



Barbara Kinsey

November 11, 1952 - May 28, 2025

Barbara Kay Kinsey, 72, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., went to be with Jesus Wednesday, May 28, 2025, surrounded by family after a four-year battle with MDS (bone marrow cancer).

Barb was born Nov. 11, 1952, to Duane Kinsey and V. Marilyn Powell Kinsey in Centralia, Ill.

The family moved to McClure, Ill, in 1954 where she grew up on the family farm and then graduated from Shawnee High School in 1970. She then graduated from Metro Business College.

Barb was the most positive person, always filled with joy and never complained.

Although she was not a morning person, she truly enjoyed a beautiful sunset, the moon rising, a clear night sky and a good thunderstorm. She also had a keen sense of grammar and had an eye for misspelled words.

In her youth, she had long dark hair, played Three Dog Night too loud and cruised Broadway in her powder blue Volkswagon Beetle with Cragar Mag wheels. Now that was groovy!

As an adult, Barb enjoyed country line dancing and attending Southern Gospel concerts. She was a voracious reader, attending numerous Bible study groups, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. Many people knew Barb through her cake decorating business, where she created beautiful cakes for all occasions for more than 48 years.

But most knew her from her 50-year career at her beloved Southeast Missouri

State University. Barb spent her career in University Relations, Sports Information, the News Bureau and the Athletic Department. She performed countless duties including typing basketball play-by-play to working Booster and Redhawk Club hospitality rooms, golf tournaments, barbecues and many other events.

Barb was a member of Centenary Methodist Church, being deeply grounded in her faith. Most important, she loved her Lord and Savior more than anything, and she desired for everyone she knew to have a personal relationship with Jesus. One of her cherished post-retirement trips was to the Holy Land and Israel. She truly was a disciple for Christ in all she did.

Barb is survived by five siblings, Pat (the late Doyle) Baldwin of McClure, Ill., Linda (Wynn) Bollinger and Wesley (Ann) Kinsey of Cape Girardeau, David (Fran) Kinsey of Thompsonville, Ill., and Susan (Scott) McClanahan of Cape Girardeau; nieces and nephews, Laura (Craig) Hutson of Jackson, Mo., Sarah Zeller of Marion, Ill., Tarah (Steve) Battaglia of Royalton, Ill., Christa (William) Zickfield of Cape Girardeau, Nathaniel (Ariel) Kinsey of Midlothian, Va., Ross (Anna) McClanahan and Truman (Mikayla) Kinsey, both of Columbia, Mo., Annie (Ben) Briscoe of Johnston City, Ill., and Lexie McClanahan of Denver, Colo.; and 10 great-nieces and great-nephews, Olivia, Leighton, Marlie, Hadley, Gunnar, Charlie, Maverick, Emersyn, Nolan and Ella. Barb deeply loved her nieces and nephews, and they truly meant the world to her.

The entire Kinsey family expresses its abundant gratitude to all of the employees and volunteers at the Southeast Mercy Cancer Infusion Center for treating Barb with compassion and genuine love and concern.

Barb would be thrilled if those who attend services would sport their Southeast Redhawk swag.

Visitation will be 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at Centenary Global Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 am Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at Centenary Global Methodist Church in Cape Girardeau with the Carl Palmer officiating.

Burial will be at Lindsey Cemetery in McClure, IL.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of memorial contributions to Lindsey Cemetery at 34422 Grapevine Trail, McClure, Ill., 62957; by donating blood, as Barb received countless units of blood products over the past couple of years; or by donating to the Redhawk Club at Southeast Missouri State University at SEMO Athletics, One University Plaza, MS 0200, Cape Girardeau, Mo., 63701, in memory of Barb Kinsey.

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 3. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Centenary Global Methodist Church
300 N. Ellis
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Service

JUN 4. 10:30 AM (CT)

Centenary Global Methodist Church
300 N. Ellis
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

BH

“ I didn't realize that Barb was sick. I'm so sorry she had to suffer with Bone Cancer. If there was no hope for a cure, I'm relieved that God has ended her suffering. Of course we all still have a void that can't be filled but we can let Barb go. We still have our beautiful memories of her to help us get through Life. We never have to be without her love, as long as we remember Barb.

Bobbi Hatler - June 03, 2025 at 07:44 PM

RD

“ So sorry for the loss of a beautiful sister. Prayers to the whole Kinsey family.

Renee Phillips Day - June 03, 2025 at 06:18 PM

JG

“ Barb was a wonderful, talented lady who was kind to everyone and lived a life of service. I don't know of anyone who did not like her. I first met Barb in the early 1970s when she started working for Wayne Norton in the SEMO Public Information Office. We worked together for a few years and as time moved on she remained a friend and was a bright spot in my day every time I saw her. A Life Well Lived!

Jim Grebing - June 03, 2025 at 12:55 PM

JV

“ Jay Goff and Suzanne Vaughan purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Barbara Kinsey.



Jay Goff and Suzanne Vaughan - June 03, 2025 at 10:03 AM

MW

“ I was so sorry to hear of Barb's passing. She was a great person. She made my son's groom cake and did a wonderful job. She will be missed.

Michelle Wooldridge - June 02, 2025 at 09:21 AM



“ Sorry to hear of Barbara's passing. My condolences to Susan and the entire Kinsey family.

Robert Hale - June 01, 2025 at 09:16 AM

LB

“ Luann & Greg Webb, David Baldrige purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Barbara Kinsey.



Luann & Greg Webb, David Baldrige - May 31, 2025 at 05:32 PM

PC

“ Thinking of the family. God bless all Herman and Cordelia Peters and crew

Peters crew - May 31, 2025 at 10:10 AM

DG

“ Sorry for your loss to the whole family

Dotty Gholson - May 31, 2025 at 09:32 AM

NH

“ Worked with Barb at SEMO. What a nice person she always was. I'm so sad to hear of her passing. My condolences to all of her family. Nancy Hess

nancy Hess - May 30, 2025 at 10:11 PM



“ Barb was the best Bible Teacher ever. I learned so much from her when she led studies for women at Grace UMC. Women at Grace lamented their loss of her to Centenary. Our love for her and her faith, her joy and grace is never ending!!!

Adelaide Parsons - May 30, 2025 at 09:42 PM

DW

“ I worked with Barbara many years ago at the University. Such a wonderful, thoughtful woman. RIP

Deborah Weaver - May 30, 2025 at 04:17 PM

DM

“ I'm so sorry to hear this news. Barb made my wedding cake nearly 42 years ago. Love and hugs to all of the Kinsey family.

Diana Lambdin Meyer - May 30, 2025 at 11:12 AM

WP

“ With love from Gerald & Nancy Powell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Kinsey.

With love from Gerald & Nancy Powell - May 30, 2025 at 08:36 AM

MB

“ So lucky to have known and worked with this extraordinary woman for almost 50 years. She was always so happy and pleasant to be around. My heartfelt sympathy to her family and friends back home there.

Two thoughts - about 15 years ago, I was back there and stayed the night at Giant City. That night there was an electric and noisy thunderstorm. Scared me and kept me awake (we don't get those in Arizona). The next day, Barb called me to say how happy she was that I was treated to a good old fashioned Midwest thunderstorm! 😊. And last month, we were texting and catching up about health and retirement. We agreed that we've both slowed down. She said when she gets home, "I settle in my chair and watch the Weather Channel. Exciting times! ". RIP my dear!

Michelle Brown-Hollin - May 29, 2025 at 08:48 PM

RH

“ Ron Hines, Mary Margaret and Kate Hines purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Barbara Kinsey.



Ron Hines, Mary Margaret and Kate Hines - May 29, 2025 at 07:39 PM