



## Barbara Jane Ruetz

November 29, 1932 - February 4, 2024

Barbara (nee: Stumpenhorst) Jane Ruetz, 91, passed away on Sunday, February 4, 2024 at St. Monica's Senior Living.

Barbara was born November 29, 1932 in Blue Hill, Nebraska to Adolph and Mayme (nee: Wallace) Stumpenhorst. Barb was a graduate of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in Dubuque, Iowa. She married Howard Peter Ruetz June 2, 1953 at Nativity Catholic Church in Dubuque and resided in Racine ever since. Howard preceded her in death on July 2, 1999. Barb was a registered nurse at St. Mary's Hospital for over 20 years, then worked as a visiting nurse for Racine Visiting Nurses Association, later All Saint's VNA, and Hospice, retiring in 1996. She dedicated her life to her husband and family. Her greatest accomplishment was ensuring that all her children attended and completed college.

Survivors include seven daughters and one son; Kathy Christiansen of Mount Pleasant, Terri (John) Wilson of Punta Gorda, FL, Janis Ruetz of Palm Desert, CA, Dr. Sharon Ruetz (Dr. Tim) Smith of Burlington, WI, Margie (Jim) Carrington of Mount Pleasant, WI, Marlene (Dave) Hemings of Duluth, GA, Sue (Kirk) Hackbarth of Burlington and Joe (Julie) Ruetz of Franklin, WI; grandchildren, Craig Christiansen, Katie (Dr. Nick) Zumwalde, Mark (Jen) Christiansen, Nikki Wilson, John Wilson, Rachel Ruetz, Joe (Jess) Ruetz, Jake (Mel) Ruetz, Sam Ruetz, Dr. Allison (Matt) DeLorme, Michelle (Ben) Courtois, Kelli (Ben) Robers, Dr. Maggie (Dr. Carl) Meyer, Jimmy Carrington, Kelsey Carrington, Andrew Hemings, Michael Hemings, Jonathan Hemings,

Sara Hackbarth, Anna Hackbarth, and Kyle Hackbarth; great-grandchildren, Henry, Jayne, Grace, Luke, Emma, Lucas, Levi, Gwen, Parker, Carson, Noah, Hannah, Harper, and Kohen; nieces, nephews and other family members. In addition to her parents and husband, Barb was preceded in death by her sister, Patricia Lauer, and brother-in-law, George Ruetz.

Family and friends are invited to a Mass of Christian Burial at 12 Noon on Friday, February 16, 2024 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2201 Northwestern Ave. with a visitation from 11:00 a.m. until time of Mass. Barb will be laid to rest at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Catherine's High School, John Paul II Academy or one's favorite charity.

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery

Racine, WI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 16. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
2201 Northwestern Ave  
Racine, WI

## Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 16. 12:00 PM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
2201 Northwestern Ave  
Racine, WI

# Tribute Wall

BK

“ I was so fortunate to be able to work with Barb and the visiting nurses.. She was a devoted nurse and a very dedicated nurse. I was always amazed at how she could manage her job and her large family and she was dedicated to her family too. We shared many discussions on how to raise girls . She always had a smile and a good word to make the day better. My most sincere sympathy to all her family. I will cherish her memory and pray for your comfort.  
.Bernice Kissinger RN.

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**BERNICE M KISSINGER** - February 14, 2024 at 09:15 PM

TF

“ The Lauer, Bettcher, and Kresse Families purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Barbara Jane Ruetz.



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**The Lauer, Bettcher, and Kresse Families** - February 13, 2024 at 09:02 AM

TF

“ The Lauer, Bettcher, and Kresse Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Jane Ruetz.

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**The Lauer, Bettcher, and Kresse Families** - February 13, 2024 at 09:02 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Barbara Jane Ruetz.*



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February 13, 2024 at 08:51 AM



“ *RealPage Strategic Accounts Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Jane Ruetz.*

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**RealPage Strategic Accounts Team** - February 13, 2024 at 08:51 AM



“ *A Full Life was purchased for the family of Barbara Jane Ruetz.*



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February 12, 2024 at 11:34 AM

JR

“ Mom was our best cheerleader and supportive in all that we did and of course of the Packers too!

Mom was always up for a travel adventure and would slow down to read all the historical signs along the way.

Mom was our role model for living a family oriented, fun filled, healthy and religious life.

Mom was our best teacher. She encouraged us to become avid readers like her and would not hesitate to correct our grammar. She taught us how to garden and can fruits and vegetables for winter. She taught us how to be thrifty and not be wasteful.

I am blessed and thankful for being able to spend many of my summers in Wisconsin and winters in California with her. I will always cherish our time together especially our mother daughter trip to Ireland 🍀!

I will continue to be adventurous like her and will slow down to read the historical signs in memory of mom. Love is Forever ❤️ Janis

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**Janis Ruetz** - February 11, 2024 at 03:03 PM

DP

“ Barb and Howie were great neighbors. Barb was always so sweet and she also played cards with my mom. What a beautiful soul. Our thoughts and prayers go to the family.

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**Dan & Carol Pansch** - February 11, 2024 at 02:57 PM

JK

“ Aunt Barb had a beautiful smile and always seemed happy, even when us kids were in trouble. Lots of memories of visiting Aunt Barb and Uncle Howie and our cousins.

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**Jean (Lauer) Kresse** - February 11, 2024 at 01:41 PM