



## Barbara Jane (BJ) Erickson

May 25, 1953 - June 21, 2023

Barbara Jane (BJ) Erickson, jeweler and goldsmith, passed away at the age of 70, on June 21, 2023, at the Columbus Alzheimer's Care Center.

She was born in Akron, Ohio, to Jane and Ernest Richmann, Jr.

BJ graduated in the '70s with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree from Franklin College in Franklin, Indiana.

She married James Erickson in May, 1986, and gave birth to her daughter, Stephanie, in 1991.

She was a member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, where she was a Big Sister; and the American Thyroid Association, where she was a Group Facilitator.

BJ learned the art of jewelry design as an apprentice with her mentor, Russell Colley, a mechanical engineer who was involved with the design of the space suits worn by the Mercury astronauts in 1961. When he retired from NASA, he began designing jewelry, and later taught BJ how to cut gemstones.

She worked at her craft for over 40 years at Davis Crafts, What On Earth, Miscellania, and Worthington Jewelers. As the owner/operator of BJ's Jewelry, she created many unique pieces of fine jewelry.

She was once invited to create a Christmas ornament for the Clinton White House Christmas tree.

As well as a talented jeweler and goldsmith, BJ was also a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend.

She was fun-loving and creative. She loved gardening, nature, going to yard

sales and thrift stores, music, and butterflies. She and her husband, Jim, were famous for throwing pool and Halloween parties.

She is survived by her spouse, James Erickson; her daughter, Stephanie (Shawn) Regan; her grandchildren, Jase and Charlotte Regan; her sister Stephanie (Tom) Rottmayer; her brother Ernest (Pam) Richmann, III,; and her nephews Chris (Julia) Rottmayer, Eric Rottmayer, and Ernest (Gena) Richmann, IV.

She will be dearly missed, and long remembered.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Columbus Alzheimer's Association.

A memorial gathering will be held on Friday, June 30, 2023, from 4-6pm at the Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home in Worthington, Ohio.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering:

JUN **30**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Corbin Funeral Home  
515 High Street  
Worthington, OH 43085

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara Jane (BJ) Erickson*



Rutherford Funeral Homes - June 28, 2023 at 01:59 PM



*Love this!!!*

Beatrix Silberstein - June 29, 2023 at 12:45 PM

SR

*There were a million other pictures of her but a million more couldn't capture her whole personality. Words cannot describe how much I will miss her and wish she could have been in my life longer. I love you mom ❤️*

stephanie regan - June 29, 2023 at 01:23 PM

DB

*Beautiful photos!*

deb baillieul - June 29, 2023 at 03:25 PM

CH

*Wonderful!*

Christi - June 29, 2023 at 07:38 PM

SU

*So much love in those photos ❤️*

Susan - June 29, 2023 at 08:10 PM

SN

“ Although I only met BJ twice I know that she was a beautiful mother evident in her daughter Stephanie’s love for her family which shines through daily in so many precious ways blessing her husband and children—and garden

Sandra Nobel - June 27, 2023 at 10:50 PM

PR

“ BJ was our beloved sister/sister-in-law. She was a beautiful lady with a warm smile and many talents. Her jewelry was as unique and special as she was. She will always have a place in our hearts, as we have so many wonderful memories of her on vacations and at family gatherings, especially on the Fourth of July and at Thanksgiving. Rest in peace, BJ. We love you.

Pam Richmann - June 27, 2023 at 05:10 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Barbara Jane (BJ) Erickson.

June 27, 2023 at 03:43 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Barbara Jane (BJ) Erickson.



June 27, 2023 at 03:43 PM