



Irene Baird

April 23, 1956 - June 7, 2020

Irene Baird was born on April 23, 1956 in Brownsville, Pennsylvania to Frank Joseph Wrublesky and Helen Anna Banko Wrublesky.

Irene grew up in Warren, Michigan, where she attended Cousino High School and graduated in 1974. She attended Central Michigan University and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. In her young adult years, she loved the outdoors, often camping, hiking and enjoying other adventures, such as traveling to Key West and working as a park ranger.

After college, Irene met the love of her life, John William Baird. The two were married on November 18, 1983 in Mount Clemens, Michigan. In 1986, they welcomed their son, John Joseph Baird, II. Irene enjoyed every minute of being a mother to John Joseph – from evening bike rides, to huge birthday and holiday celebrations, weekends spent traveling for soccer and baseball trips, and later traveling cross country to see him play professionally. He was the apple of her eye and her husband, John, her best friend. Her devotion to them was unparalleled.

Irene was universally loved for her sense of humor, the twinkle in her eye that spelled mischief, compassion, generous spirit and deep religious faith. She loved music, theater and swimming, but most importantly she loved her family and friends. So many of her friends consider her family, too, with dozens of friends of 30 or more years. She was godmother to several of her friend's children and always made them feel extra special. Her generosity and love for others was boundless.

She lived in Michigan, Delaware, Ohio, Galveston and Katy, Texas. She built relationships and community in each hometown, including the Catholic churches, St. Sylvester (Warren, Michigan), St. Mary's (Delaware, Ohio) and St. Bartholomew (Katy, Texas). She served as Parish Council President, as a vital member of Core Team for ACTS retreats, Walking in His Spirit, and Sister to Sister most recently.

Irene has a long history of community service and volunteerism. She spent her life in leadership positions in charities, including Macomb County Youth Interim Care Facility, Muscular Dystrophy serving as the Regional Director, President of the Arthritis Foundation of Central Ohio, and Executive Director of Prevent Blindness of Texas. Her favorite project was Family Promise, a homeless shelter for families in Delaware, Ohio, which she was

instrumental in founding. She developed a reputation as a premier fundraiser, raising tens of millions of dollars in her career, always exceeding goals. It was hard to say no to Irene as she made all her events so much fun and deeply meaningful. She paid for college working as a waitress. Her skills at making people feel welcome, have fun and relax earned her great tips, lifelong friends and built important community programs.

Irene Baird went to be with the Lord on Sunday, June 7, 2020 in Katy, Texas at 64 years of age.

She is survived by her loving husband, John W. Baird of Katy, Texas; her son, John Joseph Baird, II and his wife Holly Baird of Dallas, Texas; her sister, Cindy Miller and her husband John Miller of Auburn Hills, Michigan; her brother, Frank Wrublesky and his wife Barb Wrublesky of Warren, Michigan; numerous nephews and nieces, whom she loved dearly, as well as her namesake, Aunt Irene Gordon, who still lives in Warren, Michigan. She was preceded in death by her parents, Frank Joseph Wrublesky and Helen Anna Banko Wrublesky.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts be made to Family Promise in Delaware, Ohio, 35 N Washington St., Delaware, Ohio, 43015, www.familypromise-delawareohio.org

Visitation Saturday from 9:30am until time of 11:30am Funeral Service at Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc., 36900 Schoenherr Rd at Metro Parkway (16 Mile). Interment, Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township, MI. Please share memories with the family at their "On-Line Guestbook" WujekCalcaterra.com

****Please be advised that in observance of the governmental order from the State of Michigan we will be limiting funeral gatherings to 10 people at any one time. When in attendance we kindly ask, for the safety and well being of the family we serve, that everyone wear a face covering and practice social distancing****

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Rd.
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 20. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling
36900 SCHOENHERR RD
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Funeral Service

JUN 20. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling
36900 SCHOENHERR RD
Sterling Heights, MI 48312