



Bridget Merklinger (Chapman)

January 16, 2021

Bridget Merklinger (Chapman)

Chili - Saturday, January 16, 2021 at age 68. Bridget passed away at home in the loving arms of her big family and is with her savior Jesus Christ!

She is preceded in death by her father, James; brother, Jay; and sister, Maureen. Bridget is survived by her high school sweetheart and love of her life, Mark; children, Mark, Frances (Renee) Merklinger, Jeremy (Kim) Merklinger, and Jamie (Gary) Bell; mother, Margaret Chapman; brothers, Kevin and Shawn Chapman, and sister, Robin (Gerald) Nucci; grandchildren, Hannah (Eric) Friedel, Lucas (Gabriel) Merklinger, Madelynn (Kasey), Cody, Brenna (Jose) Vasquez, Jared Merklinger, Ryan Merklinger, Jacob Merklinger, Keeley Bell, Nathaniel Bell; great grandchildren, Eloise Cody, Sofia Maria Vasquez and a precious little Friedel girl on the way; sister in laws and her pals, Mary Moll (Merklinger) and Noel Schey (Merklinger) and numerous, wonderful nieces and nephews.

Bridget's life revolved around her family. She would hold all her babies in her arms to comfort them. Bridget made sure the children never missed an

opportunity to jump in every puddle. She loved parades where she would wave our flag, often orchestrating family ones in the yard with pots and pans. Bridget cherished her time in the kitchen teaching the grandchildren to bake and decorate pies and cakes like a pastry chef. Wegmans would run out of apple pie when Bridget was working.

Mark and Bridgie fell in love when they were 16 and celebrated 50 years of marriage. The last 26 years were spent having a ball with the grandchildren. Even at the end her eyes would sparkle when she saw Mark and all her children.

Thanks to the memory care program at Strong, to Dr Anugu for her kindness, caring, and insight into our family, and to Joyce for keeping her singing and smiling and our wonderful friends for their thoughts and prayers.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Alzheimer's Association. Because of Covid-19 restrictions there will be no calling hours. Service and burial will be held privately for immediate family only. Please feel free to express your thoughts and prayers below her obituary at [Legacy.com](https://www.legacy.com).

Tribute Wall

PW

“ *Mark and family, my condolences on the loss of your wife and Mother. Bridget and your family are in my prayers.*

Paul Walther - January 21, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *The Merklinger family ~
I knew Bridget during my high school years when playing baseball on a girls softball team and then years later then another re-acquaintance when she peeked out from packing up all those apple pies at Wegman's to be so welcoming in reaching out when spotting me at Wegmans! She has touched everyone's lives in a beautiful way, and we can now feel her love unfold again as a bakers dozen!
~
My Condolences and Sympathy,
Judy Heagney-O'Hara*

Judy Heagney-O'Hara - January 20, 2021 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ *Mark... With prayers of sympathy to you and your family. May you be consoled by the promise of the Resurrection.*

The Giblin Family

Ed Giblin - January 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ *WE WERE SO SORRY TO HEAR OF BRIDGET PASSING. WE WILL KEEP HER AND YOU IN OUR PRAYERS. SURE MISS THE BACK YARD COMINGS AND GOINGS.*

PAUL MAY and MARY - January 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ To the Merklinger family.

*Her voice will echo in memories you hold,
Her smile will warm you through stories retold;
Her love will touch you in spirit each day,
Her life will be treasured in beautiful ways!
Praying you're comforted by memories
and held close in God's love as you grieve.*

*God bless you will always be in my prayers for
the entire Merklinger family.*

*Brenda Wallace & Greg Menke
SJC Properties Management*

Brenda Wallace - January 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ Dear Bridget Long time no talk no see , sorry about that sure will miss you down here life can be a pain in the ass down here but it goes on"💎 I remember so well the past such fun with all the kids the baseball games , visiting one another"💎 Etc. well I'm sure you're doing well up there please check on Bob Callahan (Make sure he stays in check) Nancy G and all the others feel confident that we are all here for your GREAT family . hope I can get to heaven someday and see you then . Until we meet again love you miss you And I promise I will be praying !!!! Katie you know me a little too Long winded probably

Katie - January 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Dear Mark,
I wish to send my deepest sympathy to you, your children and the entire family for the passing of your wife. Please know that I will keep her and all of you in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless brother.

Dick Fantanza - January 17, 2021 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Dear Mark and family. I'm so sorry to hear about Bridget's passing. We had a lot of fun back in our "poor" days!! Sharing bottles of cheap wine and gathering at someone's house on Saturday nights to watch Saturday Night Live, back when it was funny!! You are all in our thoughts and prayers

Ginny and Dave Melos - January 17, 2021 at 12:00 AM