



Deborah "Debbie" Adams

September 28, 1969 - August 31, 2025

Deborah "Debbie" Adams, age 61 of Kankakee, passed away on Sunday, August 31, 2025, at Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee. She was born on September 28, 1963, in Chicago Heights, the daughter of Richard and Jane (Wellman) Corp. Debbie married Bill Adams on June 6, 1981, in Bourbonnais. Debbie was a kindergarten teacher for thirty years.

Debbie volunteered in the food pantry at her church. She loved gardening and built a butterfly garden at Lincoln Cultural Center in Kankakee and at the Aroma Park School.

Debbie loved to travel, especially through the National Parks. She loved nature and big trees. Most of all, Debbie loved to spend time with her grandkids.

Debbie is a parishioner of St. John Paul II, West Campus, Kankakee.

Surviving is her husband, Bill of Kankakee; one son, Josh (Jen) Adams of Kankakee; one daughter, Andrea Dinkins of Bradley; three siblings, Sharon Rickner of FL, Karen (Roger) Corp of Kankakee, Wendy (Mike) McCoy of Indianapolis, IN; seven grandchildren, Phoenix, Jace, CJ, Janie, Jack, Jude and Joel.

Debbie is preceded in death by her parents; and one granddaughter, Gracie. Cremation rites have been accorded.

The family will host a Celebration of Life at a later date.

Arrangements are being handled by Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, Kankakee.

Tribute Wall

BC

“ *Deepest condolences to my beautiful family. I remember having the pleasure of helping in the butterfly garden and even having her as my teacher. She taught me the beauty of horticulture, a skill I still use to this day and will continue in her memory.*

Brent Corp - September 18, 2025 at 05:18 PM

NE

“ *My sister and I had Mrs. Adams as our kindergarten teacher at Aroma Park. We will never forget working in the butterfly garden and the baby chicks in the spring. She was such a loving teacher and made a difference in all of her students lives. My mom recently saw her at a grocery stores and Mrs. Adams asked how my sister and I were doing. We are sending prayers to all family and wanted you to know we will never forget her, as well as many other students.*

Neva - September 08, 2025 at 09:07 PM

TJ

“ To the Family of Deb,
Please accept my deepest condolences on the loss of such a truly extraordinary woman. Deb was my son’s kindergarten teacher, and she left an unforgettable mark on our lives. When COVID hit, she went above and beyond—personally visiting each of her students, sitting on the porch and reading to them through the door so they still felt her love and presence. That level of care and dedication speaks to who she was: compassionate, selfless, and always thinking of others. Deb was more than a teacher; she was a guiding light, a comfort, and a blessing to every child and family she touched. We loved her dearly and will continue to carry her kindness in our hearts. We are praying for your family during this difficult time, and may you find peace in knowing how deeply Deb was loved and admired. With love and prayers,
Ms. T. Jordan



Toni Jordan - September 08, 2025 at 05:15 PM

SS

“ I knew Debbie and her sisters back when we were young teens and when she first was married ..She was kind and good hearted .Rest in Peace Debbie.

Sondra (Krick) Stone - September 07, 2025 at 09:26 PM

TW

“ *Deb was such a great lady and was an exceptional kindergarten teacher. I worked with her at Aroma Park in 2002. She had a heart of gold . She had high expectations for all her students, and they all met her expectations by the end of the school year. My son had her for a teacher at Montessori, and he said he remembered her pet turtle Spud.*

It was an honor to have worked with her ,and she will be truly missed. Her dedication and kindness left a lasting impact on all.

T. Walls

T. walls - September 04, 2025 at 08:52 PM

JR

“ *I worked with Deb at the food pantry and she will be greatly missed by all of us at the pantry. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Deb's entire family.*

John & Jan Rodgers

John Rodgers - September 04, 2025 at 08:19 PM

KM

“ *Mrs Adams was a beautiful soul. She taught myself and both of my children. I am forever grateful to have crossed paths with her. I'm praying for her family, friends and district 111. She definitely means so much to all of us.*

Kynicka McNeil - September 04, 2025 at 01:59 PM

KR

“ Oh Mrs Adams. "The influence of a good teacher can never be erased." I will never forget my kindergarten year. You poured so much of your time into me, Helping me learn. Teaching me. You spent early mornings with me before class just to ensure i understood what was being taught. I will forever be grateful that I had you as my teacher. The butterfly garden is something that I will always remember. You made aroma park so beautiful. My prayers are with the family

kristen - September 03, 2025 at 10:12 PM

“R.I.P. Mrs. Adams. You were a legend.” -Odin 11.

We were lucky to know her. Lucky the kids both had her as their Kindergarten teacher. She went above and beyond the call of duty. She was Odin’s COVID year teacher. He missed out on the last few months with her in class but that didn’t stop her from making a lasting impact. She came to our house to read out front with the kids. Invited each family to individually plant a vegetable bed in the peace garden. My kids got to socialize once a week throughout that summer because of garden club. She always made sure Odin was safe during weekly cooking lessons with his peanut allergy. How she managed to squeeze in cooking among all the other things I’ll never know, but she knew it was important. She welcomed me into the class once a week during Hazel’s kindergarten year without batting an eye. She let me help during that same cooking time where I got to make sure Hazel had the same amazing food opportunities which I agreed were so important. She trusted the kids to do hard things. They used ceramic mugs to drink water and let them carry trays of food to feed the office staff that I was sure they would drop. She believed they could do it and they learned to believe they could do it in turn. We were always so thrilled to see her smiling face when she was volunteering at school after she retired and at Benoit’s Greenhouse. She was planning to volunteer all year in Hazel’s room this year.💔 We are so sad that she is gone from this world. To us it feels too soon. Rest in peace Mrs. Adam’s. Our condolences to the “R.I.P. Mrs. Adams. You were a legend.” - Odin.

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Amy Palmer - September 03, 2025 at 08:40 PM

SG

“*Deb was such an amazing woman and touched so many life's. I would say rest in peace my friend but I know that you're already busy in heaven working with little angels and helping everyone around you.*

Sue Goodrich - September 03, 2025 at 07:01 PM

CS

“*Carla Scheppler lit a candle in memory of Deborah "Debbie" Adams*



Carla Scheppler - September 03, 2025 at 03:15 PM

KB

“ I worked with Deb at the food pantry. She was a ray of sunshine and made a point of interacting with all the children that went through our line. She would bring books or toys for them. She will be missed.

Kris Bunnell - September 03, 2025 at 02:43 PM

TS

Debbie was wonderful and I worked with her in District 111. I met her through Two Rivers Reading Council (part of IRC). She was a great leader with innovative ideas in her teaching. I was lucky enough to teach to of her grandkids in Clifton. They are such a joy! Blessings and prayers in the family's time of need. ❤️🙏❤️

Tammy Springer - September 03, 2025 at 07:48 PM

KP

“ She was the teacher I inspired to be. Working with children hands on. I worked with her for years, and she helped me when I had assignments for teaching from the college. She will be greatly missed

Love Kristen Pool

kristen pool - September 03, 2025 at 01:49 PM



“ Kathy Goodrich lit a candle in memory of Deborah "Debbie" Adams



Kathy Goodrich - September 03, 2025 at 12:45 PM

JW

“ We live down the street and occasionally would get to walk the neighborhood with her. She was such a nice person, I am going to miss seeing her walking the neighborhood.

Jeff Weaver - September 03, 2025 at 12:24 PM

JB

She was a lovely person who worked each Friday at the food pantry. Her smile and kindness will be missed 🙏

Jean Beck - September 03, 2025 at 02:30 PM

TK

“ *Debbie was such a kind and loving person. Seeing her always made my soul happy. Rest in Peace*

Tricia Kohan - September 03, 2025 at 11:45 AM