



Monica A. Cheffer

March 26, 1950 - August 16, 2022

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Bradley - Monica A Cheffer passed away peacefully at home Tuesday (August 16,2022). She had lived with and battled hereditary heart failure for the last 20 years. Finally, a combination of heart and cancer issues were too much.

She was born March 26, 1950, in Kankakee to John Konrath and Marjorie (Reno) Konrath. She graduated from St Rose grade school and Bishop McNamara High School Class of 1968. Monica was prom queen and co-starred in her senior year class play. After high school she moved to Chicago and worked downtown for a mortgage company. She returned home after a year to work for a local CPA firm.

Monica married James Cheffer in June 1971. They moved to Aurora, Illinois where their two daughters were born, and she worked for a building supply company. The family returned to the area and bought a new house in Bradley. She was a full-time mom for many years before returning to work part-time for the old City National Bank and the Dairy Queen on Wall Street. Her co-workers and customers appreciated her sense of humor, compassion, and wisdom. Monica loved being a classroom Room Mother and attending her children's school activities, sports and BBYSL softball games. In later years she did the same for her grandchildren until health issues limited her. She enjoyed family vacations to the Dells, Disney World and Helen, Georgia. Monica loved cruising (over twenty) to places like Alaska, Hawaii, Mexican

Riviera, Panama Canal, South America, and most of the Caribbean islands. High school 1968 class reunions were enjoyed. She relished Friday nights with her friends that sometimes included a rendition of Me and Bobby Magee. Monica was a mom to many, and she loved her family most of all. She had a knack for decorating and filled her home with plants, pets, and comfort. This extended into her backyard bird sanctuaries that will continue to nurture friends, family, and wildlife.

Surviving are her husband, Jim of 51 years, two daughters, Stacey (James) Larson of Springfield, Illinois, Christina (Troy) Payne of Vandalia, Illinois; her four grandchildren, Eva, Autumn, Eli and Aric Payne; her beloved, dog Ruby; two brothers, Jack Konrath of Felton, California, Jeff Konrath of New Caney, Texas; two brother and sisters in-law, Ronald and Elizabeth Cheffer of Omaha Nebraska, Marc and Vicki Cheffer of Streator; several nieces, grand nieces, nephews and grand nephews.

Preceding Monica in death were her parents; several aunts and uncles; sister, Donna Duchene; and lifelong friend, Linda Funk.

Per Monica's instructions, cremation rites will be accorded. A celebration of her life this fall will be announced at a future date.

Memorials may be made to National Wildlife Federation, Kankakee County Humane Society, Uplifted Care Hospice, Bourbonnais.

The family thanks Uplifted Care for their compassion and care for Monica in her final days.

Arrangements by Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jim, Stacy, and Tina,*

You have my sincerest sympathy. You were all family to me when we lived in Aurora. We spent many happy times together and sleepovers especially the 1979 blizzard that I drove back to Aurora in after spending 3 days with you. Stacy, I hope you remember Chris. You spent much time playing together. I remember when David was born and Chris came home from your house, looked at Dave and asked, “Can I go back to Stacy’s.” Love and hugs to you all. Ann & Mike Clark, Cumming, Ga

Anna Clark - January 23, 2023 at 10:42 AM

CM

“ *I cut Monica’s hair for years why was she picky but I loved her what a wonderful human being she will be missed horribly I miss her Jim Stacy and Tina and the rest of her family you have my deepest sympathies*

Chris McGill - August 29, 2022 at 01:56 PM

SL

Thanks Chris. She was picky about her hair, LOL.

Stacey Larson - August 29, 2022 at 07:02 PM

CL

“ *Jim and family sorry to hear of your loss even with all health problems she new how to enjoy life and laugh.*

Charles Lambert - August 29, 2022 at 01:35 PM

CF

“ Your family has our sympathy at this most difficult time.

carol and Joseph Fritz - August 23, 2022 at 09:01 AM

JK

“ You, the sister I didn't deserve, always made me so proud and thankful to be your brother. The simpatico between us will warm my heart until we are once again together, dear Monica. My memories are filled with how you always unselfishly took care of me and those around you while asking nothing for yourself. God blessed you with a loving husband and two wonderful children... and you thanked Him by giving them your all. They're the best and no one ever deserved such a wonderful family more than you did. You took on the thankless task of caring for mom during her time of need, this a truly onerous burden and something for which I could never repay you. Now you finally get your reward. You were truly a guardian angel in life. God knows. He'll take special care of you from here on out. I know you'll be busy making 'em laugh up there... but don't forget to check up on us down here from time to time. Remember our pact: A bird... a butterfly... a flower... Don't worry. I'll know it's you... and I'll be so happy to see you. I love you always, little sis. So long for now...

Jack Konrath - August 23, 2022 at 12:15 AM

SL

Thank you for such a wonderful tribute Uncle Jack.

Stacey Larson - August 29, 2022 at 07:04 PM

JC

“ James P Cheffer purchased the [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Monica A. Cheffer.

James P Cheffer - August 21, 2022 at 04:43 PM

RO

“ We are sorry for your loss. Monica lit up a room with her personality and contagious laugh. Love, The Osbornes

Rob and Steph Osborne - August 21, 2022 at 03:09 PM

GO

“ Dear Jim and Family,
You have my sincere condolences on your loss. Monica was a very special “one of a kind” lady. Her contagious laughter and funny stories were always so entertaining. My prayers are with you.

Gloria Lagesse Oconnell - August 21, 2022 at 12:47 PM

BH

“ Jim, Stacey and Tina...you have my heartfelt condolences on the loss of Monica. She was such fun to be around and I will forever remember how much she loved you all and her amazing friendship with Linda. My first thought upon hearing of her loss was that now she and Linda are together again and keeping watching over all who loved them. Bonnie (Mackin) Harpin

Bonnie Harpin - August 19, 2022 at 10:02 AM

SL

Thank you Bonnie. We were blessed to have two awesome moms. ❤️

Stacey Larson - August 21, 2022 at 10:22 AM

BL

“ Mr Cheffer, Stacey & Christina...

I am soo sorry for your loss. I remember your Mom as always having a smile on her face, a kind word and an awesome laugh. When I was growing up she always was one of the “cool parents” who made everyone that came in contact with her feel special.

You will be in my prayers.

Brandy Murphy-Lacy

Brandy Lacy - August 18, 2022 at 04:51 PM

SL

She was everyone's favorite room mom ❤️

Stacey Larson - August 21, 2022 at 10:25 AM

JW

“ *Never got to see her, but when we did, her laugh would be the best. Just knowing her and Linda are up there laughing away brings me to a big smile. So sorry Jim and Girls, I know there will be a big whole in your* 💕💕

Judy Whitaker - August 18, 2022 at 10:15 AM

ST

🥰 *You know she is! She's been missing Linda a lot. She continues on in all of us, including everyone she touched. Thanks Judy.*

Stacey - August 18, 2022 at 04:05 PM

CO

“ ,Jim, Stacey, Christina, family, and everyone who loved Monica,
What a wonderful loving person! We had so much fun watching our kids grow up.
Attending their activities. May she RIP. She will be missed!
Hugs 🤗 and prayers 🙏
Rick & Marla Coy



Coy's - August 17, 2022 at 11:12 PM

ST

Thanks Rick and Marla. 🤗

Stacey - August 18, 2022 at 04:10 PM

SR

Stacey-we loved your mom and will always remember her with a smile.
Hope she is somewhere out there singing "Me and Bobby McGee" wholeheartedly!

Shelley Reither - August 18, 2022 at 05:42 PM

VF

Dear Jim, Stacey & Tina, It was a wonderful time all of us parents watching all of you kids growing up. I always appreciated Monica and her sense of humor, Stacey the story that has been retold over the years is the night you spent at our house with Stephanie. Vince, me, you & Steph were watching "Jaws" on TV. You both were screaming your heads off!! We still have that picture! You both were so adorable and cute!! We are keeping your family in prayer. Monica was such a wonderful person. We wanted to reach out to let you know she will never be forgotten! Our love,
Vince & Vickie Francisco,
Manteno, IL
Stephanie Francisco-Goodin & Thomas Goodin
Houston, TX
Micah Francisco, Passed away February 26, 2022

Vince & Vickie Francisco - August 29, 2022 at 03:07 AM