



Rebecca Sue Madsen

July 30, 1949 - June 13, 2025

Wyanet - Rebecca "Bunny" Sue Madsen (Harmon), 75, of Wyanet, Illinois, passed away peacefully on June 13, 2025, at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

Bunny was born on July 30, 1949, at Kewanee Public Hospital in Kewanee, Illinois, to Alan Harmon and Mildred Fern (Schaad) Harmon. She was raised on a farm in Bradford, Illinois, where she developed a deep love for the outdoors and horses. She often recalled, "I was outside more than I was inside." This was a testament, in her younger years, to her free spirit and deep connection to nature.

A 1967 graduate of Bradford High School, Bunny went on to study at Western University before transferring to Bradley University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education in 1971. Her commitment to lifelong learning led her back to school in 2003, when she earned her Master of Education from Olivet Nazarene University.

Bunny began her career in education at her alma mater, Bradford High School, as a physical education teacher. She later found her true calling, teaching 4th grade at Wyanet Grade School, where she devoted decades of her life to shaping young minds. She was beloved by her students and community, often running into former pupils who remembered her fondly. She also served as president of the teacher's union for four years and took great pride in advocating for her colleagues.

She married James Madsen on June 28, 1969, and together they raised three

children: Carla Irwin (Chris), Jennifer Madsen, and Katie Reuter (Ryan).

Though they divorced in 1996, they remained united in their love for their family. Bunny was a proud grandmother to Jacob Irwin, Logan Reuter, and Aubrey Reuter, whom she loved dearly and spoke of often.

Later in life, Bunny found lasting companionship and love with David Wright. The two enjoyed quiet moments together, especially cuddling on the couch while watching TV. David preceded her in death in 2015.

Bunny is survived by her children, grandchildren, and two sisters, Betty Dunlap and Dorothy Johnson. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Arlene Catton (2024), and her beloved David Wright.

She was an active member of the Tiskilwa Community Church, where she volunteered with the Christian Women's group and found joy in fellowship and service. She loved reading, doing crossword puzzles, and catching up with friends over lunch-always eager to share stories about her grandchildren.

A Visitation will be held from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at Tiskilwa Community Church.

Funeral service to follow at 12:00 p.m., on Saturday June 21, 2025 officiated by Pastor Renee Kindle at the Tiskilwa Community Church.

A private graveside service will be held at a later date and time.

In lieu of flowers, memorial may be directed to The Christian Women of Tiskilwa Community Church.

Bunny's legacy of kindness, humor, and devotion to her family, students, and faith will live on in all who knew and loved her.

Online condolence may be directed to www.norbergfh.com

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home, Inc. & Monuments.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 21. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Tiskilwa Community Church
104 W Main St.
Tiskilwa, IL 61368

Funeral Service

JUN 21. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Tiskilwa Community Church
104 W Main St.
Tiskilwa, IL 61368

Tribute Wall

ML

“ Your Mom was my PE teacher at Bradford School. I really liked her. I also lived next to your Grandpa and Gramdma Harmon all my life. You had a great family. I use to see her at Wal-mart in Princeton. I will miss that. Your cousin Chet kept me updated about her. I know you girls don't know me so you can ask him who I am. I will keep her and your Aunt Arelen in my thoughts. Take care of one an another.

Martha (Koelling) Logsdon

Martha Logsdon - June 20, 2025 at 06:41 PM

KH

“ Krystal & Matt Hawkins purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Rebecca Sue Madsen.



Krystal & Matt Hawkins - June 19, 2025 at 06:52 PM

SW

“ Sheryl von Westernhagen purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Rebecca Sue Madsen.



Sheryl von Westernhagen - June 18, 2025 at 11:46 AM

SW

“ Sheryl von Westernhagen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rebecca Sue Madsen.

Sheryl von Westernhagen - June 18, 2025 at 11:46 AM

MF

“ Melissa Diaz & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rebecca Sue Madsen.

Melissa Diaz & Family - June 16, 2025 at 10:24 PM

MF

“ Melissa Diaz & Family purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Rebecca Sue Madsen.



Melissa Diaz & Family - June 16, 2025 at 10:24 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Rebecca Sue Madsen.



June 16, 2025 at 08:15 PM