



Donna Jean Houston

April 7, 1948 - October 4, 2022

Donna Jean (Hinchman) Houston, 74, went to her heavenly home on Tuesday, October 4th, 2022. Donna was born in Rushville, IN on April 7, 1948. She was the fourth of five children born to the late Dr. Lowell and Esther Hinchman. Donna was preceded in death by her husband Dr. Richard Houston and older brother Ronald L. Hinchman. She is survived by her three children: Terri Christine (David) Gillay, Jeffrey Lowell (Jessie) Houston, and Timothy Richard (Meghan) Houston; dear sisters Linda (Jack) Clarkson, Lou Ann (Michael) Pursley, and Elda (Scott) Gray, and her grandchildren Nicholas, Jacob, and Amanda Gillay; Kaylee, Tyler, Alex, Benjamin, and Lilly Houston.

Donna grew up a country girl. As a veterinarian, her father surrounded Donna and her siblings with animals - including horses, raccoons, dogs, and even a black bear named Magua - which Lowell is rumored to have won in a game of poker. Graduating in 1966 from Rushville High, she played the flute, participated in marching band, choir, and enjoyed being a part of the pep squad. Donna then attended Ball State University and worked as a hospital secretary where she met her aspiring-doctor husband, Dick.

The two love birds were married on June 19, 1971, then moved to Texas where Dick became a flight doctor for the Air Force. During their military tenure all three children were born in a different state - Wyoming, Mississippi, and California. After the military, the couple raised their children mostly in

Illinois and Michigan, but never lost their love of traveling the U.S. Upon achieving empty-nester status, they migrated to North Dakota, back to Illinois, Ohio, then returned home to Indiana.

Donna cherished her role as a wife and mother. She was always there for Dick and made sure to have vitamins and breakfast ready for him every morning before he left for work. As arguably the “Best Mom in the World,” she instilled confidence and family values in each of her children, as well as delicious meals every evening, and homemade lunches every single school day. She enjoyed volunteering in her children’s classrooms, attending concerts, sporting events, and school plays. Donna made a point to be a constant foundation of support and encouragement to her husband and three children. She loved her family and was thrilled to be a grandma to her eight beautiful grandchildren – who lovingly referred to her as the “Best Grammy.”

Donna was renowned for her constant picture taking, snapping dozens and dozens of pictures at every possibly occasion - to the point where her grandkids would race away as soon as she unveiled a camera. Once the photos were received though everyone appreciated her insistence on taking them. A special gift that her children and grandchildren could always count on was a photo album containing the past year’s memories.

While in Michigan, Donna completed her bachelor’s degree at Western Michigan University on May 8, 1999, accomplishing an admirable long-time goal. She was a passionate volunteer with the Blue Star Moms to support and encourage military personnel, often sending multiple care packages to her son and his fellow military heroes when he was deployed around the globe. In addition, Donna was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism. She loved the stars and stripes and had American flags, as well as red, white, and blue decorations all over her house, on her car, and even on her clothing.

Donna was super creative and had several hobbies including making stained glass, beaded bracelets, and tie blankets. She enjoyed cooking and baking and was famous for her pistachio cakes, pumpkin pies, homemade applesauce, blueberry muffins, ranch dip, chicken salad, and watermelon fruit baskets.

Donna's family is comforted knowing that she is in Heaven with Jesus and reunited with her husband Dick and many other loved ones. We have peace knowing we will one day see her again.

In addition to her children, grandchildren, and sisters, Donna will be dearly missed by her nieces Julie (Bill) Moster-Pappas, Jenni-Lynn Moster-Gilbert, Taylor Gilbert, Jessica Pursley, Lori (Scott) Brame, Amy (Chris) Oler, Julie Houston, great-nieces and nephews, Elizabeth and Wesley Brame, Michael and Molly Oler; Philip Crump and brother and sister-in-law Philip and Joan Houston.

Services will be held Saturday October 15, 2022, 12:00 PM at Moster Mortuary in Rushville, IN. Rev. Richard Christensen will preside. Friends are welcome to visit from 11 AM to 12 PM Saturday at the mortuary prior to the service.

Services will also be streamed online at www.mostermortuary.com
Burial will be held at Rushville East Hill Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Moster Mortuary
334 North Main Street
Rushville, IN 46173
(765) 932-3914
info@mostermortuary.com
<https://www.mostermortuary.com>

Service

OCT **15**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Moster Mortuary
334 North Main Street
Rushville, IN 46173
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Tribute Wall



“ *Moster Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Donna Jean Houston*



Moster Mortuary - October 15, 2022 at 08:32 AM



“ *Donna Jean Houston*

January 28, 2023 at 12:19 PM



“ *Donna was one of the most beautiful coeds at Ball State. I dated her and always liked her cheerful smile and positive attitude. We will miss this one-of-a-kind lady. Dave Magner BS'71 Advertising Art / Photography, Sigma Phi Epsilon.*

Dave Magner - October 15, 2022 at 09:09 AM



“ *With Love, Kyle Hoylman and Jennifer Sim purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Donna Jean Houston.*



With Love, Kyle Hoylman and Jennifer Sim - October 14, 2022 at 11:45 AM

TS

“ Tom Stumpf lit a candle in memory of Donna Jean Houston



Tom Stumpf - October 13, 2022 at 05:26 PM

TW

“ Terri , Jeff and Tim , my deepest condolences. Your mom was such a lovely lady and I have fond memories of her , while Jeff and Matt were at Lutheran . Your mom was so kind and loved all of you so very much . She blessed my life in so many ways . May Jesus hold you close . With Love Teresa McLaren Williams (Matt and Marissa McLaren's mom) ❤️👍

Teresa McLaren Williams - October 12, 2022 at 08:28 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Donna Jean Houston.



October 12, 2022 at 02:17 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donna Jean Houston.



October 11, 2022 at 01:20 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donna Jean Houston.*



October 11, 2022 at 09:23 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Donna Jean Houston.*



October 10, 2022 at 02:10 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Donna Jean Houston.*



October 10, 2022 at 09:24 AM



“ *Ron D. Cameron lit a candle in memory of Donna Jean Houston*



Ron D. Cameron - October 10, 2022 at 09:09 AM

JH

“ We will miss her so much. She lived a life full of love and we will never forget her unconditional love and acceptance and her beautiful smile. She always put others first and was truly committed to caring for her loved ones. Our hearts break at the losses we have known the last few years but we hope for peace as she finds rest in the afterlife. We will miss her dearly.

Julie Houston - October 09, 2022 at 04:58 PM

ML

“ I am so sorry to hear of Donna's passing. I have such fond memories of this family from so many years ago. Lou Ann always had such fun parties! I certainly feel your pain in having to accept such a loss. This life is so brief, but the next one is forever! Til we all meet again❤️💕🙏

marilyn lambert - October 09, 2022 at 02:37 PM

SR

“ My heart is so sad to hear this. I grew up next door to the Hinchmen family in Glenwood. I so love this family! They were always so good, kind and loving to me, like I was the little sister. I miss them all! Thank you for so many treasured memories! My prayers lifted, all my love sent 🙏💕

Sandy J Bulmer Rayford - October 09, 2022 at 12:38 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donna Jean Houston.



October 09, 2022 at 10:53 AM



“ *From the moment I met Donna, she welcomed me into the Houston family with a warm smile and a loving heart. I have so many beautiful memories of this kind and selfless woman. I feel so blessed to have known her. She raised an incredible son, and was the best Grammy to Lilly and Ben.*

Meghan Spires Houston - October 09, 2022 at 10:39 AM