



Catherine Joan Marks Mahrt

September 17, 1961 - August 2, 2025

Catherine Joan Mahrt, lovingly known as Cathy or Cate, was called home to eternal rest as the sun rose on the morning of Saturday, August 2nd, 2025 at the age of 63.

Cathy overcame many health challenges throughout her life, including stage four breast cancer with courageous strength and determination. Her resilience was a testament to the depth of her character and love for her family.

Cathy had a special place in her heart for animals, especially panda bears and her puppy dogs, Chloe and Zoey. Their companionship brought her comfort and unconditional love throughout every chapter of her life.

Born on September 17th, 1961 to William and Laverne (Shoemaker) Marks, Cathy had a deep appreciation for the beauty of the world, finding joy and peace in music, blooming gardens, and tropical beaches. On Saturday, May 30th, 1987 Cathy married the love of her life, Bryon Mahrt. Together, for 38 years, they built a life filled with love, laughter, and lasting memories. Wife, mother, and grandmother were the roles she cherished most in life.

Cathy is survived by her beloved husband Bryon, her daughters, Abigail (Justin) McKinley, and Stephanie Mahrt, and her precious grand babies, Elijah, Ella, and Emilie. Her two sisters, Jan (Mike) Powers, Judy Hayden, and her brother William Marks Jr. (Jean) and numerous nieces and nephews, whom she loved dearly.

She was welcomed into Heaven by her parents, William and LaVerne Marks, her brother-in-law James Hayden, and her niece Amy Kate. Her legacy of grace, courage, and strength will live on in all who were blessed to know her.

Private family services will be held at Resurrection Mausoleum.

A celebration of life at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to the West Peoria Fire Department in Cathy's memory.

Tribute Wall

DH

“ So sorry to hear this news Bryon. I know it is very difficult for you all. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Take my friend.

Dennis Hattermann - August 29, 2025 at 05:10 PM



“ I met Cathy so many years ago working at GreenView. We shared many laughs and got together for our oldest girls to play together a few times during those years. We stayed in touch online while I was living in California and talked about getting together so many times after I moved back to Peoria a couple years ago...and now a really regret those missed opportunities. We share so many laughs, our faith and our political views. I'll look forward to laughing with you again in heaven Cathy. Hugs and love. L

Lauren Howell - August 21, 2025 at 05:30 PM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Catherine Joan Marks Mahrt.



August 07, 2025 at 08:29 PM

AK

“ Bryon and family, we were so saddened to learn of Carhy's loss. She was a lover of family and friends. Please know I will be praying for you all especially the grands.

Amy Woosley Kellerstrass - August 07, 2025 at 02:11 PM



“ I always thought this pic of Cathy and Bryon was so funny. I took it back in the 80's at my parents' house in Brimfield. I was home visiting from Florida and had a party. It was last minute, but Cathy was always up for a party! I'm still not sure what she was doing in this pic, but I can seriously hear her contagious laughter ringing in my heart. Until we meet again. RIP Babydoll.



Anna O'Day - August 07, 2025 at 11:04 AM

TR

“ Oh boy, I'm not a writer 📝 I always called you Cathy to help me - so many years of fun memories I promise I will keep posting as time goes on it's so hard without you by my side I will truly miss you 😭💔💔💔
Cathy , we were 14 when we meet, we found out your grandpa & my grandpa were best friends then years later here we are besties!! I could write a book or two about everything we have done shared and went through 😊
You fell in love with Bryon, two beautiful girls Abigail and Stephanie 💕💕, beautiful grandchildren, your smile, your laugh, your beautiful voice ,, your humor, your views on life, your faith, your love that you had for so many people that came into your life over the years. we will all miss you. I love you, Cathy no more suffering is what keeps me together you're the best 💕💕 Love You Theresa 💋

Theresa Ruhaak - August 07, 2025 at 09:41 AM

LB

“ *My deepest condolences to your family. I've known Cathy since grade school and grew up on the same street as her grandparents. I was thrilled to find her on Facebook some years back and to reconnect with her. Cathy was a fellow liberal and we bonded over our political views. Cathy was one of those individuals you meet in life and are so glad you did.*

Laura Berardi - August 07, 2025 at 07:36 AM

PN

“ *So sorry for your loss. Cathy was such a sweet lady and a great mom. I remember how she fought so hard through her cancer. Prayers for you all during this very difficult time.*
Pat Nedza

Pat Nedza - August 07, 2025 at 07:26 AM

FB

“ *Dian Karl Nielsen*
So very sorry. I know Cathy will be greatly missed.

Julie Mounts Bandy
Oh no. So sorry to hear this. Hopefully she and Amy met up.

Marsha Smith-Thompson
Loved her smile. She had such a gentle soul. Praying for her family.

Theresa Ruhaak
Cathy's Grandpa & my Grandpa where Best Friends & years later we were Besties💕💕💕 You will truly be missed💔💔💔
Love Ya

Molly Markum
I have the best memories of Cathy, she was pure and had the best laugh ever! Loved her so much. RIP Cathy💔💔

Cheryl Peck
Rest in Peace Cathy! Such a joy to be around. You will be missed! Prayers to you and your family!

Tami Mousty
This is so sad! Cathy had best laugh!💔💔💔

Chris Ardis
This makes me so sad. Such a sweet, sweet person. 🙏

Sheila Ann Kenny-Eccles
Such a good picture of her ! Her smile would light up the room you were in

Linda Gunter Hattermann
We're so sad and sorry sweet Abby McKinley. We loved your mom and all of your family. Our hearts are broken. 🙏💔

Alan Michael

I heard this morning. I am so sorry Abby. I loved your mom so much. She was one of the sweetest/most fun women I've ever met. I glad she's found peace but she will be missed❤️love you sis

Patti Hanchett Wenger

I'm so sorry for the loss of your mom. I thought of her often. Please let your dad and sister know I'm thinking of them too.

Barb Primm

Oh my goodness! My heart is breaking so much right now. Sad sad news. On the bright side, she is in heaven with Amy. I will keep so many memories in my head from all of the trips to Florida. I'm so sorry for all of you. Hugs and prayers.

Facebook condolences for Bryon - August 06, 2025 at 11:09 PM

FB

“ Ellen Coombes Pipkin
My condolences to her family and friends. I will miss her
spunkiness!

Christina Scherer-Jesiolowski
She will be missed....prayers for her family

Heidi Jo Kilgus
Our Lord has wrapped his arms around you and given you peace.
We knew each other a long time and I will miss you. ❤️ 🙏

Kathy Taylor
So. Sorry. I. Remember. Playing. Marbles. With you

Stacey Moore
No!!!!!!! 😞😞😞 I can't believe this. Prayers to her family and
friends.

Mark Bush
RIP Cathy sending hugs and Prayers to your family.

Lindy Chambers-Routt
Always and Forever in Our Hearts
❤️👍❤️👍❤️👍

Debra Kunkle- Whited
Prayers to the family and everyone

Theresa Ruhaak
I miss you 🙏💔
One day we'll be together 💋💋

Roz Ann Dillon
So sorry for your loss, she was a great person and friend.i will miss
you and your post,I know Amy and Jim and kitty was at the gate to
welcome u into Heaven😭😭❤️❤�

Tina Morgan

Cathy you will definitely be missed by All!

RIP sweet friend.

Praying for your family and friends 🙏

Facebook condolences for Bryon - August 06, 2025 at 10:53 PM

AG

“ *We are so very sorry for your loss. Lots of fun memories over the years were made with Cathy and the West Peoria crew. I can still hear her laugh. Sending you all love, hugs and prayers.* ”

Amanda Gordon - August 06, 2025 at 10:49 PM

FB

“ *Brian Frankland*
We love you, Cathy. Rest In Peace!

Joni Closen McAfee
My dear lifelong friend, I will forever miss you

Sherry Anne
One of my bestest friends I love you Cathy! 💔

Tom Dries
Thinking of Cathy and her family

Arnie Gonzalez
Rest in heaven my dear friend.

Jill Adcock
So sorry to read this. She fought a good fight.

Kim Maurer-Duda
Such a sweet lady. I worked with her at Maui Jim. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Facebook condolences for Bryon - August 06, 2025 at 10:47 PM

FB

“ Toni Caldwell Genovese

RIP Cathy ~ sincere condolences to all her family and friends that will need to pull on good memories to comfort them now. I had the pleasure of being connected online with her sharing current events and learning what a wonderful big hearted person she was! 🙏

Jerry Clancy

Rip my dear friend u will always be missed and loved praying for all of you 🙏

Kristen Schultz

I'm so sad to hear this news, prayers for you all. She was such a sweet person. ❤️❤️

Jessica Kromphardt

Oh my goodness! I'm shocked! I'm so terribly sorry.

Deb Bohm

I'm so sorry, worked with her in the past and loved her. Hugs to family and friends.

Eric Lundell

So sorry for the family

Jan Atkinson

Oh, I am so sorry to see this! I don't know of a sweeter person, I'm heartbroken.

Facebook condolences for Bryon - August 06, 2025 at 10:43 PM

JA

“ I’m so sorry to see this. I worked with Cathy at Maui Jim. She was the sweetest person. My prayers are with her family whom I know she loved more than anything.

Jan Atkinson - August 06, 2025 at 10:37 PM

RM

“ So incredibly sorry for your loss. Thinking of you all during this difficult time.

Randi McKinley - August 06, 2025 at 09:42 PM

SM

“ I miss my mom so much and wish I could talk to her one more time. My mom was always there for me and her absence is already being felt greatly. When I was little she always brushed my hair and scratched my back as we watched Full House at night. She did everything to make sure I could succeed in life and there is no way I could begin to pay her back. I am forever grateful for all the things she did for me. I’m very glad she kept a million pictures for me to look through and see her and our families memories! She was very strong and overcame many health battles. Knowing that she is no longer in pain and is at rest helps bring me peace. Thank you for everything mom until one day I see you again! Love Stephy Kay :)

Stephanie Mahrt - August 06, 2025 at 09:25 PM

RC

“ A dear friend for many years. We discussed music, plants and flowers and fixed the world's social ills. At the Ayers house \"Cate\" was host and den mother. We often had \"animated\" conversations (two stubborn Irish characters) I will forever see her smile, hear her laugh and miss our \"little sister\". It easy to say \"one of a kind\" but Cate was that! I hope someday she's next to me at a concert singing loudly and making lasting memories. I will feel that spirit. RIP CATHY, till we meet again! Peace rc

Randy Chambers - August 05, 2025 at 09:10 PM

TS

I always looked forward to working with Cathy at Greenview Nursery. She had the knowledge that I didn't, and she had the personality that always made it fun and interesting! I'm so sorry to know that she's gone too soon, but I feel that she's just one who will be waiting where we all aim to be when our time comes. Put in a good word for us, Cathy! I'll be seeing you!

tracy Schumacher - August 06, 2025 at 06:42 PM

AM

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Schmidt Haller Burial and Cremation Services

A Memorial Tree was planted for Catherine Joan Mahrt - August 05, 2025 at 05:26 PM

CD

RIP sweet Cathy! I will treasure our memories together during the RLI era and feel so blessed that we have kept in touch through the years! Your sweet smile and ornery giggle will always be remembered. You held your marriage to Bryon, your girls and grandkids so close to your heart. May they find comfort and peace in all the memories they hold. Fly high girl, and I'll miss your fiesty Facebook posts 😊!
~ ❤️ Cindy Dohm

Cindy Dohm - August 06, 2025 at 10:50 PM