



## Barbara Estes

January 7, 1935 - November 29, 2019

Barbara L. "Barb" (Gamba) Estes, 84, of Topeka Kansas, passed away peacefully November 29, 2019, at 10:30 in the morning surrounded by her family, at Lexington Park in Topeka after a five week stay.

Born January 7, 1935, at home in Osage City, Kansas, Barb graduated from Osage City High School in 1952 and from Saint Francis School of Nursing in 1955. She married Jerry H. Estes on September 12, 1956, at Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Osage City. During her career as a Registered Nurse, Barb worked at Saint Francis Hospital as a medical/surgical floor nurse, was the school nurse at Holy Name Grade School, worked nights as the full care nurse supervisor at the United Methodist Home, was an office nurse for Dr. William Lentz and worked at Saint Francis Family Medicine, 6th & Jewell Clinic with Dr. Roy Hall, Dr. Dan Magee, Dr. Carole Ludwig, and Loretta Hoerrman, P.A.

Barb was member of Holy Name parish since 1956; she was a member of the Rosary Circle since 1964, served on the Altar Guild, was a Eucharistic minister, counted the weekly collections, and lead the rosary before Saturday evening Mass. She served on the parish council as well as the city-wide parochial school board. A Girl Scout Leader from 1964 to 1979, Barb's troops set cookie sale records every year, ensuring funds for annual campouts and other activities. In 1979, Archbishop Hunkler presented Barb with the St. Anne

Award in recognition of her contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic members of girls' organizations. Barb and Jerry were proud to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award from their parish in 2015.

Barbara was proudest of her marriage to her husband Jerry of 63 years, and of her kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids, her work as a nurse and a scout leader, and how she figured out a lot of things beginning from a very young age in running a home and caring for loved ones.

Barb is survived by her husband Jerry; her children, Tony (Sharon), Anna (Jimmy Chavez), Joe (Vicki), of Topeka, Gina (Drew Woods) of Covington KY, and Suzanne of Granbury TX; her 12 grandchildren; her 16 great-grandchildren; her sisters, Mary Poling, Virginia Newell, Carole Thompson, Pat Tonar, and Dee Dee Mercer; her brother, Jim Gamba; and many dear cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Mary Regina (Keating) Gamba (1949) and Jerome Gamba (1999) and her dear sister, Patty Stadler (2017).

Barb's family will greet friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, December 6, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. The rosary will be prayed at 5:30 that evening followed by sharing Memories of Barb. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday at Mater Dei Holy Name Catholic Church followed by inurnment in Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Barb's family brought the meal to Lexington Park and shared Thanksgiving dinner together on Thursday afternoon. The family expresses the utmost gratitude to the staff at Lexington Park and Elara Hospice for their kind and loving care.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to Mater

Dei School, Mater Dei Organ Repair Fund, or the Topeka Rescue Mission sent in care of the funeral home. Online condolences may be sent to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Calvary Cemetery

801 SW Westchester Rd  
Topeka, KS 66606

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 6. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## Rosary

DEC 6. 5:30 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## **Mass of Christian Burial**

---

DEC 7. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mater Dei Holy Name Church  
1114 SW 10th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604

# Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Estes*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *I was always blessed when i encountered Barb--whether it was as a patient or as a co-worker at St. Francis or on occasion when I would stop by her home. When I trained with Tony, I would stop by her home for a water stop on a long run and she and Jerry would welcome me, encourage me, and send me on my way to finish the run. She was always a joyful volunteer at the Rescue Run and it was a delight to visit her smiling face. May God bless the family with His comfort.*

**Claire Phillips** - December 06, 2019 at 12:41 PM



“ *I worked with Barb at St Francis Family Med on Jewell, she was so easy to talk to, her heart kind, caring and loving, She was serious but also gentle, I remember always being able to come to her for anything and she always had an answer and was so helpful.*

*She will be missed, and heaven sure did get a wonderful, amazing soul.*

*I'm so sorry to hear of Barb passing, my thought and prayer are with the family,*

*Sandi Ray*



**Sandi Ray** - December 06, 2019 at 11:10 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara Estes.*



---

December 05, 2019 at 08:55 PM



“ *Jerry and Family,  
You are in my prayers. I admired you and Barb, Jerry. I told you many times you two were my role models! I looked forward to our chats at church! Barb was so wonderful and a true inspiration. God has received a wonderful angel! Love to all.*  
*Mimi Gardner*

---

**Mimi Gardner** - December 05, 2019 at 04:45 PM



“ *Sorry to hear about your loss. Praying for God's strength and compassion during this difficult time.*  
*Mark Meier*

---

**Mark Meier** - December 05, 2019 at 10:10 AM



“ *Always a joy to see Barb at my doctor appointments. Full of spunk and so friendly & personable! A life of faith well lived. May God bless and comfort the family of this wonderful woman. Thank you for sharing her with us. Lisa G*

---

**Lisa Ginzel** - December 04, 2019 at 11:07 PM

RN

“ Jerry and family my prayers are with you. Barb was very caring woman always willing to help with funeral dinners. A mass will be said for her on Sunday st the Cordi-Marian Chapel in San Antonio Texas. You have a special angel watching over you take care prayers and blessings Rachel Hernandez Negrete

---

**rachel negrete** - December 04, 2019 at 10:23 PM

MM

“ Jerry and family,

We are very sorry to learn of Barb's passing. We know her from Holy Name Parish. We will always remember kindness, caring, and beautiful smile. Keeping you all in our prayers.

Tom & Marsha Madl

---

**Marsha Madl** - December 04, 2019 at 08:47 AM

TR

“ Mrs Estes was our little league team score keeper, always present right behind the back stop. I can still hear it like it was yesterday. After warm ups and the other teams first batter came up “OK TR, rock and fire”. God bless her and all of our childhood friends that were her family.

---

**Tony Rondell** - December 04, 2019 at 07:35 AM

GL

“ Mrs. Estes was my mother's very good friend and my scout leader. I will always remember her telling us "If you don't be quiet and go to sleep, you will be digging a latrine" on overnight campouts! Rest in peace Barb, you deserve it. Much love, Germaine Rundell Leuszler

---

**Germaine Leuszler** - December 03, 2019 at 10:46 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara Estes.*



---

December 03, 2019 at 09:00 PM



“ *To the Estes Family: Mom (OraLee Gish) and I send you our deepest condolences. Barb was an inspiration and will be missed. May you find comfort in your memories.*

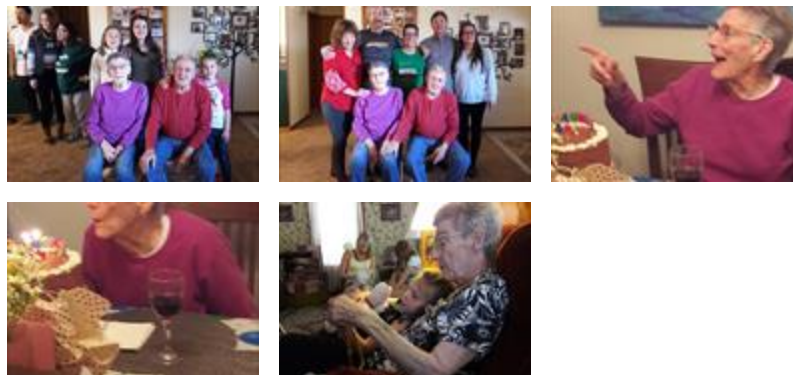
*Jeannie Gish*

---

**Jeannie Gish** - December 03, 2019 at 11:49 AM



“ *16 files added to the tribute wall*



---

**Jeremiah Estes** - December 03, 2019 at 09:17 AM

DH

“ Barbara was such a sweet person. She and Jerry attended many funerals of her mother's family. You could always plan on them being there. I heard from her at Christmas time and will miss her kind words. Dorothy Haskin

---

**Dorothy Haskin** - December 02, 2019 at 08:30 PM

RS

“ Dear Jerry, Coach Tony, Anna, Joe, Gina, and families,

We are very sorry to learn of Barb's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless,

---

**Rick and Kathy Strecker** - December 02, 2019 at 07:38 PM

AH

“ Aunt Barbara was always the "go to" aunt for any sniffle or weird ache! She always had an answer with her practical and level headed wisdom- and yet so funny! She was the Gamba girl that could cuss best in Italian! There was no doubt she loved her family and was a matriarch in the truest sense. She would laugh at mom and her simple view of the world, but she loved her big sister! I will really miss Aunt Barbara. And at this time of year? It will be first time I won't get a handwritten Christmas card. But she will be celebrating the Lord's birth in heaven.  
May the perpetual light shine upon her and may she rest in peace.

---

**Angie Holladay** - December 02, 2019 at 05:47 PM

BA

Barb E, RN was a true coworker and Friend to me. Her love of Nursing will remain with me forever. Until we meet again Barb. I Love You. Love Barb P

---

**Barb** - December 02, 2019 at 06:52 PM

AB

*Such a mentor to me as a young nurse!!! You made me strive to be just like you!!!! You will be forever remembered!!!! RIP! Annie Bryant*

**Annie Bryant** - December 02, 2019 at 08:07 PM

CM

*Forever remembered as a mentor for me even if I wasn't a nurse. Always wanted to be like her. Used stories about her years after we worked together to inspire nurses. Loved her compassion and Italian temper. A very good woman.*

**Carol Miskell** - December 03, 2019 at 09:54 PM

MJ

*Jerry & family so sorry for your loss, what a great family you & Barb have raised she will be missed. Bless Mike Jones*

**Mike Jones** - December 11, 2019 at 01:35 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Estes.*



December 02, 2019 at 05:40 PM