



## Mary N. Lair-Watkins

June 12, 1977 - November 3, 2025

Mary N. Lair-Watkins, 48, of Peoria, passed away on Monday, November 3, 2025, at her residence, surrounded by loving family.

Born in Pekin, on June 12, 1977, she was the daughter of the late Harold Dean and Elizabeth (Rowland) Powell. On August 27, 2011, she married Louis Watkins; he survives.

Further surviving are her children: Austin Lair and his wife, Aileen Kuypers; Sophia Lair; and Elizabeth Rowland; siblings: Carl Powell and his wife, Cathy; Roger Powell and his wife, Brenda; Lowell Powell and his wife, Ruth; Jerry Powell and his wife, Ronda; Nema Joesting and her husband, Scott. She was preceded in death by three siblings: Charles "Chuck" Powell; Nevada Powell; and Patrick "Pat" Powell.

Mary worked as an x-ray technician at Bromenn for many years. She was a volunteer for the Peoria Honor Flight and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and through these experiences became a foster parent in recent years. Mary was a devoted follower of Jesus, and active member of the Bible Study Fellowship. She had a large heart, and took any opportunity to help anyone in need. The little things mattered most to Mary. She enjoyed watching airplanes in the yard with her children, celebrating the 4th of July with fireworks and s'mores, and documenting memories with her family through

scrapbooks and photo-albums. Mary was someone who was always a call away, no matter the situation, need, or time of day.

Mary's request was that a private service be held for her immediate family and children; no additional services will be scheduled at this time. Giving to those in need was of the utmost importance to Mary, therefore the family requests that donations to local food pantries and/or homeless shelters be made in remembrance of her. Online condolences may be made at [www.schmidthaller.com](http://www.schmidthaller.com).

# Tribute Wall

RR

“ Robin R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary N. Lair-Watkins.

Robin R. - November 10, 2025 at 05:00 PM

TV

“ Met Mary while working at BroMenn. Knew her husband very well. So very sad and hold her family in my heart. Hugs and prayers.  
Tammy Vandegraft

Tammy Vandegraft - November 08, 2025 at 09:22 PM

SJ

“ Mary was in my Bible Study Fellowship group a few years ago. I loved her love of Jesus and her desire to help others know Him. Now she's face to face with Him!

Sharon Jeffers - November 08, 2025 at 05:08 PM

SH

“ Mary had such a huge heart for people. My heart is aching for her family. She really be deeply missed.

Sara Hamilton - November 06, 2025 at 11:10 PM

MR

“ Mary you will be missed! To the family my heart breaks for you. Mary received the ultimate gift of seeing Jesus face to face. Prayer and love to you all!

Melissa Rasmussen - November 06, 2025 at 02:24 PM

HP

“ Friend, this world will never be the same without you here. I love you and miss you. Thank you for 10 years of wonderful conversations and time spent together. I know you heard, "Well done my good and faithful servant". It's not goodbye, it's see you later.

Heather Price - November 05, 2025 at 10:17 PM

AM

“ I'm going to miss you Mare. Thanks for everything you taught me about being a tech and for being my mom at work :) but mostly thank you for showing me how to be a good friend and momma (because you are one of the best at both :) ). You always looked out for me and I will never forget you. Rest In Peace.

Abbi Madison - November 05, 2025 at 09:05 PM

ER

“ 12 files added to the tribute wall



elizabeth rowland - November 05, 2025 at 07:38 PM

AV

“ We have been friends for over 30 years! Every big thing that has ever gone on in my life you have been there. I'm going to miss you so much! I'll see you again! I love you my friend! You are no longer in pain. RIH

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**Amy Vignassi** - November 05, 2025 at 06:55 PM