

Marila Kay Barnett

July 15, 1954 - April 8, 2026

It is with heavy hearts yet profound gratitude for a life well-lived that we announce the passing of Marila Kay Barnett, a cherished mother, grandmother, sister-in-law, and friend. Marila peacefully departed this world on April 8, 2026, at Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center, surrounded by love and warmth. She graced us with her presence for 71 remarkable years, having been born on July 15, 1954, in the close-knit community of Humboldt, Kansas.

Marila was the beloved daughter of Lewis and Erma Barnett, who preceded her in death, along with her husbands, Larry Bruenger and Harry Palet, and her brothers, Darrel Barnett, Donnie Barnett, and Jonathan Barnett. Though she faced the immeasurable loss of loved ones, she remained a beacon of strength and resilience for those who survived her.

She is lovingly remembered by her devoted son, Levi Palet, and his partner, Jessica Falkenstien, as well as her sister-in-law, Margaret Barnett, cousin and lifelong best friends, Bruce and Mary Mueller, and numerous nieces, and nephews. However, it was her granddaughter, Ember Lee Palet, who truly was the apple of her eye, bringing boundless joy and purpose to Marila's heart. Marila's journey was marked by deep love and a commitment to her family and community. She married her first husband, Larry Bruenger on November 24, 1972 in Humboldt, and the two were married until his untimely passing in a tragic car accident on July 29, 1978. She later married Harry Palet, with whom she shared cherished years before parting ways.

Her educational journey was rooted in her hometown, where she graduated from Humboldt High School in 1972. Driven by a passion for culinary arts, Marila pursued her dream and graduated from culinary school in Colby, Kansas, as a pastry chef. Her talents found their ultimate expression in her ownership and operation of Daylight Donuts in Chanute for 28 years. From behind the counter, she not only served delightful pastries but also the warmth of her smile, creating a haven for her community until her retirement in 2004. Beyond her professional life, Marila cherished simple joys and hobbies that connected her with the world around her. She delighted in the thrill of garage sales and auctions, the rhythmic joy of square dancing, and the digital connections fostered through her computer. She was a loyal fan of NASCAR and American Idol, finding excitement and inspiration in the stories of others. Her nurturing spirit extended to her beloved dogs, Heidi and Pixel, who were her faithful companions.

Above all, Marila's heart found its greatest fulfillment in the time spent with her family, especially her treasured granddaughter, Ember Lee. Her love for family was a guiding light that illuminated every corner of her life, leaving an indelible mark on all who knew her.

As we bid farewell to Marila, we celebrate a life that was rich in love, laughter, and the simple, profound joys of everyday moments. Her legacy will be carried forward by her family and friends, whose lives were forever enriched by her presence.

In honoring Marila's memory, the family will gather for a visitation at Countryside Funeral Home on Monday, April 20, 2026 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. A graveside service will then be held at Ellison Cemetery on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 11:00am to lay Marila to rest next to her dear husband Larry. Those wishing to honor her life are encouraged to donate to Cherry Street Youth Center in her name, celebrating the love and compassion they showed her granddaughter, Ember Lee.

Cemetery Details

Ellison Cemetery

Humboldt, KS 66748

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 20. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Countryside Funeral Home - Johnson Chapel
101 N. Highland
Chanute, KS 66720
(620) 431-1220
<https://www.countrysidefh.com>

Graveside Service

APR 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

Ellison Cemetery
Humboldt, KS 66748

Tribute Wall

BP

“ *Maggie & Family,*

You are in my thoughts & prayers.

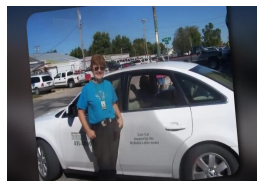
*Love,
Betty*



Betty Pierson - April 20 at 07:46 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Video Tribute*



Countryside Funeral Home - April 20 at 04:16 PM

NC

“ *Enjoyed Marila when she worked at NNRMC. Prayers*

nancy castellucci - April 12 at 04:36 PM

MM

“ *Marila is at peace. Thankful that she didn't
suffer any longer than she did.*



Mary Mueller - April 10 at 02:27 PM