

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LOVE OF

*Sharon Wagner*

January 31, 1951 - August 25, 2025



Sharon Lynne Wagner was an exceptionally generous wife and mother. She had a genuine love for people, living each day with purpose and bringing joy to everyone around her. Sharon was kind, fun-loving, affectionate, and rolled with the punches. Blessed by her warm, joyful spirit, there is no doubt that Sharon will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who knew and loved her.

Sharon's journey began on January 31, 1951, in Cincinnati, Ohio, born to James and Dolores Kemper. The Kemper family moved to the White Oak area when Sharon was around 7 years of age, and she began attending St. James Catholic School. At the age of five, she met her life-long best friend, Louise Schrott (maiden name, Winegardner). Their friendship would last throughout the years, creating treasured memories together. Sharon loved school and made friends easily. She shared a special bond with her grandparents, and with her mother being one of ten children,



Sharon grew up surrounded by many cousins to create lasting memories with. The family enjoyed gathering every Sunday to enjoy a meal, catch up on their week and enjoy a home-cooked meal together. Sharon's grandmother was a wonderful cook, and it was from her that Sharon learned to cook as well. She created lasting memories with her family by traveling to Washington, DC, and Florida, and attending local friend chicken festivals as a family.



Sharon graduated from McAulley Catholic High School in 1969, where she was beloved by all her teachers. Upon her graduation, she began working as a waitress for a restaurant in North College Hill while attending school at Edgecliff College. She discovered a love of learning and ultimately earned her bachelor's degree in biology from Thomas More University in 1972. She began working at St. Mary's Hospital before landing a position at UC Hospital as a lab tech. She met her lifelong friend Pat Roenker while working at the lab, and together they created countless cherished memories over the years. That same year, she met the love of her life, Steve Wagner. The young couple quickly fell in love, married after just a year, and little did they know their bond would endure the test of time, blessing them with 52 years of marriage. They first settled in an apartment in Melbourne, Kentucky, and after a few moves, they found lasting happiness in their permanent home in Villa Hills, Kentucky. In 1979, Steve and Sharon joyfully welcomed their daughter, Stephanie, who brought immense pride and countless blessings into their lives. Sharon devoted herself wholeheartedly to motherhood, making it the center of her world. In 1986, they moved into their forever home—a house Sharon and Steve had admired for years—and were overjoyed when the chance finally came to make it their own for their family. While Stephanie was in school, Sharon enjoyed working for McAlpins, where she met one of her best friends, Karen Guidugli.





Sharon's life was rich with passions—she loved to cook, collected cookbooks throughout her life, and traveling the country. Some of her favorite destinations included Daytona Beach, where she found peace by the ocean, as well as historic Williamsburg, Jamestown, Biltmore and My Old Kentucky Home. Niagara Falls found a special place in her heart, and traveling up the East Coast to Maine held treasured memories for her. Christmas was her favorite holiday, and she cherished both shopping and decorating for the season. The Wagner basement was filled with her collection of Christmas villages from wall to wall. A cabinet of Madam Alexander dolls and Precious Moments. She delighted in making her great-grandmother's fruitcake recipe every year. Comfort food was her specialty, and everyone looked forward to her infamous roast and slow-cooked meat loaf. She also made the best blueberry pancakes for breakfast. Sharon enjoyed hands-on hobbies like cross-stitching and had a passion for live music, with Barry Manilow being her absolute favorite. The excitement of scoring a great deal while shopping brought a huge smile to her face, and Sharon simply never knew a stranger. She was genuine, compassionate, and generous by nature. Sharon loved animals and cherished her many pets over the years. Some that became like family: a Cocker Spaniel named "Poochie" and her beloved cats, "Sweetie", "Pepper" and "Blaze."

Sharon loved LaRosa's pizza, a visit to the outlet malls, and enjoying the view from the top of a lighthouse. She enjoyed memorable trips with her daughter, Stephanie, to Disney World, ice skating at the local amusement park, Kings Island, and visits to the horse park at Christmas time. After nearly 20 years with McAlpin's/Mercantile, Sharon embarked on a career with the Diocese of Covington. She worked in the Chancery, a role she embraced with pride and joy. She enjoyed spending time with her coworker, turned close friend, Claire.





In recent years, Sharon was diagnosed with lung cancer, and her health began to decline. She bravely faced her day-to-day battles head on with positivity and light. She passed away peacefully on Monday, August 25, 2025, to be greeted by those who had gone before her. Her legacy of warm welcomes, sincere generosity, and enduring love will live in the hearts and lives of those she so dearly loved. Cherished by many, Sharon will long be remembered and so dearly missed.

