



# Valerie Charlotte Bennett

JAN 8, 1969 - SEP 8, 2020



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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# Valerie Charlotte Bennett

JAN 8, 1969 - SEP 8, 2020

**V**alerie Charlotte Bennett, 51, of Decatur, passed away Tuesday, September 8, 2020, in her home, surrounded by her loving family.

Valerie was born January 8, 1969, in Long Island, NY, to Everett Robert and Joan Frieda (Scheffel) Bowers. When she wasn't antiquing and making crafts, she was in the garden or teaching her grandkids how to bake, but most of all, she loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by her three children, Brandee Carver, Bryan (Nikki Rambo) Carver and Skylar Bennett; mother, Joan (George) Fierthaler; step-mom, Maureen Bowers; fiancé, Mike Stoutenborough; grandchildren, Alexis Suddarth, Jamie Suddarth, Maliyah Suddarth, Jace Cook, Austin Morlan, Jordan Morlan, Alyssa Morlan, Aliyah Morlan, Jonah Lyon, Owen Lyon and one on the way, baby boy Carver; one brother, Bobby (Faith) Bowers; and one sister, Lauri (Jimbo) Rumph.

She was preceded in death by her father; her son, Austin M. "ARay" Ray; and her brother, Billy Bowers.

Graveside services to celebrate the life of Valerie Bennett will be 11 a.m. Monday, September 14, 2020, at Graceland Cemetery. Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, September 13, 2020, at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home. Memorials may be directed to ARay 36 Foundation or St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital.

The family of Valerie Bennett is being served by Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the complete online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at [www.gracelandfairlawn.com](http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com).



# Events

**Valerie Charlotte Bennett**

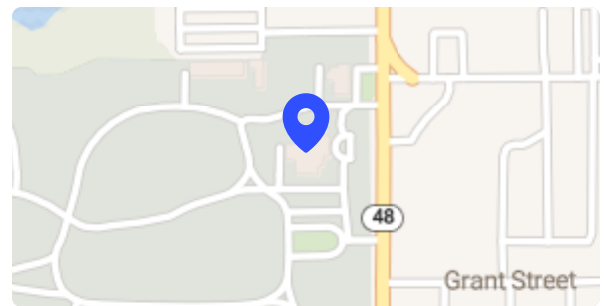
JAN 8, 1969 - SEP 8, 2020

## Visitation

 **Sunday**, September 13, 2020

 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM CT


 **Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**  
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526

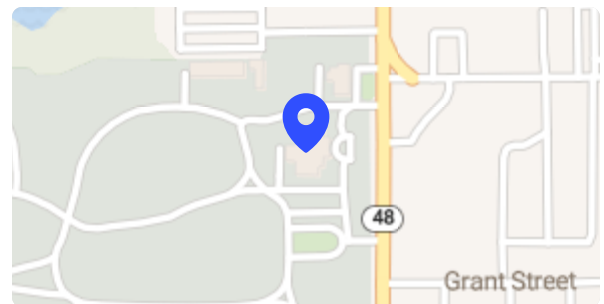


## Graveside Service


 **Monday**, September 14, 2020


 11:00 AM CT

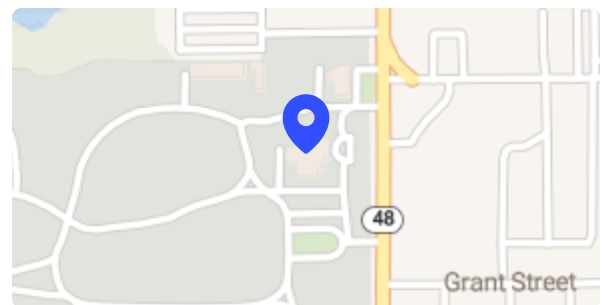
 **Graceland Cemetery**  
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526



## Cemetery Details

 **Graceland Cemetery**  
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526

 **(217) 615-0724**





## Tribute Wall

**Valerie Charlotte Bennett**

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KS

**Kevin Smith** posted:

My condolences to my cousin Valerie's family and friends. I was saddened to hear of her passing. Though we were eleven years apart, we spent time together, as our families are close. I will always remember that smile, everytime I think of her. I remember taking her to the Catskill Game Farm when she was about 13 years old. I can still see her standing in the middle of a dozen deer, holding a cup of corn over her head, trying to get away from them. It didn't work. Rest in Peace, Val. Kevin and Susan Smith

September 16 at 6:42 AM

AR

**Amy Rhoden** posted:

I worked with Valerie at Sonny's BBQ here in St. Augustine when we were both 'kids' with 'kids'. She was so vibrant and fun. I am devastated that someone with so much life in her is now not with us. I think I cried for at least 15 minutes when I got my daughter, Megan's, text. Life is just not fair sometimes. One day closer to forever Valerie...we are all walking this road to eternal life...say hello to my son, John, and enjoy Heaven...soon, we will all be together.

September 15 at 7:20 AM

SH

**Shelley** posted:

Valerie you were a beautiful person. You are now free from pain and have a new body in Heaven. Prayers to your family. It was a pleasure taking care of you through your journey. Rest in Peace Shelley RN, Cancer Care

September 14 at 10:50 AM

PH

**Pam Harris** posted:

I have nothing but fun memories of you Valerie!! So saddened to hear of your passing .... fly as high as your wings will take you 🕊️ and I will see you on the other side my friend... my heart is here for the kids if they ever need to talk ❤️ Rest easy love ..... ❤️

September 13 at 1:43 PM



# Tribute Wall

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**Jill Clifton** posted:

Skylar, I am so sorry about the passing of your mom. I only just now found out or I would have been there today to give you my condolences and a hug. Please know that I'm thinking of you with love. Mrs. Clifton

September 13 at 12:52 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Bennett family.



September 13 at 10:04 AM



**Nancy Moses-Bennett** posted:

I'm a long time friend of the Maureen Bowers. I met Valerie over the years of friendship with her dad and Maureen. I'm so very sorry for your loss. My heart is with Mike and the kids. Valerie was so lucky to be loved by Mike.

September 13 at 7:57 AM



**Lauri L Rumph** shared an album called **Memories Album**.



September 13 at 7:31 AM



**Erin** lit a candle in honor of Valerie.

We love you Valerie. May you now Rest In Peace, free from suffering Love Michael and Erin ❤️🕯️



September 12 at 4:07 PM



# Tribute Wall

**Valerie Charlotte Bennett**

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**Bobby** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Valerie, my little sister...I cannot believe that I have to say goodbye to you so soon. Even though we were separated by many miles, you were always in my heart. You have endured much pain and suffering these last few years, but you were brave and fought until the end. I wish we had been able to spend more time together, but unfortunately that time has been taken away too soon. Dad, Austin and Billy will be waiting to welcome you with open arms. Rest In Peace Little Sis ❤️



September 12 at 3:49 PM



**Elizabeth Miller** October 25 at 7:01 AM  
She will be so missed



**Bobby & Faith Bowers** lit a candle in honor of Valerie.



September 12 at 3:16 PM



**Lauri L Rumph** posted:

There so many memories growing up as sisters, some good, and some not so good, together we have been through a lot over the years, especially this year. You have shown so much strength though all of this, you never stopped fighting just to spend as much time as you possibly could with your family. You have been an inspiration to all of us. You are free of all your pain now. I am sure that you are having a wonderful reunion with Austin, Dad and Billy up there in Heaven. Know that you will be forever in our hearts.Love your sister,Lauri and Jimbo

September 12 at 2:54 PM



**Lauri L Rumph** lit a candle in honor of Valerie.



September 12 at 2:37 PM



## Tribute Wall

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LF

**Liz And Tom Finnerty** posted:

My husband Tom and I are first cousins with Maureen. Buck and Tom got along famously. They had a lot in common. We loved him dearly. Our hearts ache for Maureen. We met Valerie for the first time when she was a little girl, probably no more than seven or eight. Buck and Maureen were living in Upstate New York. What a pleasant family and what a beautiful little girl. We can remember her smile and her cheerful disposition. It was a pleasure to know her. She will be greatly missed. We wish you healing and peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Liz and Tom Finnerty.

September 12 at 11:28 AM

RB

**Ruth Bowers** posted:

I've been putting this off because it's so difficult to say good bye. No mother should lose a child no aunt should lose a niece , no brother or sister should lose a sibling. We must remember all the good times and cherish them in our hearts. Uncle Jerry and I have known Valerie her entire life and have many fond memories of her. She was shy as a toddler but grew up to be an independent loving mother and grandmother. Too young to be gone so soon She fought so hard to stay here but now is in heaven with her dad and brother looking over the rest of us. She once asked if pizza and ice cream could be grown in her dads garden along with beans and tomatoes We love you. Rest In Peace Love. Uncle Jerry and Aunt Ruth

September 11 at 3:46 PM

MS

**Mary Ann Maxwell-Shaw** lit a candle in honor of Valerie.



September 11 at 2:26 PM

JW

**Judy Wallace** posted:

To Valerie's family—I'm sorry for your loss. I only knew Valerie through my friends, Maureen and Buck. I heard stories of the cute little girl all those years ago running around the house to the cute big girl who had a love of motorcycles just like her Dad. May you Rest In Peace Valerie— you fought for as long as you could to stay with the family you loved. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Judy Wallace

September 11 at 11:39 AM



## Tribute Wall

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BM

**Barbara Misko** posted:

Sending sympathy to Valerie's family. I live across the street from Buck and Maureen, we became good friends, and treated like part of the family. I met Valerie one year mostly remembering motorcycles. Is hard to lose a love one but it is memories that keep you going, and silly things you all did. Heard so much about family, and now her Dad is waiting for his daughter to hear about what everyone is doing. You are all in my prayers, and there is another small member of the family, feels the lose of special member of the family, a good moral support..."Babe, The Shadow "Barbara Misko palm coast, fla

September 11 at 10:51 AM

BM

**Barbara Miller** lit a candle in honor of Valerie.

Our deepest sympathy for Valerie and her family. You put up one heck of a fight now you rest and fly with your other angels Austin, Dad, Billy. You can be at peace now prayers and thoughts sent to the family The Miller's (Barbara)



September 11 at 10:34 AM

CB

**Cathleen D Bonavida** lit a candle in honor of Valerie.



September 11 at 9:42 AM

CB

**Cathleen D Bonavida** posted:

Sending Heartfelt Prayers to you all, so very sorry for your loss. Valerie fought a great fight. She never gave up and was a positive Influence to all those fighting this battle Prayers & Blessings to her family Lovingly Cathleen Bonavida.

September 11 at 9:16 AM

JK

**Jesse & Patricia Kruppenbacher** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with your family during this difficult time.

September 11 at 8:31 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Diane Bischoff** posted:

Bobby, We were sorry to learn of your sister's passing. You are in our thoughts. Diane and Greg Bischoff

September 11 at 5:52 AM



**Betty Bowers Limov** posted:

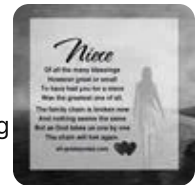
Valerie, I remember your curly hair & beautiful blue eyes following your Mom around in the kitchen. My thoughts & prayers are with you. Aunt Betty

September 10 at 6:10 PM



**Frieda Wallace** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Our deepest condolences to Valerie's family. She will truly be missed. She created numerous special moments and memories that will fill our hearts and sustain us during this difficult time. When I think of her I will remember the inspiration she was to us all with her enduring strength. Rest in peace sweet girl. Love, Aunt Frieda and Uncle Phil



September 10 at 8:50 AM



**Maureen Bowers** posted:

Valerie, as I told you on Monday, I know you have been having a more difficult time after your recent radiation treatment. You fought a good fight. Dad from heaven and I are so very proud of you. I am sure Dad was waiting at heaven's gate to welcome home his baby girl. I am glad you were able to let go and be free from pain. You will be missed by all your family. Love Maureen

September 10 at 6:14 AM



**Barbara Hensler** lit a candle in honor of Valerie.

Thoughts and prayers to all of you. Valerie was an inspiration and never gave up.



September 10 at 6:13 AM



Lauri L Rumph shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

September 13 at 7:31 AM





**Bobby** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

September 12 at 3:49 PM





**Frieda Wallace** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

September 10 at 8:50 AM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Valerie by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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