



## Linda L. Petersen

June 3, 1950 - August 14, 2025

Linda Lee Petersen, of Gurnee, IL, lived a life grounded in animals, family, and doing things her own way—usually with a broom or shovel in her hand. She wasn't one to make a fuss, but she showed up for the people she loved in reliable ways. Her presence was her promise.

Born to William and Freeda Starovich, Linda was the beloved wife of Brad Petersen; loving mom of Jenny Sweeney, Willie (Morgan) Petersen, Jeff (Sonya) Petersen and Neil (Joyce) Petersen; and proud grandma to Ethan, Spencer, Alex, Jake, Tripp, Declan, Colton, Loretta, Ruby and Claire.

She was a devoted sister to Susan (Roman) Keating, Pam (Joe) Atkinson, and Mike (Sue) Starovich, and Auntie Linda to Peter Ryback, Josh (Lindsay) Atkinson, Carissa (Mark) Lund, Eric Atkinson, Lee Starovich, Roman (Margaret) Keating, and Megan Starovich.

Linda was raised with the kind of creativity and know-how that comes from working the land and caring for animals—the kind that leaves your hands dirty and your heart full. Over the years, her farm became a haven for dogs, cats, goats, horses, donkeys, chickens, ferrets, and ducks—all of them rescues—each one finding safety, kindness, and a place to belong. She extended that same care beyond her own land, giving her time generously to causes close to her heart, including Fat Cat Rescue and Sparrow's Nest, always finding quiet ways to help.

She lived simply and naturally, caring for the earth the way she cared for everything else—with quiet devotion and willing hands. She loved giving old

things new life, whether it was a broken chair or a homeless cat.

She was stubborn in the best way, tough as nails when she had to be, and never backed down from hard work. Whether she was mucking a stall, coaxing life out of her garden, or bottle-feeding a newborn goat in the middle of the night, Linda worked without fanfare but with total commitment. Her love was written in actions, day after day, year after year. She taught us how to care deeply, live simply, and give love in quiet ways. She leaves behind a family—both human and animal—who will miss her fiercely, and a home where her spirit will always be felt in every tree, trail, and tail.

She was one in a million to everyone and to every life she touched.

In her honor, please rescue a stray, grow something from seed, or let the weeds win once in a while. Donations may also be made to Fat Cat Rescue. A celebration of Linda's life will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

# Tribute Wall

JT

“ My deepest sympathy to Brad and all the family.

Jeffrey M Thomas - April 27 at 06:22 AM

BT

“ Brian and Stephanie Timmons purchased the He artfelt Comfort Charcuterie Gift Set for the family of Linda L. Petersen.



Brian and Stephanie Timmons - August 30, 2025 at 11:08 AM

BT

“ Brian and Stephanie Timmons planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda L. Petersen.

Brian and Stephanie Timmons - August 30, 2025 at 11:08 AM

JT

“ Jason & Christine Thomas purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Linda L. Petersen.



Jason & Christine Thomas - August 23, 2025 at 11:52 PM

JT

“ Jason & Christine Thomas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda L. Petersen.

Jason & Christine Thomas - August 23, 2025 at 11:52 PM

DB

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy and Love to Brad and all of Linda’s family. Her joyful friendship is a never ending Blessing. Sending you love and hugs.*

*The Berg’s, Linda, Davey and kids.*



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**Dave Berg** - August 21, 2025 at 06:23 PM



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**Barbara Becker** - August 21, 2025 at 10:17 PM

MP

“ *So sorry to hear of Linda’s passing. Our hearts ache for all of you. Great memories are held in our hearts of our friendship with Linda and Brad. Prayers for comfort at this time of your lives.*

*Sincerely,  
Louie and Marianne Porreca*

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**MARIANNE PORRECA** - August 20, 2025 at 07:32 PM