



Mary Ann Coleman

September 15, 1946 - April 2, 2023

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Mary Ann Coleman (nee Bauer) was born in Sioux City, Iowa in 1946 to Jesse and Betty Bauer.

She grew up Pawnee, Illinois, graduating from Springfield High School in 1964. In 1966, the

family moved to O'Fallon, Illinois, and Mary Ann attended Southern Illinois University and

worked in St. Louis. The following year, the family moved to Florida, where she worked as a

waitress at a Steak-n-Shake and met Willie Coleman. They were married on April 2, 1968 and

lived in Tampa, where they had four children.

After moving to Memphis in 1980, she became a strong friend of Memphis' Jewish community

while working in specialty marketing for Rita Schneider, and for the Jewish Historical Society,

editing their newsletter. After Rita retired and closed her marketing business, Mary Ann worked

for the Chickasaw Council of the Boy Scouts of America, retiring in 2015.

Mary Ann was a devout churchgoer, lay leader, and children's Sunday School teacher at

Capleville United Methodist Church. She loved a good book, great food, a

long nap, flowers and butterflies and hummingbirds, music you could dance to, a margarita on the beach in the afternoon, a glass of wine on the deck in the evening, and the company and conversation of family and friends.

Surrounded by her loving and devoted children, Mary Ann passed away on April 2, 2023, on what would have been her 55th wedding anniversary. She was preceded in death by her husband, mother, and father. She leaves behind her beloved sister Jody and her brother Larry; children Robie, Jessie, Beth, and Mark; in-laws Melissa, Jeff, Joe, Jean, and Bobby; grandchildren Nikki, Heather, Bry, and Andrew; great-grandchildren Reagan and Wyatt; and numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, and cousins.

Mary Ann will always be remembered by those who knew her as a woman of simple elegance, quiet dignity, and grace. To her family she will always be Grandmary, a true matriarch of her clan, impossible to replace.

The family requests that donations in lieu of flowers be sent to the COPD Foundation (<https://copdfoundation.org>) or to the Capleville United Methodist Church children's ministry.