



Theresa C. Burgard

May 27, 1957 - July 8, 2011

Theresa Claire Burgard
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Theresa Claire Burgard, age 54, died Friday, July 8, 2011 at her home in Kankakee, Illinois. The cause of death was small cell lung cancer. She was born May 27, 1957 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the daughter of Roselyn Bertha Becker and William Charles Burgard.

Theresa graduated from Ypsilanti High School, where she was an outstanding student and athlete. She received her BS from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and an MS in Communication Disorders from University of Illinois, Champaign. She worked as a speech language pathologist and coached high school track in Kankakee District 111. In 2010, she was inducted into the High School Hall of Fame in honor of her 28 years of coaching. She actively supported her track girls in pursuing scholarships to college. She volunteered with the Special Olympics for a number of years. Theresa was an avid golfer and runner, finishing more than 26 marathons.

Throughout her life Theresa had a deep connection with God, and this enriched her relationships with her family and friends and her partner Jean. She had an extraordinary gift for friendship. She took on challenges and strived for excellence, living everyday with a positive attitude. She served

many and valued inclusion of all people in her work, community, and church.

Surviving are her partner of 15 years, Jean Lowery of Kankakee; her mother, Roselyn Burgard of Ypsilanti, MI; her father and his wife, William & Carole Burgard of Greenwood, SC; sister Nan Godwin and husband Christopher; brother William Burgard, wife Tracey and son Ethan; sister Lilly Crowheart, husband Kirk Houser, and son Aurelio Crowheart; brother Peter Burgard, wife Tzipora Eden, and daughters Morgan, Maya, and Corine; brother Phillip Burgard, wife Judy and daughter Bridget who is also Theresa's godchild.

Theresa wishes to thank for their kind and loving care her Riverside Medical Center physicians, nurses and staff, and the staff of the Hospice of Kankakee Valley. Her body has been cremated. In lieu of flowers, please consider honoring Theresa by contributing to one of her many causes. The memorial visitation will be held 2:00 – 5:00 PM, Saturday, July 23, 2011, followed by a memorial service from 5:00 – 6:00 PM. The visitation and memorial service will take place at the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee.

Please visit the Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home web page, www.clancygernon.com, or visit Theresa's CarePage, www.carepages.com/carepages/TheresaBurgard, for more information.

Theresa supported these organizations regularly. If you would like to honor her with a contribution here is a list of contact information.

Casas por Cristo

Casas por Cristo (Homes because of Christ) creates important partnerships among various groups across international borders. To date, they have provided nearly 4,000 families with homes. Dedicated to growing Christ's church one home at a time by helping meet the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbors.

www.casaporcristo.org
PO Box 971070, El Paso, TX 79997

Habitat for Humanity
270 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 1300, Atlanta, GA 30303
www.habitat.org

Salvation Army
www.salvationarmyusa.org

World Vision
World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.
www.worldvision.org
PO Box 70399, Tacoma, WA 98481

College Church of the Nazarene
200 University Ave., Bourbonnais, IL 60914
www.collegechurch.org

Shine FM
WONU 89.7 FM
Shine.fm is a nonprofit radio station.
www.shine.fm
One University Avenue, Bourbonnais, IL 60914

WBGL
The mission statement of WBGL and the Illinois Bible Institute is: "Reaching people for Christ through media."

www.wbgl.org

4101 Fieldstone Rd., Champaign, IL 61822

Southern Illinois University Foundation

www.siuf.org

1235 Douglas Drive, Colyer Hall, Mailcode 6805, Carbondale, IL 62901

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUL **23**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Service

JUL **23**. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Tribute Wall

PB

“ I miss my Sister. I continue to remember what she taught me through her words and actions and results.

Phil Burgard - September 18, 2023 at 09:25 AM

PE

“ Theresa Burgard was my big sister 3 years older we were the jocks, I tried to do everything that Theresa did.
Theresa had a lot of Friends, Theresa had a lot of best friends

Pete Burgard

pete - August 15, 2021 at 11:05 AM

RL

“ Teresa knew things and communicated on memory channels this Science teacher in Ypsilanti only now begins to understand. Parents mourn the loss of a child, learning how to grieve without suffering will surely flow from this family.

Richard Lewandowski - July 27, 2011 at 08:29 AM

CS

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Christy Strole - July 23, 2011 at 03:38 PM

MB

“ *Melinda Bell lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard*



melinda bell - July 23, 2011 at 12:04 PM

MB

“ *Melinda Bell lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard*



melinda bell - July 23, 2011 at 12:04 PM

KA

“ *Keenan L. Andrews lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard*



Keenan L. Andrews - July 23, 2011 at 09:40 AM

KD

“ *Theresa, tomorrow is going to be a long day of celebration for you. You touched so many lives and totally changed mine. I will never have another friend like you.*

Karen Dannenhauer - July 23, 2011 at 12:19 AM

EW

“ Theresa, we had alot of fun in high school (Basketball, Softball, Vollyball) you were a good friend and team mate. May your soul rest now. Jean and the Burgard family, may god bless you all. Edith Wilson-Wells (Class of 1975)

Edith Wilson- Wells - July 22, 2011 at 01:05 PM

CO

“ Connie lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard



Connie - July 21, 2011 at 10:45 AM

VG

“ Veronica Whalum- Griffin lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard



Veronica Whalum- Griffin - July 18, 2011 at 11:31 PM

MT

“ May God bless Theresa's family and friends with peace and comfort. May wonderful memories of a lady who did so much to encourage and uplift bring smiles. God bless you in this sad time.



Mary Thomson - July 18, 2011 at 01:43 PM

TP

“ Tom Beirne / Mike Peters lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard



Tom Beirne / Mike Peters - July 18, 2011 at 01:58 AM

TP

Thoughts & prayers to all family & friends. Tom Beirne & Mike Peters

Tom Beirne / Mike Peters - July 18, 2011 at 02:00 AM

SP

“ Shaquia Pickens lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard



Shaquia Pickens - July 13, 2011 at 02:06 PM

BS

“ Belinda Smith lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard



Belinda Smith - July 13, 2011 at 11:22 AM

BS

Theresa we were always the frist in the classroom in the morning. I will miss the time we would have to talk. But I understand why you had to leave. God need a SPECIAL TEACHER SO HE TOOK YOU. You will always have a place in my heart. Thank you, for all the fun and laughs and everything that I have learn from you. Your friend, Belinda Smith

Belinda Smith - July 13, 2011 at 11:53 AM

DS

“ *Davina Stewart lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard*



Davina Stewart - July 12, 2011 at 10:25 PM

CM

“ *Ms. Burgard was my high school track coach, and she was a great coach who pushed us to be the best!!!! My prayers go out to her family and friends, she will be missed!!!!*

Sincerely,

Corrie May

Corrie May - July 11, 2011 at 03:51 PM

SS

“ *Sally Smith lit a candle in memory of Theresa C. Burgard*



Sally Smith - July 11, 2011 at 02:02 PM

SS

“ When my son Stosh came to Dist. 111, Theresa was his speech person. We had long talks about what to do at home that would follow what she was doing at school. A few years later when I joined the district, Theresa told me she knew that the children would be in good hands and that I would always follow through as I had done with my own. She was an inspiration and a caring person not only to the children but to other staff members. She will be missed!

Sally Smith - July 11, 2011 at 02:01 PM



Michele Walsh

“ Theresa was the speech pathologist for KHS. We would have numerous conversations because my daughter was going into the speech field. She did graduate from U of I and I continued to update Theresa on her progress. Theresa was always very supportive of her profession and those who were entering that field. She will be truly missed for her compassion and support for others.
Michele Walsh

Michele Walsh - July 11, 2011 at 12:30 PM

NR

“ I have known Theresa for many years. It start with her helping my sibling in school, then she was my Cross Country Coach when I was in High School. And then 10 years ago, I joined the District as a Pararprofessional, and the first familiar face I saw was Theresa. She made me feel part of a team - but we were in different classrooms. She even remebered my whole family, that is hard sometimes when there is a lot. I will deeply miss her. Thank you for everything.

Naomi Rosas - July 11, 2011 at 07:02 AM