



## Linda Lucille Willenbrink

March 4, 1939 - November 21, 2024

Linda Lucille Willenbrink, age 85, of Bowling Green, MO passed away Thursday, November 21, 2024, at her daughter's home in Winfield, MO. Funeral services will be held at 10:00am on Monday, November 25, 2024, at the Bibb-Veach Funeral Homes & Crematory in Bowling Green, with visitation preceding from 9:00 am until the time of services. Burial will be held at St. Charles Memorial Gardens Cemetery in St. Charles, MO.

Linda was born March 4, 1939, in Frankford, MO, the daughter of Lloyd Leroy and Edna Mae (Grote) Kelch. Growing up Linda lived in Frankford and Louisville, attending elementary school in Louisville and junior high and high school in Silex. Linda was a guard for the Lady Owls basketball team and graduated in 1958. It was during high school that she started writing letters to a soldier she had never met, who was away at war while stationed in Germany and France. That soldier was Lawrence A Willenbrink. Upon his return to the states and being honorary discharged from the United States Army, the two started dating in 1958. At 8am Mass on January 30, 1960, at St. Clement Catholic Church in St. Clement, MO, Linda and Larry united in marriage and together celebrated 61 years of marriage. Larry preceded her in death March 13, 2022.

Upon their marriage the two moved to O'Fallon. Larry began working for Drug Package and soon Linda followed. Linda would spend the next 44 years working for the company and retired in 2004 as a supervisor. Upon her retirement, she and Larry built a home in Bowling Green, MO and moved back

so that she could take care of her ailing mother. Never one to sit around, Linda found herself needing something to do and began working for the local Dollar General Store.

In her free time, Linda enjoyed gardening zinnia flowers, putting puzzles together, playing card games, listening to country music, watching old game shows and the Hallmark Channel on television, along with sitting on her back porch with a glass of sweet tea and watching the hummingbirds. Every August she would spend time at Lake of the Ozarks at the Quails Nest Inn and Suites. Survivors include daughter Laura Stage (Ron) of Winfield; grandchildren Kristen (Brad) Hanff, Justin (Jess) Smith; great grandchildren Kiley (Kaleb), Evan, Caleb, McKenna, Jansen, and Jori; great-great grandchildren Lincoln, Carson, and Cooper who is due to arrive in April of 2025; brother Les Kelch of Bowling Green; nieces, nephews and extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, sons Larry Dean and Lance Leroy Willenbrink; siblings Larry and Wayne Kelch, Melba Benn.

Serving as pallbearers will be Ron Stage, Brad Hanff, Justin Smith, Garrett Luebrecht, Kaleb Schneider, and Kiley Schneider.

Memorials are suggested to your local humane society, or Frankford First Christian Church.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **25**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Bibb-Veach Funeral Home's & Crematory LLC - Bowling Green  
606 West Main Street  
Bowling Green, MO 63334  
(573) 324-2211  
office@bibbveach.com  
<https://www.bibbveach.com/>

## Funeral Service

NOV **25**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Bibb-Veach Funeral Home's & Crematory LLC - Bowling Green  
606 West Main Street  
Bowling Green, MO 63334  
(573) 324-2211  
office@bibbveach.com  
<https://www.bibbveach.com/>

# Tribute Wall

AB

“ *Linda was one of my favorite niece's and will be missed I always loved going to her house and listening to stories about our family.*

**Aunt Betty** - November 26, 2024 at 10:25 PM

ZK

“ *Laura, Ron, and family - I am saddened to hear of the passing of your mother. She was a wonderful cousin to be related to. Aunt Betty and I send our love and our condolences.*

**Zachary Kordus** - November 25, 2024 at 04:43 PM

BP

“ *My sympathy and prayers for Linda's family. I remember the good times playing on the Silex girls basketball team with Linda RIP Barbara Peasel.*

**Barbara Peasel** - November 23, 2024 at 08:14 PM

DF

“ *My condolences to Laura, Ron and family on the loss of Linda. The love and care you gave to her in her final days was truly beautiful. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of loss.*

**Donna Foppe** - November 22, 2024 at 01:41 PM