



Carolyn "CJ" Austin

October 28, 1948 - September 29, 2020

Carolyn "CJ" Austin, age 71, passed away on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at her home in East Peoria.

She was born to Merrell and Barbara Jean (Backes) Kern Jr. on October 28, 1948 in Peoria.

CJ is survived by sister Janet M. (Butch) Sheets, and brothers, R. Greg (Vanessa) Kern and Rodney W. (Julie Corbin) Kern, all of Mapleton. Her family was a very important part of her life and she loved her pets.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Marilyn, and brother Chip. CJ worked as an insurance agent for 40 years and was a member of EP Kiwanis Club. She was a hard worker and was proud of her contribution to The Corner Farm banquet hall in Mapleton. She was the "Queen of the Lawn Mower" and put many of the outdoor projects she dreamed up into action. Her concern for others and willingness to always lend a helping hand was inspirational.

A funeral service will be held on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 11:00 AM at Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Deacon John Nelson will officiate. Visitation will be held one hour before. Burial will be held at Kingston Mines Cemetery with a reception to follow at The Corner Farm in Mapleton. Memorials may be made to TAPS.

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services is assisting the family with arrangements and condolences may be left at www.GaryDeitersFH.com.

Cemetery Details

Kingston Mines

Kingston Mines, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services
444 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL 61611
(309) 694-9831
gary@garydeitersfh.com

Service

OCT 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services
444 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL 61611
(309) 694-9831
gary@garydeitersfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ Carolyn "CJ" Austin

October 08, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ I go quite a ways back with Carolyn , purchasing insurance throughout the years (the nm Bill Inow comes to mind). Carolyn was a friend as well as my agent . Was totally shocked as well as saddened by the loss of CJ.

Michael Stanard - October 31, 2020 at 03:52 PM



“ Tom and I would like say how very sorry we were to hear of Carolyn's passing. She will be missed by many. Sending prayers to all of you in this difficult time.

Tom & Lisa Umholtz - October 05, 2020 at 06:33 PM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes



Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services - October 04, 2020 at 07:25 PM

VK

“ Vanessa Kern lit a candle in memory of Carolyn "CJ" Austin



Vanessa Kern - October 04, 2020 at 12:26 AM

EB

“ I first met Carolyn in the fall of 1975 at her parents farm when I was dating her Uncle Roger, whom I later married. Carolyn was one year older than me and we just immediately clicked, as crazy animal lovers and snarky jokesters. I still laugh every time I think of Carolyn describing someone as "...able to suck start a Harley"! I was happy to reconnect with Carolyn over Facebook this past year and loved her positive and funny messages during this very challenging year. Rest in peace, beautiful girl, surrounded by all of your animals, especially your gorgeous Bloodhound (Beau?) from long ago. You were loved.

Eileen Backes - October 02, 2020 at 11:43 AM

MB

“ Carolyn was my best buddy ever, not only because we started school together in 2nd grade, but we really formed a close sister like bond, shared secrets with each other, and was so happy she was comfortable when we were together. I was with her as much as She would allow me on this cancer journey, I felt privileged that she was comfortable with and sharing many things about it. She had a quick wit, the biggest heart ever, would do anything for “almost” anyone. For the rest of my life, till we meet again, I will miss her something awful, I admired the strength and her strong constitution to stand up to this cancer that actually started many years ago with breast cancer she was going to beat it and she did for a long long time. God rest her soul, I love you buddy ❤️, as will Lucy! Till we meet again on the other side. Thank you ❤️

marian Bonikowske - October 01, 2020 at 11:31 PM

MB

“ Marian Bonikowske lit a candle in memory of Carolyn "CJ" Austin



marian Bonikowske - October 01, 2020 at 11:17 PM