



Barbara Sue Joy

February 1, 1953 - November 2, 2025

Barbara Sue Joy, age 72, of Columbus, Ohio passed away peacefully after a sudden and unexpected illness on November 2nd, 2025, surrounded by friends. She was born February 1, 1953, to Robert and Martha (Nesbit) Joy in Columbus, Ohio. A graduate of the Columbus College of Art and Design, Barbara spent many years as a Visual Merchandiser for the Lazarus department stores. Later, she joined Oakland Green interiors as a Commercial Floral Designer. Her personal artistic interests were many and varied, but she especially enjoyed creating woven and knit décor and apparel. Barbara was a member of the Ohio Gourd Society, in which she created beautiful and fanciful items for displays and gifts. Barbara had an exceptional eye for color and established a successful color consulting business, The Color of Joy! She was loved by her associates and friends alike. To her friends, she was pure Joy! Barbara was preceded in death by her parents and lifelong friend and companion, Richard (Dick) Donaldson. She is survived by distant cousins and close friends too numerous to mention. They will miss her dearly. Visitation will be from 10:00 AM to Noon on November 10, 2025 at Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home, 515 High St. Worthington, OH 43085. The Graveside Service will be held at Union Cemetery, Columbus at 12:30 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kobacker House, Columbus, Ohio, or The American Cancer Society.

Cemetery Details

Union Cemetery

3349 Olentangy River Rd
Columbus, OH 43202
(614) 267-5471

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 10. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Corbin Funeral Home
515 High Street
Worthington, OH 43085

Graveside Service

NOV 10. 12:30 PM (ET)

Union Cemetery
3349 Olentangy River Rd
Columbus, OH 43202
(614) 267-5471

Tribute Wall

KC

“ *My dear, dear friend, you will be missed & will be in my heart & memories forever.*

We met in 9th grade & became instant friends. From high school, through college, marriages, children, divorces, death of parents-life. From our marathon phone calls, marathon lunches, craft show days on & on. I can replay in my mind so many joyful times as well as the troubling times that we shared between us as friends. Our history was long & I weep at your passing but I will forever cherish the friendship we had.

As I pen these few words, my hope is that Barb's friends & loved ones can be comforted knowing she is now at peace with her mom & dad & loved ones once again.

Kimberley (Lodge) Cole - November 09, 2025 at 06:37 PM

DH

“ *Danny Harper lit a candle in memory of Barbara Sue Joy*



Danny Harper - November 09, 2025 at 01:36 PM

DH

“ I am sending my prayers to Barb Joy’s family and friends. Barb was such a great friend from an early age and had so much fun in high school, senior cut day, parties and class reunions. We stayed in touch for a great many years after. For some reason I wrote to her 1 week before her passing but got no reply. I sensed a problem. To all her friends and loved ones I wish you peace and joy while thinking of your memories with such a loving soul.
My sincere apologies for not able to attend her funeral. Barb will be in my memory for many more years to come.
Thank you Barb for sharing your friendship.
Fly high with the angels.
Sincerely, Danny Harper

Danny Harper - November 09, 2025 at 01:32 PM

DS

“ So saddened to hear about my friend Barb! Became good friends with her around 24-25 years ago while we both worked at Marshall Fields! She was always there for me teaching me the ropes of visual display, helping me paint my studio, Throwing a baby shower for me, visiting and singing to my new baby when she was born - 19 years ago! Most recently coming to my daughter's graduation party last year and meeting to go out to dinner's several times over the past year to catch up on everything going on in life! Always loved receiving my "Joy" Christmas Cards! Texted in September and talked about getting together soon after my return from vacation in October. Texted her Nov. 7th with no response which was unusual. Then I saw this. I am shocked an so saddened but know she is now free from pain and reunited with her family and Dick. Love you Barbie Joy! - Diane and "St. Mark" and Analia!

Diane Spagnuolo - November 08, 2025 at 09:08 AM