



Elizabeth Ann "Liz" Pence

October 12, 1949 - January 2, 2023

Elizabeth Ann "Liz" Pence, age 73, of St. Paul, MN, formerly of Bourbonnais, passed away Monday, January 2, 2023. She was born October 12, 1949 in St. Louis, MO, the daughter of Raymond & Ruth (Hicks) McDonald. Liz married Patrick Pence on August 28, 1971 in Granite City. He preceded her in death on September 25, 2014.

Liz retired as the Vocational Center Director at Shapiro Developmental Center in Kankakee. She volunteered for Relay for Life, the American Cancer Society, and for Country Theatre Workshop. Liz also volunteered and was a former board member of the Kankakee Valley Theatre Association and a former board member of Easy Street Theatre. She enjoyed costuming for theatre. Most of all, Liz loved spending time with her beloved dog, Lexi, and sending dozens of cards for every major holiday.

Surviving are one son, Michael Pence (Cathy Ambler) of Gales Ferry, CT; one daughter, Megan Pence (Daniel Stock) of St. Paul, MN; and one sister and brother-in-law, Kathleen & James Mikolajczak of Kirkwood, MO. In addition to her husband, Patrick Pence, Liz is preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Michael McDonald.

A memorial visitation will be held from 9 a.m. until the time of the 11 a.m. memorial service on Saturday, February 11, 2023 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or your local animal shelter.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB 11. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.
295 Main St., NW
Bourbonnais, IL 60914
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Service

FEB 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

JB

“ Liz was one of the finest women we have ever known. Through our theatre group we found her to be funny, lovable, kind, but mostly just the best human being. She had an amazing amount of knowledge on so many levels, and shared that knowledge with anyone who wanted it.


She loved her animals, even at times when the cats would hang from the ceiling fans, which is pretty remarkable in itself! And the scuffles that would occur when the cats were a little too rambunctious with the pup.

She also raised amazing children, who are kind and loving, like their parents. Her dear late husband, Pat, was also adored by many, a match made in heaven. He was my husband's roommate in college. Both hearts were huge and are greatly missed.

Jeanne Benson - February 10, 2023 at 12:03 PM

CD

“ My precious cousin... LizAnn was always encouraging, upbeat and positive every time we talked. Even when I knew she wasn't feeling well, she was positive and hopeful and so loving. I'm thankful she is out of pain.

Cousin Carol Ruth 

Carol Ruth Darnell - February 07, 2023 at 11:23 PM

MS

“ Liz was always such an important part of what made KVTA a wonderful experience for our family. Her loving kindness will always be remembered. Love, Shelly and Ryan Sparrow

Michelle Sparrow - January 29, 2023 at 10:05 PM

MB

“ Liz will be missed and always remembered by all who knew her at Easy Street Theater. She was my friend and assistant. She was devoted to EST's actors and buddies. Her sweetness and kindness were boundless. We were all sorry to see her health decline but she never slowed down... "the show must go on". I will never forget how she squatted on the floor to work on hemming, etc. It was a feat I haven't been able to do for years. I will still look forward to her cards and when I don't see them for a while, I'll know that she is really gone to a better place. Love to you, Liz

Monica Brigham - January 27, 2023 at 11:49 AM

RL

“ RoseAnn Labriola lit a candle in memory of Elizabeth Ann "Liz" Pence



RoseAnn Labriola - January 27, 2023 at 09:37 AM

RL

“ I worked with Liz on so many shows doing costumes. She has a great spirit and a loving heart. I will miss her greatly.

RoseAnn Labriola - January 27, 2023 at 09:36 AM

MH

“ Liz had a heart as good as gold, and would go out of her way to help others.

She made a difference in many people's lives in a great way. Her love and care for animals, particularly Pat's cats and her dog, Lexi was boundless.

She enjoyed her work helping with costumes for local theatre groups, and took pride in her ability to fix things! She loved the Hallmark store and marked every holiday and birthday with special cards for friends. We enjoyed a special trip together to Stratford, Canada, which holds many wonderful memories. As her health declined, her spirit did not. We shared many cups of tea, coffee, hot chocolate, dishes of ice cream, cookies, cakes, and stories. She fought a long battle with illnesses, and was a survivor long after others would have given up. Her friendship was sincere, and her gifts unending.

May she finally rest in peace with no pain, and have good memories of those she loved so deeply.

Marsha Hill

Marsha Hill - January 26, 2023 at 09:37 PM

MB

“ So sorry to hear this but what a fighter Liz was. She had stamina and determination most people do not even think about. Rest easy Liz.

Mary Bulliner - January 25, 2023 at 04:32 PM

IS

“ I worked with Liz at UDS and Shapiro. Very nice and thoughtful person. I would she her out and about and she would always tell me to bring my dog over to play with her dog. My condolences to family and friends



isha - January 25, 2023 at 01:39 PM

AB

Liz was a wonderful woman. I knew her in the 70's when we were involved with children with special needs. We became reacquainted with Relay for Life. She was always so upbeat and positive. She will be missed.

Arlene Bartini - January 25, 2023 at 10:53 PM

DB

“ *So sorry to hear this, Megan and Michael. She loved you both sooo much!! I adored your mother and her unmatched dedication to people with disabilities.*

Debra Best - January 25, 2023 at 08:06 AM

CT

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. I worked with Liz at Shapiro She was a wonderful lady.*

Cheryl Taube - January 25, 2023 at 07:43 AM

CL

I am so sorry to hear about your loss. I worked at her doctor's office in Bourbonnais and got to know her heart well. After I left I saw her at Riverside's Fitness Center. By then she was ill. We spent a lot of time talking. I enjoyed our friendship we developed thru the years. You have my sympathy and prayers.

Cookie Longtin - January 25, 2023 at 12:15 PM

RS

So sorry for the loss of this hardworking lady. Liz was such a help with costuming and cheering on actors at KVTA and CTW.....always had a smile.

ROBIN SHUDA - January 26, 2023 at 10:14 AM



I read somewhere that a cousin is a lifelong friend, and my sweet, kind cousin Liz fits that description. May God's peace surround all who knew and loved her.

Margaret Gehling - February 07, 2023 at 10:26 AM