



## Lisa K. Dierker

February 18, 1961 - April 23, 2020

Lisa K. (James) Dierker, 59, of Groveland, Illinois passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at the OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria, Illinois. She was born to Leroy and Vera (Schmidt) James in Pekin, Illinois on February 18, 1961. Lisa graduated from Hartsburg-Emden High School in 1979 and Illinois State University in 1983. She married Richard Dierker on August 10, 1985 in Emden, Illinois.

Lisa is survived by her husband of 34 years and their two daughters, Kristin (Steve) Ross of Pekin and Kayla Dierker of Groveland. She is also survived by her mother, Vera James of Emden, and two sisters, Lori (Mark) Fedyk of Green Oaks, Illinois and Leann (Todd) Knollenberg of Frankfort, Illinois and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father.

Lisa had a vibrant, fun-loving personality that radiated to all who knew her. She was always enthusiastic and ready for the next adventure with her husband, Rich, and their daughters, Kristin and Kayla. Whether at their Groveland home or at the Lake of The Ozarks home, she loved to entertain and host family and friends for holidays and parties. Being an avid athlete and volleyball coach, she loyally followed both her daughters' careers in sports across the country from preschool years through college. Additionally, she never wanted to miss an ISU Redbird home basketball game.

Her teaching career in elementary education extended throughout Central Illinois. Her last seventeen years, she was a preschool teacher and director at Bethel Lutheran in Morton. She was loved by the hundreds of students whom she taught over the years. When not teaching or cheering for her daughters, she was known as a shopper extraordinaire, to the benefit of family and friends.

For the last ten years of her life, she courageously battled her degenerative neurological disease with laughter, determination, and faith. To all who knew her or became acquainted with her during this time, she was an inspiration. Although robbed of speech and movement during her later years, she continued to enjoy each day, wanting to participate in all activities, in style and with grace and a smile. Lisa's presence lit up a room. Undaunted by her disease, together, Lisa and her family lived life to its fullest up to the end.

Lisa was a faithful member at Bethel Lutheran Church. Due to current state and federal restrictions regarding large gatherings, a celebration of life service will be scheduled and held at Bethel Lutheran Church in Morton, Illinois at a later date. Memorials can be made to Bethel Lutheran Preschool or the OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home. Arrangements are being handled by Gary Deiters Funeral Home. To express remembrances, visit [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lisa K. Dierker*

October 08, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ *Rich, Kristin, and Kayla I am so sorry for your loss. Lisa was my room mate at ISU and she is such an amazing person. My prayers are with all of you at this difficult time. Holding on to so many memories. She will always be a bright light. ❤️🙏*  
*Juli Palka*

**Juli Palka** - May 01, 2020 at 10:04 AM



“ *Richard and girls: you have Linda and my deepest sympathy. Lisa had a long hard battle. We have great memories of you all at Summerset and visiting on the boat dock. Lisa always had a great smile and was fun to be around. She was very proud of her girls. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*  
*Chuck and Linda Feeney*

**Chuck Feeney** - May 01, 2020 at 10:03 AM



“ *Dierker and Kristin and Kayla, You were blessed to have such a great Wife and Mother like Lisa. You all are Saints for giving her such great care. I lit up whenever I saw any of you and Lisa was always so fun to see and be with. We had some great times together in the ISU Basketball Days! I am so blessed to have known her and all of you. What a beautiful Life she lived in great times and the tough times. Love you all, you will be in my Prayers. City!*

**Steve Petersen** - April 28, 2020 at 07:39 PM

DP

“ so very sorry dierkers ! she will forever be missed and forever be loved ! so thankful for the opportunity i had of spending the time i did with her ! prayers to you and your family .

*much love*



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**deidre pheasant** - April 27, 2020 at 07:52 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lisa K. Dierker.



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April 26, 2020 at 08:02 PM

CB

“ Rich, Kayla, Kristin (Steve) and family we are sadden to hear about Lisa. We are so great full for all the lake memories we have had with her and your family. We have always admired Lisa's zest for life. We have learned so much from her. She truly loved her family and friends. We will forever miss her smile. Much Love to all of you. Mark and Carroll

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**Carroll Brcic** - April 26, 2020 at 07:45 PM

BS

“ Kristin,  
We are so sorry to know your dear mom has died. We send our sympathies to you and your husband, your father, sister, aunts and Grandmother. Losing your mom is a great loss for all of you. However, I believe the example of living she has passed on to you and family members will give you strength in your journeys. Let her light shine through you in all you do. This is your mom's legacy and at same time a treasured gift to you. We send our love and prayers from Roanoke Avenue, where you lived and were the cutest neighbor ever! I will remember you, your mom and family as I continue to plant my red/pink geraniums out front this year. Take care and Stay well.  
Your ole neighbors,  
Barb and Bud Simmons

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**Barb simmons** - April 26, 2020 at 06:37 PM

JK

“ Lisa was such a vibrant, fun lady! She loved her family and Bethel Preschool! Our daughter, Katie, loved babysitting her girls. We will miss Lisa, but she suffers no more! We should all continue to live the way she taught us: bravely and with love and joy. You have our utmost sympathy during this bittersweet time!  
Dave and Janice Kinsinger

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**Janice Kinsinger** - April 25, 2020 at 07:20 PM

DC

“ So sorry for your loss  
Prayers be with your family in this loss  
Your friends  
Danny and Susan  
Conrad

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**Danny susan conrad** - April 25, 2020 at 05:11 PM

BH

“ *I will always have fond memories of my interactions with Lisa as a student at Bethel Lutheran School. You have my deepest condolences, Rich, Kristin, Kayla, and family.*

*-Brandon Hovey*

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**Brandon Hovey** - April 25, 2020 at 04:24 PM