rita many years ago and had the pleasure meeting her in Denmark in 2014. Rita will stay in my mind forever and will be truly missed.*

Lissi Walmann

Lissi Walmann - September 10, 2019 at 06:32 AM

FH

“ I had the pleasure of working with Rita for 8 years. She was one of the kindest people I have ever met. Her knowledge and gentle nature enabled her to lead by example. I never heard anyone say an unkind word about her and in return she never said anything unkind about anyone. May God Bless her family. You will be missed, my friend.

Fred Hays

Fred Hays - September 10, 2019 at 05:47 AM

JP

“ Rita took a chance on me and hired me almost 2 years ago. Though I didn't know her very long, she definitely made a difference in my life. I will forever be indebted to Rita and truly appreciated her positive leadership as well as her friendship. I continue to shake my head in disbelief. My heart goes out to the family and many friends. You will be missed but never forgotten.



Janet Price-Lutz - September 09, 2019 at 04:13 PM

DK

“ I first met and began working with Rita in the mid-1980s when she began working for the late Dennis Troy, my primary contact at Cook at the time, in a cubicle outside Dennis's office on the second floor of Cook's then-headquarters on Curry Pike. In 2014, I put her on the witness stand in a jury trial for Cook. Afterwards, the bailiff told Tom Roberts and I and others that the jurors had nicknamed Rita June Cleaver because she was sweet yet strong, sincere, honest, beautiful, unflappable, perfectly dressed, poised, concerned about trying to be honest and accurate and trying to do the right thing, and obviously loyal to Cook, just as June was to her family on TV. When we told Rita that later, she laughed and said that was not the first time she had heard that. Throughout the time I knew her, and we worked together into early 2018, that was exactly who Rita was. It was a great pleasure and honor of mine to have worked with her for all those years. She will be sorely, sorely missed.

Doug King - September 09, 2019 at 11:37 AM

RF

“ Rita, you took a chance on me 10 years ago and hired me for a position here at CMI. You have truly been a mentor in my life and I consider it a great privilege to have been your friend. I shall reflect on our conversations and the nuggets of wisdom you bestowed upon me along the way. Thank you Rita! I will pray for your family, for comfort and for healing during this time.

Ryan Fleetwood - September 09, 2019 at 09:12 AM

SH

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I am so glad to have had the pleasure of meeting Rita through Cook. One of the most kindest caring giving and hard working person I have ever met. Rita always saw the best in everyone. My dear friend you will truly be missed for many years to come. See you in heaven God has many plans for you.

Shelia Helms - September 08, 2019 at 06:02 PM

MB

“ You will be extremely missed by the Brinegar family. So many memories we have of you, Karen, & Marceta together, laughing and giggling. My your family feel God's presence.
Jerry & Margaret Brinegar

Margaret Brinegar - September 08, 2019 at 03:02 PM

DO

“ We started working together within the last year, and I'm so grateful for that. I was immediately drawn to her gentle voice, easy personality, professionalism, kindness, grace, and beauty. My deepest prayers and sympathies are with her family and friends. Her passing is a terrible loss for all of us at Cook as well. 💔 She will never be forgotten.

Debbie O'Leary - September 08, 2019 at 10:50 AM

JU

“ Rita was one of the sweetest ladies I've ever met! I didn't know her well as I knew her from a church she used to attend, but she was always encouraging and always smiling! She will be greatly missed! God bless you Troy and rest of family! You all are in our prayers!



James Uland - September 08, 2019 at 10:42 AM

CM

“ *My deepest sincere sympathy to Rita's family. I was a coworker thru COOK Vandergrift plant. I remember calling her to tell her I was going to retire due to health issues and she was so happy for me. she stated at the time (21/2 year ago) I have a ways to go before retirement. Well Rita I know you will continue your work in heaven. I thank her family for letting our work paths cross. May GOD heal your broken hearts.....*



Carol McCain - September 08, 2019 at 09:48 AM

SV

“ *Sorry for your loss. Family and friends are in my thoughts and prayers*



Shannon Vincent - September 08, 2019 at 09:25 AM



“ *Memorial Wildflower Seed Pouches was purchased for the family of Rita Ann (Kerr) Harden.*



September 08, 2019 at 08:09 AM

BE

“ *A beautiful lady...inside and out! I will treasure her memory forever! She had a big impact on my life!! My prayers and thoughts are with the family. Fly high my sweet friend!!*

Brenda Enochs - September 08, 2019 at 01:29 AM