



## Linda Beth Orr

April 7, 1950 - January 5, 2020

Linda B. Orr, 69, of Decatur, passed away January 5, 2020 at Fair Havens Christian Home.

Linda was born on April 7, 1950, in Decatur, IL, the daughter of Jack and Betty (Schneider) Atchison. She graduated from Maroa-Forsyth High School and attended Millikin University. Linda married Ed Orr on June 28, 1974, in Decatur. He preceded her in death on May 29, 2017. She enjoyed her time working in the education department at Millikin University and at Montvale Estates in Springfield. Linda enjoyed playing the piano, doing crossword puzzles, attending church and bible studies at First Christian Church in Decatur and Forsyth Baptist Church, going to lunch with her girlfriends, and especially watching her children and grandchildren play various sports. Linda was a founding member of the bell choir at Forsyth United Methodist Church. She also was active with Millikin University's chapter of Delta Delta Delta in years past. Linda was a member of First Christian Church in Decatur.

A piece of Linda's heart slipped into heaven 13 years ago with the passing of her beloved son, Chris Orr. Surviving are her son, Travis Orr (Michele Coziahr) of Decatur; daughter, Aimee Smith (Eric) of Delano, MN; daughter-in-law, Diane Orr of Decatur; grandchildren, Taylor Orr, Jack Orr, Keagen Smith, Avery Smith, and Grant Smith; mother, Betty Atchison; sister, Cindy (John) Chamberlain; mother-in-law, Jemy Schnake; friend, Leonard McNeely; and best friend, Vivian Estell.

She also was preceded in death by her son; father, Jack Atchison; and father-in-law, Bill Schnake.

Memorial services to celebrate the life of Linda Orr will be 12 p.m. Thursday, January 9, 2020, at First Christian Church 3350 North MacArthur Road, Decatur, IL. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursday before the service at the church. Memorials may be directed to the Cancer Care Specialists of Decatur 210 West McKinley, Decatur, IL 62526

The family of Linda Orr 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).



# Comments

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February 19 at 03:54 PM

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Linda was about 6 years older than I. Our families both attended the Methodist church in Forsyth. Growing up, I remember Linda being enthusiastic and eager to do whatever needed to be done. She had a ready smile and was very attractive! (Can I just say I thought she was cute!!) She led the church choir when she was older and led the Bell Choir to play music for my wedding! I just learned of her illness and passing from a mutual friend. I'm so very sorry to hear of it. All my love to Cindy and Betty. ~ Bonnie Fletcher DeNully, Pocatello, Idaho

**Bonnie DeNully** - January 14 at 10:44 PM

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I had the pleasure of knowing Linda through Tri-Delta activities and as a colleague at Millikin. She contributed greatly to the success of many endeavors in both organizations and I appreciated how she shared her many gifts and talents with others. Her love of family was always evident and her strength in difficult times a wonderful example to all. My deepest sympathy to Linda's family.

**Karen Klein** - January 09 at 11:31 PM

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I extend my deepest sympathy and condolences to Linda's family on this solemn occasion. As my guest, Linda joined me in attending MacArthur High School's class of 1964 55th reunion this past October and enjoyed sharing stories of her experiences with Ed and engaging in conversation with Ed's classmates and spouses, many of whom she had not seen in a while. I am delighted she accepted my invitation and could participate in the reunion with so many friends. May she rest in peace. Jim Dollahan

**Jim Dollahan** - January 09 at 07:42 AM

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Orr Family, I'm so sorry to hear of Linda's passing. May you have peace in the days to come, and memories for a lifetime. Thoughts and prayers.  
Sue Augustine Kowa

**Sue Augustine Kowa** - January 08 at 07:37 AM



“ I had the pleasure of working with Linda Orr in Teacher Education programs at Millikin University. From the interview for the position, I knew that Linda was a loyal Millikin alum, who would work hard for the best interests of Millikin. She was optimistic, hard working, capable, and enthusiastic. It was a no-brainer to nominate her for Employee of the Month, which she won.

Of course, Linda was an enthusiastic mother and grandmother. We enjoyed sharing stories of our children. She had a driving desire to help. When we had a new faculty member, she and Ed went out of their way to welcome her into their family. When I was recovering from surgery she drove over with a casserole.

When he moved to Springfield to work together, I looked forward to getting together for lunch at LSB. She looked forward to keeping up with the School of Education.

It is sad that she became ill when she was still so young, but she was a fighter, not giving up when confronted with new developments. Linda, you were dealt with many challenges, but you deserve the peace of being held in Jesus arms and knowing that you were deeply loved!

**Darlene Hoffman** - January 07 at 10:46 PM

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“ My cousin Linda was a very special woman. As kids I would visit them on the farm and pretend that I was in a magical Kingdom. Linda and I would work and play on the farm as though we were the King and Queen of this magnificent world. She was a very loving and tender mother and a supportive strong wife. The proof can be witnessed in the heart of her surviving children. Thank you Linda, you will be missed tremendously. John Schneider

**John Schneider** - January 07 at 06:12 PM

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“ My thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

**Terrie Ensell** - January 07 at 05:40 PM