



Rita S. Brinneman

January 24, 1956 - August 26, 2025

Rita S. Brinneman, 69 of Bluffton, passed away on Tuesday morning, August 26, 2025, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Rita was born on January 24, 1956, in Wells County to Lester E. and Joyce E. (Gilbert) Roberts. She graduated from Norwell High School in 1974, then studied at Ball State University for four years. She worked for North American Van Lines from 1978 until 2001. She then worked for Accelerated International until 2020. She was an ISWA Pairing Official. Rita was a member of the Lutheran Church (ECLA). She enjoyed reading, spending time with her family and playing cards and dice games. She loved being outdoors.

On May 12, 1979, Rita and David Brinneman were married at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The couple were blessed with 46 years of marriage.

Survivors include her husband, David Brinneman of Bluffton, a daughter, Amanda (James) Kelley of Craigville and a son, Ted (Holly) Brinneman of Columbia City. She was a loving grandma to 16 grandchildren: Logan (Caitlin) Staples, Madison (Ashton) Miller, Alyvia Schaller, Emmalee Kelley, Maddox Kelley, Bree (Christian) Enustun, MaKenzie Kelley, Alexis Kelley, Austin Kelley, Sydney Brinneman, Kyren Brinneman, Kelby Brinneman, Keyani Brinneman, Cole Patton, Baylie Patton and Hudson Patton, and one great-grandson, Beckham Kelley. She will be remembered by her siblings, Kim (Jan) Roberts of Cape Coral, FL., Amy (Dave) Kreigh of Ossian, Lori (Dave) Lowe of Indianapolis, Melissa (Todd) Graft of Coldwater, MI. and Jennifer (Jerry) Meyer of Bluffton.

She is preceded in death by her parents and a son Steve Brinneman.

Visitation will be held from 10 A.M. to 12 Noon on Thursday, September 4, 2025 at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home.

Funeral services will take place on Thursday (Sept. 4) at 12 Noon. Burial will follow at St. Paul Cemetery in Bluffton.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Cancer Research or Wounded Warrior Project and may be directed through the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends may share online condolences with the family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Paul Cemetery

1621 W. 300 N.
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 4. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

SEP 4. 12:00 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 Rita S. Brinneman*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - September 04, 2025 at 10:37 AM



“ *Dave, please accept my condolences. My thoughts are with you, stay strong my brother. Tom Durr*

Thomas Durr - September 03, 2025 at 02:30 PM



“ *Mike Webb Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.*



Mike Webb Family - September 03, 2025 at 09:47 AM



“ *Mike Webb Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita S. Brinneman.*

Mike Webb Family - September 03, 2025 at 09:47 AM

JT

“ Joshua, Kat & Theo purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.



Joshua, Kat & Theo - September 02, 2025 at 11:18 PM

TF

“ THE KREIGH FAMILY purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.



THE KREIGH FAMILY - September 02, 2025 at 08:00 PM

TF

“ THE KREIGH FAMILY planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita S. Brinneman.

THE KREIGH FAMILY - September 02, 2025 at 08:00 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.



September 02, 2025 at 03:25 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Rita S. Brinneman.

September 02, 2025 at 03:25 PM



“ 135 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - September 02, 2025 at 12:15 PM

MM

“ So sorry for your loss.



Mindy Monticue - September 01, 2025 at 09:24 AM

TW

“ *Tamara and Donald Wall purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.*



Tamara and Donald Wall - August 31, 2025 at 09:07 PM

SF

“ Steve Tarr and the Crooks family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.



Steve Tarr and the Crooks family - August 29, 2025 at 11:02 AM

SS

“ Sending our condolences to you all. So very sorry for your loss.

Sharolyn Stoppenhagen - August 28, 2025 at 05:44 PM

GB

“ Sorry for your loss
Gene Bolinger

gene bolinger - August 28, 2025 at 04:47 PM

AW

“ Sorry for the loss of Rita. I am sure she will be greatly missed.

Anita Witte - August 28, 2025 at 04:19 PM

AW

“ Anita Witte lit a candle in memory of Rita Brinneman



Anita Witte - August 28, 2025 at 04:01 PM

LF

“ Livingstone family planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita S. Brinneman.

Livingstone family - August 28, 2025 at 12:27 PM

SK

“ Dave, Amanda & Family. Words cannot express how I felt when I read about Rita. It's always a shock when we hear about someone, we know leaving this life. I trust you have many wonderful memories to keep her alive in your hearts forever.

Steve Kunkel - August 28, 2025 at 11:24 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.



August 27, 2025 at 09:02 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Rita S. Brinneman.



August 27, 2025 at 08:16 PM

BC

“ Dear Dave and Family so very sorry to hear about your Wife and Mother Rita! Our Prayers are with u all during this sad time! 🙏🙏🙏
May God grant u all Peace, Grace, and Comfort as u all Grieve Rita's loss! God Bless the Brinneman Family! Love, Barry and JoEllen! ❤️



Barry Crosbie - August 26, 2025 at 04:39 PM