



Bunny (Finnegan) Behling

March 2, 1933 - December 22, 2005

Bunny (Finnegan) Behling, 72, of Beloit, died peacefully in her home on Thursday morning, after a long and brave battle with cancer.

Barbara Jean Allard was born March 2, 1933, in Wausau, the daughter of Lee and Elvi Marian Mattila Allard. Bunny married Arthur L. Finnegan on Aug. 10, 1957. He predeceased her on March 21, 1998. They were the parents of six children. Bunny was married to Bill Behling on May 3, 2003.

A 1953 graduate of Wausau High school, Bunny attended St. Theresa College, Winona, Minn., graduating in 1956. She taught in Beloit public schools after college, and in later years was a substitute teacher in kindergarten and lower grades. Working with special education classes was her special joy.

Always athletically inclined, Bunny was a summer camp counselor in the Northwoods while in school, and later was a swimming instructor at the Beloit YMCA. She was a longtime participant in YMCA fitness programs. An avid golfer, Bunny and Art, and later, Bill, were longtime members of the Country Club of Beloit, where they enjoyed socializing and golfing with their many friends. She and her daughter, Laura, won the state mother-daughter golf championship in 2002.

In addition to golf, bridge playing and social activities, Bunny was a volunteer counselor in the Beloit Regional Hospice children's bereavement program. She was a longtime and devoted member of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. Surviving, in addition to her husband Bill, are three daughters: Mary Terese (Greg Huffman) Finnegan, of Sarasota, Fla., Anne (Jon) Bauman of Madison, and Laura (Tim) Hauser of Janesville; two sons, Matthew (Dianne) Finnegan of Beloit and Michael Finnegan of Los Angeles.

Also surviving are five grandchildren: Kelley Finnegan of Wichita, Kan., Jacob and Adam Hauser of Janesville, and Matthew and Peter Bauman of Madison; a sister, Joan "Joey" (Bruce) Counihan Gargas of Sun City West, Ariz., and a brother, David (Barbara) Allard of

Carmel Valley, Calif.

In addition to her husband, Art, Bunny was predeceased by her parents; a son, Tom; a sister, Patricia; and a brother, Michael.

Bunny was a lady of strong faith and her life was guided by that faith. She was a devoted wife and loving mother and grandmother, whose children and grandchildren loved her deeply in return.

In the too-brief time she and Bill were together, they traveled much, golfed much, played cribbage and found joy in every day. In the process, their faith deepened and helped them both immensely to deal with the cancer that claimed her.

Bunny was Bill's "Sunshine", and the adventures they shared left them with many happy memories.

She's free of pain now, and another angel in Heaven. And she'll always be Bill's "Sunshine".

A memorial mass will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, at St. Thomas Church, with the Rev. Steve Kortendick officiating. The family will meet friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, at Daley-Murphy-Wisch & Associates Funeral Home, 2355 Cranston Rd., Beloit.

Because of her and her family's deep gratitude for the care given by Beloit Regional Hospice, it is suggested that donations be made in her name to that organization.

Events

DEC **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Daley Murphy Wisch and Associates Funeral Home and Crematorium
2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI, US

DEC **Service** 11:00AM

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St. Thomas Catholic Church
824 E. Grand Avenue, Beloit, WI, US

Comments



“ Your Mom was a wonderful person who touched the lives of so many people. She will be missed by all. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Mary & Mark Wegmann

Mary Wegmann - December 29, 2005 at 10:44 AM



“ Mom...
There are not enough words to express our gratitude for all you did for us, your children! You taught us patience, love, grace, acceptance and always had an unconditional love for us.

we will always keep you in our hearts, your kids...
Matthew, Mary Terese, Anne, Michael, Laura.

Finnegan Kids - December 27, 2005 at 11:44 PM



“ Bill,

Deeply sorry for your loss, our thoughts and prayers are with you!!

Milt, Jennifer, Nathan and Joshua Kodl - December 27, 2005 at 08:28 PM



“ Your mom was a wonderful person who touched many lives. Your family has been in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. She is in a peaceful place keeping watch over all of you.

Love,
Jim, Carol, Pat, Peter, and Erin

Jim and Carol Cauley Family - December 27, 2005 at 12:25 PM



“ Bunny touched the heart of everyone she met. We know she is in a peaceful place watching over everyone now. Our thoughts and prayers are with you now and always.

Love and friends,
Sally and Andy Caulfield & Boys

Sally & Andy Caulfield - December 27, 2005 at 12:16 PM



“ Our thoughts are with the family and hope you find peace knowing your Mom is not suffering. Thank you for sharing moments of her life with this website. God Bless.

The Kiese wetter family - December 27, 2005 at 10:10 AM