Obituaries

In Memory of Debra Sue Bates

MAY 17TH 2024 BY DEE LOFLIN

In Memory of Debra Sue Bates

Debra Sue Bates, fondly known as "Ellie," was born on September 2, 1958, in Saginaw, Michigan, to Daniel and Joyce Ileen (Cherry) Diam, and peacefully passed away on May 12, 2024, at her home in the loving presence of her husband, in Wappapello, Missouri.

Debra dedicated her life to being a loving housewife and brought light and joy into the lives around her. Her passion for horses, gardening, bird watching, motorcycle rides, scrapbooking, painting, and above all, her cherished moments with family defined her essence.

Debra was the former 1976 Homecoming Queen in Montrose, MI. After years of deliberation married her High School sweetheart, Robert Bates on January 27, 2024, in Wappapello, MO.

Debra is survived by her beloved husband, Robert Bates. She will be deeply missed by her four daughters: Missy Egan and Krista Crum of Flushing, MI; Mandy Cox of Clio, MI; and Bridgette Cox of Columbiaville, MI. Her legacy continues through nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Debra leaves behind seven brothers: Jeff Diam, Joe Diam, Mike Diam, John Diam, and Danny Diam of Montrose, MI; Jim Diam of Perry, MI; Rick Diam of Crossville, TN; as well as two sisters: Connie Stenchcomb of Flushing, MI; and Sharon St. Germain of Lansing, MI. and a host of family and friends.
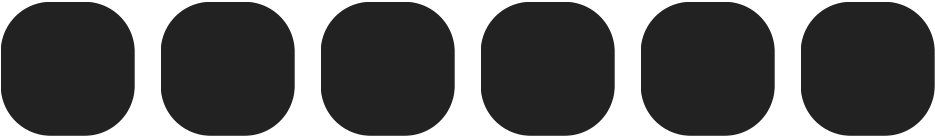
Debra was preceded in death by her parents.

A visitation to honor Debra's life will be held on May 23 at Watkins Funeral Chapel in Puxico Missouri from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Following the visitation will be a Memorial Service starting at 1:00 PM. with Pastor Kenneth Lambert officiating.

Debra Sue Bates will forever be remembered for her kind heart, warm spirit, and unwavering love for her family. May she rest in peace knowing she was cherished by all who knew her.

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