



Debbie Lee Briggs

February 13, 1955 - April 8, 2020

Debbie Lee Briggs was born February 13th, 1955, in Lakeview, Michigan, to Jay McKinley and Leola Ann Moore Darnell. She died Wednesday, April 8, 2020, in Skiatook, Oklahoma, at the age of 65 years. Debbie grew up in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan and educated in Shepherd, Michigan, where she was a graduate of Shepherd High School Class of 1973. She continued her education attending Mid-Michigan Community College in Harrison, Michigan. She moved to Oklahoma in 1983 shortly after graduating college. She spent most of her working life as an office manager, primarily dedicated to accounting, retiring with Tulsa Inspections Resources in 2016. Prior to that she was the director of purchasing for the Weston Hotel in Tulsa. Debbie had been a member of Prospect Park Church of God in Mt. Pleasant during her youth. She loved horses, horseback riding, and being a member of the Bad Girls Trail Riding Club. Through her love of horses she met her husband Gary Briggs. March 31st, 2020 they celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary. She enjoyed the outdoors, going camping, spending time with the Warriors in Saddles organization, and anywhere she could ride on the back of her husband's motorcycle. Debbie relished the time she spent with her family and friends. Being Grandma was her favorite role. She leaves behind many family members who love her and cherish many memories:

Husband; Gary, of the home

Children; Sarah Fisher, of Owasso, Oklahoma

Vanessa Martin and husband Derrick, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Donna Gwin and husband Jimmy, of Tulsa, Oklahoma

Diane Waffle and husband James, of Bixby, Oklahoma

Grandchildren; Brookelyn and Zachary Stout

Dominic, Kalla, and Teagan Peters

Jimmy, Jesse, and Jadon Waffle

Richard Briggs

Parents; Jay McKinley and Leola Ann Darnell of Michigan

Brother; Jeff Darnell and his wife Diana, of Michigan

Sisters; Kaye Spidel and husband Frank, of Alabama

Shelly Vokes and husband Jimmy, of Florida

And a host of great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Forest and Mary Moore, and Ray and Adalade Darnell.

A public memorial service will be scheduled at a later date. The family requests memorial contributions be made to Warriors In Saddles, <https://www.paypal.me/Warriorsinsaddles>

Comments



“ Well, dear friend, we had a very good run together and I have the pictures to prove it. Looking back it's hard to believe it has been over twenty years but even though our lifestyles have changed we always stayed in touch.

There is a flood of wonderful memories and I could tell some very funny "Debbie" stories.

It didn't seem to matter what we were doing ie; trail rides, parades, Bad Girls parties or simply hanging out at my house, there was an abundance of fun and laughter. Sometimes our schemes would go sideways and you would invariably turn to me with those huge dark twinkling eyes in that Janis Joplin voice and say "are we having fun yet?" Yes, Yes we were.

Debbie, I have rarely met someone with the grit, determination and courage that you possessed, whether it was raising your girls, riding your horses, defending your friends, being a devoted wife, or facing a life-threatening illness; you poured your heart and soul into it.

I am thankful that we were fortunate to spend a little time visiting over the winter. You and Gary were such a comfort to me when Dan passed away. Even as you approached a new round of cancer treatments you chose to sacrifice your time to support me when I so desperately needed a friend.

I will never forget those delightful memories, your amazing friendship, and know full well that you will be waiting at the end of the trail.

Rest easy my friend until we meet again.



Karen Miller - May 09 at 01:36 PM



“ Debbie was a lover of horses. She brainstormed the idea of Hooves for A Cure to assist Breast Cancer in support of the Susan G Komen Foundation. She will be missed.

Carla Hight - April 14 at 06:11 PM



“ Debbie was an amazing lady, who was kind to everyone. I had the joy of working with her for many years. You will be missed my dear friend. My thoughts, prayers and love are with her family. God had a new, beautiful angel.



Andrea Boyd - April 14 at 05:24 PM



“ Debbie - I remember the first time I met you, I think that was in 1994 at The Barn where I left my very first horse Myriah in your care. You were caring and helpful and became an instant friend. And what I found out about you was - when you were a friend - it was for life. You always, always, always had a cup of coffee in your hand and a fresh pot ready for anyone - anytime - anywhere. You were a great listener and never forgot anyone and a special day. When we had our first Bad Girl ride, you were right there as one of the 6 original Bad Girls and you were instrumental in the success of this organization. The rest - as they say - is history. I have been so proud of you. A single mother when we first met, you went on to marry Gary, the love of your life. You weathered many difficult times with a grace that most of us could only hope for. You taught us how to be a great woman, a wonderful mother, a loyal friend and how to dig in your boot spurs for the one you loved. You are and will continue to be an inspiration to all who knew you. I miss you already but know you are in a better place - drinking coffee, riding your horse, on the bike with Gary - watching over us with love.

To your family - please know you all are in my thoughts and prayers and I cannot say how sorry I am for your great loss. If in need - I am here.

Happy Trails my friend,
Val

Valerie Webb - April 11 at 09:47 PM



“ Valerie Webb lit a candle in memory of Debbie Lee Briggs



Valerie Webb - April 11 at 09:14 PM