



Donna L. Ponticelli

March 12, 1964 - April 28, 2015

Donna L. (Bird) Ponticelli passed away peacefully in her sleep April 28, 2015 in Gurnee. She was a 1982 graduate of Waukegan High School. She was currently employed at 45 North restaurant, but worked at many establishments in the Waukegan/Gurnee area.

Donna was known for her infectious smile. She loved spending time with her family. The recent addition of her granddaughter was one of her life dreams. And, we can't forget the love of her Dallas Cowboys and her never-ending quest for the best coupon deal. Donna will be missed for her big heart and generous spirit.

She is survived by her husband Gregory Ponticelli; 2 children, DJ and Brad Kierna; 3 step-children, Brittany, Amber, and Nikki; her granddaughter Aubrielle; 3 sisters Cindy (Harry) Barker, Fran (Brian) Christiansen, and her twin Diane (Greg) Nadelhoffer; and her parents, Roy and Dorothy Bird. She's also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins, and her two furry babies, Roxie and Brutus.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Shirley Bird, her grandmother, Frances Wollbrinck, and her mother-in-law, Carol Herres.

Visitation will be from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Friday May 1, 2015 at the Burnett-

Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Ave. (Rt. 176, one block west of Milwaukee Ave.) in Libertyville and from 9:00 a.m. until time of funeral service at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday. Interment following at Lakeside Cemetery. Go to www.burnettdane.com for condolences.

Tribute Wall

PP

“ God took one of his most precious gifts from us today in Donna Ponticelli.

We may not understand today or tomorrow why but someday I suspect we will.

I know we didn't get out to see u much lately, but I thought of u often.

U were one of my greatest friends as I went thru my hardest times.....

It is with tears in my eyes and a heavy heart I say so long for now.

Your smile will be missed, your heart will be missed, your kind words will be missed

R.I.P my friend. You will be missed

Pat Place - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

SD

“ *My heartfelt sympathies to my dear friend Donna's entire family. There are no words, just the precious memories that will forever be within my heart. She was the epitome of a true friend. All my love
~~Sue*

Sue Dalton - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

VG

“ Donna, I knew you through school and also working at Victory Hospital as candy strippers. I lost touch after graduation, but have very fond memories of you. You were always smiling and I LOVED your infectious laugh! A beautiful person inside and out. Loved by so many, gone too soon. May you rest in peace my beautiful friend. May your family find comfort during this difficult time knowing that you are now serving a higher purpose. You will be missed my friend.

Victoria Guerra - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

SS

“ My Condolences to the family! Me and Donna went to Webster Jr High School together we were class mates, I'm sorry to hear about her passing.

Sonya Sawyers - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

JD

“ Always a smile.praying for her family. She was the nicest girl in high school to everyone!

Jennifer Dawes - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

CD

“ We will miss you so much love you

Craig Davidson - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

JG

“ May you find comfort in the Lord, praying for your family

Jennifer grant - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

RM

“ *The world just lost a beautiful person. Always smiling always wanting to help others. We will all miss her and we were blessed for the time we had with her.*
Our prayers are with the family and friends.

Ron & Brenda Molczan - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

CW

“ *Donna was a gift to all that had the fortune of knowing her. She was our angel here on earth, and now she will shine from above.*

Cynthia & Jeffrey Wahe - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

SS

“ *Donna was an amazing person. She will be missed by many. My sincerest sympathy to all her of her family. Gone much too soon.*

Sue Stickels - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

SF

“ *There is a huge abyss left in the hearts and lives of those of us who knew you and loved you. Your generosity and kindness and willingness to be ever present is possessed by only a few of the angels on this earth. You were one in that elite group with that goodness that comes once in a millennium. My life will be a struggle to find someone to know as we did each other. God Bless you and your family and we hope the time heals the grief and pain with happiness and memories.*

Steve and Carol Fisher - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

RG

“ I will always remember Donna as a friendly and welcoming woman. She loved her family, and was especially proud of her children.

I am so very sorry for your loss.

Roxanne Gilbertsen - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

TK

“ Donna Always took great care of us at 45 North. Her big smile lite up the room. We loved hearing her stores.. Dallas/Packers Her family. Now she will be forever smiling down on us. My thoughts & prayers to her family. She will always be in our hearts..Tim & Pattie Kay

Tim & Patricia Kay - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

GS

“ I'm gonna miss you my old dear friend..Fly with the angels besutiful!

Gina Tomei Shrout - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

BM

“ My Donna, my Missy...your last words to me were, 'I love you' as mine were back to you. I have no regret...no words were ever left unspoken. Your greatest gift to me, was not only your friendship, but the gift I received in knowing your beautiful boys. I will forever watch over them while we are passing through this world. Until I see you again...thank you for your unconditional friendship for the past 32 years. I love you.

Brett & Darlene Moe - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

PM

“ Auntie Donna, Thank you for always asking about us , but most of all for always making our mommy smile. You knew the unconditional love that you can only get from an animal. We love you too! Pinky & Grizzly Moe

Pinky & Grizzly Moe - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

KB

“ Donna was such a sweet person and always looking at the bright side of life. She will be greatly missed. Sending prayers and hugs from Michigan. Let God wrap his arms around you and give you peace. The Bocade Family

Kathy Bocade - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

BG

“ I spent almost every morning with Donna for the last 3 years...she always had a smile on her face, a willingness to help any and everybody. She was one of the most positive upbeat person i had the pleasure of knowing. She was one of a kind and will be missed terribly. I am proud to call her my friend.

barb gunderson - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

CM

“ My Condolences to Donna family. I worked with your sister Fran (currently) & your twin Di-I didn't know you personally but I know you were as sweet as your sister's I working and worked in past they make me smile daily and I know you did the same. Rest In Heaven R.I.H. We are praying for your family love you all you will be missed not forgotten and walking with everyone daily.

Carmella Mendez - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

CL

“ *Leave a condolence or a memory.*

carrie osburn leinonen - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

KM

“ *Donna L. Ponticelli*

Kristal Matson - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

FP

“ *Diane and family, we send out condolences in your loss. Donna will be missed cherish her smile and memories. Your family will be in our prayers.*

Sylvester and Franita Handy

Franita Payne-Handy - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

KZ

“ *Another limb on our family tree has broken. As time goes by, the holes in our hearts grow ever larger and the heaviness of the loss of those we love seems unbearable at times. I will always picture Donna with her beautiful smile that never changed from the time we were toddlers and into the years of our growth. Until we meet again sweet cousin, I'll be looking for you in the sunshine along with my dear sister and husband.*

Kim Zimbelman - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

LS

“ *To the whole family, We are so sorry for your loss. Donna will be missed by all that knew her. We remember her fondly from Kaiser's. May God bless the whole family. Rest in peace. Len & Sue Shamrock*

Len & Sue Shamrock - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

MS

“ I just heard of Donna passing yesterday. I don't no what happen and I am sooo sorry to hear this horrible news.I met Donna and Diane long time ago at Six flags we all worked there. Those were the best times I will NEVER FORGET them or Donna RIP MY FRIEND Love and will always Miss You

Mary (Miley) Steffenhagen - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

TS

“ Donna was one of the happiest people I ever knew. She always had a big smile that reached her eyes...it was as infectious as her happy, bubbly personality. I'll never forget the fun we had being team moms on the Warren football field or the way you encouraged me when I started my business. Seeing you always would turn a down day into a warm experience. You were fun. You were kind. You will be missed. Godspeed, old friend.

Trudy Salinas - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

KV

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Donna's family and many friends. She will be missed greatly.

Kristen Vedder - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



“ Donna, a beautiful soul. An earth angel is one of the many thoughts that come to my mind about your spirit and who you were during your short time with us. As so many folks are saying, who's lives you have touched, you will be sorely missed. Called home to God, I know you are looking upon those left behind and still doing what you always did...looking out for others. My beautiful friend, Donna you will be forever in our hearts. I love you (which I never told you) and will miss you. Until we meet again, my friend. Love, Valerie Gish

June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



“ You are all in our thoughts. I am so sorry.

Shelley Homer (Kierna) - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



“ sorry to hear rip donna

June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



“ We are so saddened to hear the news of the loss of Donna. She was loved by many and will be sorely missed. Prayers and love to all of her family during this time. We love you all.

Lee and Allison Nepstad - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



“ My prayers are with you all

marcella (shroyer) smith weiberg - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



“ My most Sincere Condolences to the Family, May God provide you Comfort and Strength during this time of sorrow. God Bless You All. We will keep you lifted in Prayer. Rest With The Angels Donna.Lisa Perez-Vasquez

Lisa Perez-VAsquez - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



“ May God lay his hands upon all of you and give you strength and guidance in these coming days.

Michael & Bobbie kierna - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

AS

“ My Memories with Donna..we were childhood friends, living down the street from each other, we were always laughing about something I remember fudge popcorn at your house, I had never tasted popcorn so good, and when ever I make it I think of both Donna and Diane. I remember riding our bikes to Wendy's just to get frosties. I remember going to Karlene's house to pretend we could hold a seance and raise one of us laying on the floor, until we scared the heck out of ourselves and ran home. I remember when the three of us would play Charlie's angels across the street from my home and argue over how no one ever wanted to be Kate. I remember when we were candy stripers at Victory Hospital together and crushing on the boys that worked in Central Service.. We grew up and I remember running into you after many years and our talks turned into adult talk about kids and husbands and lifenow I have to say goodbye to my childhood friend and let God take over now I will hold our memories close to my heart. With Love, Adelah Shoman-Morrissey

Adelah Shoman-Morrissey - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

JM

“ Dear God, Donna is an Angel in Heaven and I want you tell her how much it meant to me for all the time & love she gave to my Grandchildren Brittany, Amber, Nikki & my precious Great-granddaughter, Abrielle. Tell her how much we will miss her but will always have Memories to share. joan Morin

joan Morin - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

SL

“ My sincere condolences to your family. May you all gain strength from family and friends. Look to God for his loving care during your sorrow.

Sheila Lewis - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

JW

“ Words fall short of expressing my sorrow for your loss. Donna brought so many gifts to all our life's. Always a kind word for everyone and a contagious smile that was brighter than sunshine. Donna will always remain in our hearts.

Jacqueline Williams - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

SR

“ You will be so missed. You were always a sweet sweet lady. Always had a great smile and never a bad word to anyone. It will not be the same without you.

Scott Robb - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

DD

“ Donna was a lovely person. In February, on my first date with Tim, we saw her at 45 North. She came up to us with a big smile and hug and introduced herself to Tim. She was truly a wonderful person and will be missed by all! Deb DeBree

Deb DeBree - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

JD

“ Donna was so sweet and giving. She gave me unconditional love and support. I will never forget her. My love to all of her family

jeri deboer - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

TS

“ Who'd have thought that stopping in for pizza at a local pub one day would result in a friendship with the most amazing person one could ever hope to meet. Words cannot describe how warm, thoughtful and friendly Donna Ponticelli was to everyone she met. Everyone was welcome in Donna's circle of friends and there wasn't anything she wouldn't do for you if she could. Donna always had time for you no matter what she was doing at the time, and she always had a smile on her face. There was not a friendlier sweeter person on the face of this earth. Many hearts were touched and many lives changed forever by this beautiful person. A little piece of Donna Ponticelli resides in the hearts of all her family and friends - She will never be forgotten. We will always love and cherish our short time with you.

Terry & Donna Smith - June 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM

JW

“ My deepest condolences to all of Donna's family. Donna left everyone with fond happy memories. She was a breath of fresh air and always a beautiful smile on her face. She brightened up a room when she walked in. She had the biggest heart - always ready to help someone. She will be so missed. We have a beautiful blue eyed angel looking down on us now. RIP dear Donna.

Judy Wentz - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

KR

“ So sorry for your loss. God Bless you all.

Ken& Josie Redding - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

WJ

“ Our sincere condolences to Diane and the entire family on the loss of Donna our classmate and friend, she will be truly missed. Love always. Waldo and Kevin Johnson

waldo johnson - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

AB

“ Greg so sorry to hear about Donna she will be in our prayers

Aunt Angie Broder - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

JV

“ Donna, we were just becoming family. I am so sad of your passing and sad that I will not be able to get to know you beyond what I already knew. You were such a gracious, warm and inviting person. You will be missed - Jason Vida

Jason Vida - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

KS

“ We love you & we truly will miss you.

Kim Daly & Bill Schneider - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

DS

“ My heart aches knowing I will never see, talk or laugh with you again. Following you from job to job and watching all your regulars do the same is amazing to see. You are a true angel sent from God but I only had 12 years to experience this. Never knew when Terry and I walked in for a pizza and a drink did I think I would find my best friend, I will never find another Donna, you were one of a kind. I love you D, Go Cowboys!!!!

Donna Smith - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

DP

“ So sorry for your loss, she will be missed by all. God be with you in this time of sorrow.

Dianna Pappadakis - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

LC

“ Donna and I met while working at Olive Garden near Lakehurst Mall in 1993. We were instant friends....that blue-eyed, smiling bundle of friendliness walked over with a grin while I was in training and said "Hi! I'm Donna. Do you want a Coke or anything while you're waiting?" That's all it took. Our kids played together, we went for drinks sometimes after a shift, she taught me how to get a deal, and how to get those coveted Power Rangers when no one else could! 21 years later, we hung out in Arizona together while our husband's had a blast playing golf. I am so blessed to have had you in my life. I will never forget your sweet, kind and gentle soul. I love and miss you, my friend.

Lori & Christopher Caminiti - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM

RL

“ I MEMORY OF DONNA

Ronnie Ludlow - April 27, 2018 at 05:28 AM



“ So sorry for your loss my prayers are with you.

April 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear this news... Thinking of her brought up our trip to Friday's front row at Miller park when she worked there..that was such a fun time..what a riot we had.waving our napkins..getting them confiscated and hiding more to wave....I'm sure there are so many happy memories that so many people have of her. I'll keep your family in my thoughts and prayers.

April 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM