

celebrating the life and love of Barbara Maríe Barczak

December 20, 1954 - March 19, 2025



Barbara Barczak's life was a testament to the power of faith, family, and kindness. She was a woman of boundless generosity, a lover of animals, and an embodiment of grace. With a heart full of love, she touched the lives of everyone around her, always radiating warmth and selflessness. Barbara was known for her nurturing spirit and her ability to make everyone she encountered feel like family. Her deep faith guided her every action, and she led by example, offering love and support to all.

Barbara's journey began on December 20, 1954, in Fort Thomas, Kentucky. She was the third child born to Hugh and Nancy Barth, joining her older siblings Jim and Tim, and later, her younger siblings Mark, Kathy, and Michael. Music played an important role in the Barth household. As a young girl, Barbara would practice piano in a room above her father's

workshop. If she made a mistake, her father would tap on the ceiling, signaling her to fix it. He lovingly referred to these moments as her "clunkers." The Barth family lived in Hebron, Kentucky, where summers were spent boating and camping at local parks. One memorable summer day, the family visited Big Bone State Park. Barbara was walking along the shoreline when she became stuck in thick, slimy mud up to her knees. Her brother Tim, ever the protector, rushed to her rescue and pulled her free. Barbara's brother Mark also remembered how much she loved the house on Bell Drive. She was so determined to place her piano in the back



room that she convinced the family to cut a hole in the wall and patch it afterward just to make it fit.

Barbara graduated from Villa Madonna Academy High School in 1972, eager to pursue her passion for music. It was at a local youth group where Barbara would meet the love of her life, Henry "Hank" Barczak. Their first meeting was instant magic—Barbara's bright light and cheerful, positive personality captivated Hank. They married on October 20, 1973, at Mary Queen of Heaven Church, surrounded by family and friends. Their joy was multiplied when they welcomed their son, Nathaniel Lee, on May 5, 1982.



Barbara embraced motherhood with love and dedication. Before their second son, Jonathan, was born, she prayed a Novena to the Holy Spirit for nine days—a prayer gifted to her by her brother, Fr. Barth. Her prayers were answered when doctors confirmed she was pregnant, and Jonathan was born on March 10, 1988. What a blessing!

Barbara cherished the time spent with her family, and they looked forward to annual trips to Beverly Beach in Florida to celebrate Thanksgiving together with her parents. The family also traveled extensively, visiting places like Disney World, Alaska, Yellowstone National Park, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, and San Francisco. Big Bone State Park held a special place in their hearts, and they often spent time there, enjoying rounds of Putt-Putt golf. For

Barbara, family trips were a cherished part of life. She attended every school activity for Nathan and Jonathan and was their loudest cheerleader at soccer games.Barbara was a music teacher at St. Cecilia and St. Henry Catholic School and eventually served as the Music

Director for the Diocese of Covington, working with several parishes, including St. Cecilia, St. Henry, St. Patrick, St. Matthew, and St. Joseph in Warsaw, Kentucky. Barbara loved hosting holiday dinners, and her home was always filled with love, laughter, and the delicious aromas of her cooking and baking. She also had a creative side, enjoying sewing and crocheting in her free time. One of her favorite joys was driving around in her Camaro, a car she truly loved.

Through the highs and lows of life, Barbara and Hank's relationship was anchored by their unwavering faith in God. Tragically, they lost their beloved son, Nathaniel, in a car accident at the age of sixteen. The grief was unimaginable, but Barbara's faith remained steadfast. She turned her sorrow into strength, finding purpose in her devotion to God and her family. She prayed the Divine Mercy every day at 3 p.m. and continued to play for church services, funerals, and weddings, even as her battle with Multiple Sclerosis became increasingly difficult. Barbara was a gifted musician, and her piano playing was a source of comfort and inspiration to those who heard her. Jonathan has many fond memories of listening to her play, especially when they gifted her a cherry Baby Grand Piano. Her love for music was evident in the way she admired composers like Chopin, Bach, Vivaldi, and Tchaikovsky. She also enjoyed attending orchestra concerts and plays like The Nutcracker. When at home, Barbara could be found watching her favorite shows, such as 1923, Yellowstone, and Downton Abbey, or listening to audiobooks while cleaning and decorating.

Barbara's health began to decline, but her spirit remained strong. She passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on March 19, 2025. Barbara was welcomed into the arms of her Savior, and all those who had gone before her. Her legacy of kindness, generosity, and unwavering faith will continue to live on in everyone who knew her.



Well done, good and faithful servant.

