



Mary Lou Baumann

November 17, 1936 - September 5, 2023

Mary Lou Baumann, 86, of Rensselaer, IN, ended the last chapter in the story of her life when she passed away on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Mary Lou's story began when she was born in Bluffton, IN, on November 17, 1936, the daughter of William Earl Sr. and Opal G. (Williams) Hower.

Mary Lou graduated from P.A. Allen High School in Bluffton with the Class of 1954. After a childhood on the family farm, she graduated from Indiana University with a bachelor's degree in education and then earned her master's degree in library science in 1962, also at Indiana University.

She met John Raymond Baumann when they were both young teachers in Rensselaer, and they married on November 22, 1962, in Remington, IN. They recently celebrated 60 happy years together, 55 of which they have shared in the house that they lovingly designed and built.

Mary Lou turned her lifelong passion for reading into her career as the Librarian and Audio/Visual Director at Rensselaer Central High School for thirty-three years. Previously, she taught at Franklin Township School Corporation in Marion County, and she was both teacher and librarian at Seoul American High in Korea for a year. Her experiences overseas ignited an ongoing interest in travel and foreign cultures. She credited books with expanding her perspective and nurturing her curiosity about the world. Mary

Lou was an active member and past president of both Delta Kappa Gamma and the Rensselaer Ladies' Literary Society. Researching family genealogy and playing bridge with friends were also things that brought her great joy.

Mary Lou is survived by her husband, John; daughter, Barbara (Steve) Healey of Zionsville, IN; and grandson, Brian Healey of Bloomington, IN.

Mary Lou was preceded in death by her parents; brother, William Hower; and granddaughter, Anna Healey.

Friends may call on the family at St. Augustine Catholic Church of Rensselaer on Tuesday, September 12, 2023, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM CT. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held immediately following at 11:00 AM CT with Father Joshua Bennett officiating. Interment at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Rensselaer.

Memorials may be made to A.N.N.A. at www.annafund.com, a charity created in honor of her granddaughter.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Calvary Cemetery - Rensselaer

Mt. Calvary Cemetery
Rensselaer, IN 47978

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 12. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Augustine Catholic Church
318 North McKinley Avenue
Rensselaer, IN 47978
(219) 866-5351
<https://stmichaelpastorate.org/>

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 12. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Augustine Catholic Church
318 North McKinley Avenue
Rensselaer, IN 47978
(219) 866-5351
<https://stmichaelpastorate.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Jackson Funeral Chapels - September 11, 2023 at 12:12 PM

LK

“ *Larry And Judy Koebcke lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Larry and Judy Koebcke - September 14, 2023 at 08:37 PM

BW

“ *My condolences to John, Barb, Steve and Brian. Enjoyed visiting with her at the bakery. Mary Lou rest in peace*



Betty Worden - September 11, 2023 at 08:00 PM

ME

“ *What an honor it was to work in cooperation with Mary Lou - she was witty, engaging, and had the most effervescent laugh! May her family find peace and acceptance.*

Mary K. Emmrich - September 11, 2023 at 12:18 PM



“ 139 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Jackson Funeral Chapels - September 11, 2023 at 10:27 AM

BS

“ *Bruce Stroud lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Bruce Stroud - September 10, 2023 at 07:35 AM

BM

“ *Barb Miller lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Barb Miller - September 10, 2023 at 04:56 AM

LW

“ Louise Wortley lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



Louise Wortley - September 09, 2023 at 11:30 AM

ML

“ Martha Langlely lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



Martha Langlely - September 09, 2023 at 10:44 AM

RW

“ Regina Warfel lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



Regina Warfel - September 08, 2023 at 04:27 PM

TS

“ Tammy Salrin lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



tammy salrin - September 08, 2023 at 04:06 PM

JB

“ *Judy Burvan lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Judy Burvan - September 08, 2023 at 02:52 PM

JS

“ *Judy Siegrist lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Judy Siegrist - September 08, 2023 at 02:11 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Baumann.*



September 08, 2023 at 08:22 AM

AK

“ *A life so well-lived. She was a profound influence on so many during her lifetime. I always enjoyed our conversations....she was such an interesting person. Deepest sympathies to John and the family. Ann Blacker Kirschner*

Ann Kirschner - September 08, 2023 at 08:09 AM

KM

“ Mary Lou had a deep and meaningful impact on my life. She and John were family friends of my parents. I spent a lot of time at their house, which was a special, unique place. At RCHS, I was in the library almost every day, often stopping by at lunch or before school to read a newspaper or search for a new book. Mary Lou deepened my love of learning and encouraged me to think critically and clearly. She was smart, sharp-witted, direct, insightful. Her curiosity about people and places inspired me. My heart is with John, Barb, Steve & Brian as they celebrate Mary Lou's wonderful life that impacted so many.

Kevin Moriarty - September 08, 2023 at 08:05 AM

SB

“ Steve Brunton lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



Steve Brunton - September 08, 2023 at 12:54 AM

MO

“ Just thought the world of her as our high school librarian. Mitch Ockermann



mitch Ockermann - September 07, 2023 at 08:47 PM

FS

“ I fondly remember Mary Lou from RCHS where I began working in the library and running the movie projectors for her as a student librarian. It set me on a life long love of libraries and ending up as chief of the Archive and Library for the US Army Center of Military History. Whenever I'd be in Rensselaer, I knew I could visit with her and John at Daryl's bakery in the mornings. Blessings to John, Barbara and all of her family. Frank R. Shirer

Frank R. Shirer - September 07, 2023 at 06:15 PM

GS

“ Gary Sheffer lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



Gary Sheffer - September 07, 2023 at 04:52 PM

AS

“ Angie Arihood Sleeman lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



Angie Arihood Sleeman - September 07, 2023 at 03:39 PM

Cindy Stath

“ I first met Mary Lou when I was a library aide at the RCHS library. I soon became a regular babysitter for her daughter, Barb. I spent A LOT of time at their lovely home. She encouraged my love of learning and my interest in genealogy. As an adult, I have seen her around town every few years. She always wanted to know where and what life had led me too. She would fill me in on Barb, as well. She was a friend and mentor to me. I will miss knowing that she is "around".

Cindy Stath - September 07, 2023 at 01:55 PM

CS

“ Sorry For Your Loss Thoughts And Prayers John And Family.Mary Lou Was A Great Lady.



Cindy Sheffer - September 07, 2023 at 12:36 PM

JM

“ Jerry Miller lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann



Jerry Miller - September 07, 2023 at 12:00 PM

LJ

“ *Lisa Jennings-Houston lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Lisa Jennings-Houston - September 07, 2023 at 11:31 AM

GB

“ *Gloria Baier lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



Gloria Baier - September 07, 2023 at 11:19 AM

DB

“ *David And Kim Berenda lit a candle in memory of Mary Lou Baumann*



David and Kim Berenda - September 07, 2023 at 10:40 AM