



Balina Prater

September 6, 1951 - July 16, 2024

Balina Prater, 72 of Bluffton, passed away on Tuesday morning, July 16, 2024, at Stillwater Hospice Home in Fort Wayne.

Balina was born on September 6, 1951, in Dizney, KY., to Joe and Mary (Gilbert) Gilbert. She graduated from Bluffton High School in 1969. She worked for Franklin Electric for 18 years and then Kitco. Balina enjoyed gardening. On September 9, 1989, Balina and Harold Prater were married in Poneto.

Survivors include her husband, Harold of Bluffton, sons; Joe Grogg of Bluffton and Jerod (Amber) Grogg of Miamisburg, OH, along with eight grandchildren: Elizabeth Everett, A.J. Moya, Nicholas Grogg, Angelica Grogg, Madison Grogg, Ava Lainhart, Eli Lainhart and Lexi Grogg, and two great-grandchildren, Kyler Everett and Oliver Grogg.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Joe and Mary Gilbert, and her siblings; Bobby Gilbert, Johnny Gilbert, Pauline Courtney, Flora Lewis and Jesse Gilbert.

Visitation will be held from 3 P.M. to 7 P.M. on Saturday, July 20, 2024, at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home and from 12 P.M. until the time of the service on Sunday. A funeral service will take place on Sunday, July 21, 2024, at 1:30 P.M. at the funeral home with Pastor Alan Crull officiating.

Memorials may be made to Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and directed to the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 20. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Visitation

JUL 21. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 21. 1:30 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Tribute Wall



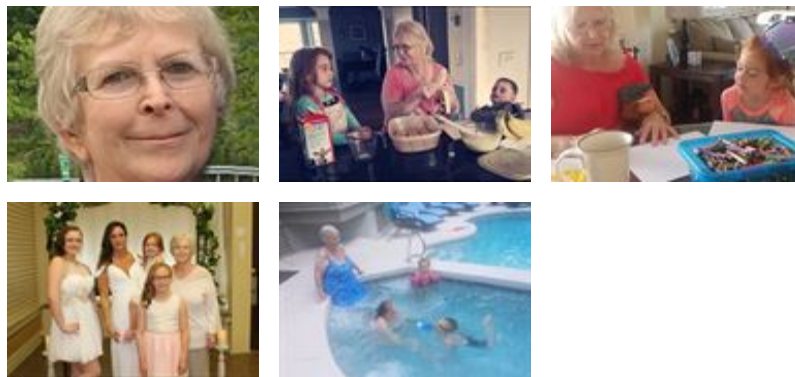
“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Balina Prater*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - July 20, 2024 at 06:23 PM



“ *102 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - July 19, 2024 at 03:38 PM

CD

“ *To the family, Balina was a wonderful lady to have known. She was so kind and giving. You all have our deepest sympathy on your loss. But she has no more pain, no more sorrow, and no more tears. She is at complete peace now. We will keep you all in our prayers. Ed & Celia (Moser) Dunmoyer*

Celia K Dunmoyer - July 18, 2024 at 01:50 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Balina Prater.



July 17, 2024 at 07:28 PM



“ Angel Prater lit a candle in memory of Balina Prater



Angel Prater - July 17, 2024 at 01:15 PM



“ She was a very nice and kind person and a special sister in law she will be missed prayers for her famil

Angel Prater - July 17, 2024 at 08:02 AM



“ Balina was a wonderful friend she will be greatly missed. To the family may you find peace at this difficult time you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love goes out to all of you. Balina rest in peace until we meet again my friend.

Sheila A Hunter - July 16, 2024 at 03:13 PM

SH

“ *Sheila A Hunter lit a candle in memory of
Balina Prater*



Sheila A Hunter - July 16, 2024 at 03:10 PM