



Brenda L. Rutkowski

October 20, 1967 - April 28, 2026

Brenda L. Rutkowski, of the Royal Oak, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at the age of 58. Brenda was born October 20, 1967, in Detroit, Michigan, to Vernon and Nancy (nee Phillips) Voigt.

Throughout her life, Brenda was known for her warmth, kindness, and unwavering devotion to her family. As a dedicated homemaker, she created a loving and nurturing environment that was felt by all who entered her home. Brenda enjoyed camping, barbaquing, going to art shows, shopping and baking. She was well known for her cake decorating.

Brenda's greatest joy in life was being a MOM. She was not only a mom to her 3 children, but also to all their friends. Caring for others and taking care of them was her true joy. Brenda's passion for life and her ability to make others feel valued and loved will be remembered by all who knew her.

Brenda is survived by her loving and devoted husband, Thomas; her children, Jessica and Patrick; her brother Vincent as well as many loving nieces and nephews. Brenda was predeceased by her loving daughter, Erica and also by her parents. Brenda's presence will be deeply missed, but her spirit will continue to live on in the hearts of those she left behind.

Family and friends are invited to pay their respects and celebrate Brenda's life on Saturday, May 9th at the Wasik Funeral Home, Inc., 11470 13 Mile Road (west of Hoover) Warren, beginning at 2 p.m. and will concluded with a Memorial Service at 5 p.m.

****DUE TO CONSRTUCTION ON 13 MILE ROAD YOU CANNOT ACCESS THE FUNERAL HOME FROM EAST BOUND 13 MILE ROAD. 13 MILE ROAD IS CLOSED FROM VAN DYKE.****

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

MAY 9. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Warren
11470 Thirteen Mile Road
Warren, MI 48093
(586) 751-3131
warren@wasikfuneralhome.com

Memorial Service

MAY 9. 5:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Warren
11470 Thirteen Mile Road
Warren, MI 48093
(586) 751-3131
warren@wasikfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

GW

“ I met Brenda in August of 1986 and we became immediate friends. We were 20 and 18 at the time. We had our wild times and grew ourselves and our families together. She was truly an amazing person and had a heart as big as an ocean. She looked out for everyone and cared deeply for so many people.

I'm fortunate to have had the ideal best friend for 2/3 of my life. I enjoyed our "coffee talk" that always lasted for hours. Thank you, Brenda, for sharing your life with me and my family.

This is an enormous loss, but I'm more happy for her than I am sad for myself and her family. I'll see you again someday. I love you!

Gina M Willis - May 09 at 11:51 PM

MA

“ The Rutkowski's were one of my first examples of what an actual family was supposed to look like. They, and especially Brenda helped me in ways I don't think I can properly describe, all without trying, just by being themselves.

I can remember the countless times me, Brenda, and the rest of her beautiful family would sit at the dinner table and laugh for hours. Sharing stories and jokes.

Her laugh especially had a way of brightening up the room.

She treated me just like one of her own kids and showed me that real familial love, with no strings attached or catches was real.

She was a rare example of light during a time when I almost got lost in the dark.

I miss her and I wish I had gotten just one more day to laugh with her.

Matthew - May 09 at 03:36 PM

AW

“ Brenda and my mom were best friends for 40 years, and I grew up with her kids. The Rutkowskis were always like an extension of family to me. Brenda loved her family fiercely; a beautiful quality that was always clearly present.

It was always such a joy to see her latest cake creation or the way she decorated her home for every holiday or season (and all her little Eeyores she'd sneak in there). She was someone who so readily invited my family over to sit and talk over Tom's delicious dinner and a game of euchre.

I will always hold dear her love, laughter, and warm spirit. She will be missed greatly.

I send my love to the Rutkowskis during this difficult time. ❤️ ☐

Audrey Willis - May 09 at 03:11 PM

JR

“ I enjoyed chatting, listening to music, shopping, and camping with my mom. My best friend. I miss and I love you so much, Mom. ☐

Jessica Rutkowski - May 07 at 10:05 PM

LJ

“ Brenda was a wonderful person and fun to be around. I enjoyed camping and shopping at the Dollar tree and Dollar General with her. She will be missed.

Lisa Julian - May 07 at 09:25 PM

MJ

“ Brenda will be missed enjoyed her and camping dollars stores bbq camp fires up north houghton lake fun. Restaurants all fun things we did together

Michael Julian - May 06 at 09:08 PM

MT

“ Brenda will be missed. She was a wonderful wife mother and friend. Our families grew up together. She liked playing euchre and believed most of Tim's stories. Our family enjoyed dinners together and a campfire. Trying to figure out what Tim and Tom were up to next.

Michelle Tabaczynski - May 04 at 08:54 PM

TJ

“ Only met Brenda a few times the one stand out the most is being at the camp grounds in Algonac sitting around and talking what was going on with the world then and talking about how things were so different 40 years ago . Lots Laughs good time Tim Julian

Tim julian - May 04 at 06:18 PM

MJ

Brenda will be missed enjoyed her and camping bbq camp fires Dollor stores. Together long car rides up north and fun times up north houghton lake. Fun times together

Michael Julian - May 04 at 10:25 PM