



Marty Sparks

July 26, 1940 - September 9, 2024

Martha Lou "Marty" Sparks, 84, of Peoria passed away Monday, September 9, 2024 at Bickford of Peoria.

She was born on July 26, 1940 in Sullivan, Illinois to Cyrus and Evelyn (Phelps) Kestner. She married Gerald "Jerry" Sparks in Peoria on July 16, 1998. He passed away June 15, 2010 in Peoria.

Martha is also preceded in death by her parents; brother, Robert Kestner; brother-in-law, Jack Burdess; step-brother, Richard Alexander.

Martha is survived by her daughters, Stacy Shropshire and Erin Bowton; step-son, Jeff (Lori) Sparks; step-daughter, Lynn Phillips; granddaughter, Haley Shropshire, grandson, Brody Backus; step-granddaughters, Kris Buckley and Amy Ryan; step-grandsons, Brandon Buckley, Ben Phillips, Brock Phillips and Jason Sparks; great-granddaughters; great-grandson, Jackson Dean Ingersoll; sister, Donna Roehrich; sister-in-law, Nancy Burdess; brother, Rick Kestner; niece: Ashley Roehrich and great-nephew, Gabe.

Martha loved baking. Her enthusiasm extended beyond the kitchen to her unwavering support for NASCAR and the Chicago Cubs.

Above all, Martha cherished the time spent with her friends. Her home was always open, and she loved hosting gatherings where stories were shared, laughter was abundant, and everyone felt welcomed. Her kindness and genuine interest in others made her a cherished friend and confidant.

A celebration of life will be held November 16, 2024, from 1-5 at the American Legion in Bartonville, IL.

Cremation rites have been accorded, Schmidt-Haller Burial and Cremation Services have been entrusted with arrangements.

Tribute Wall

DR

“ Sending our condolences to the family.... \nShe was a special lady... we will hold onto our memories of her... 💕

Dawn and Gordy Rohrer - September 18, 2024 at 08:19 PM