



Judith Ritchie

November 8, 1941 - January 26, 2017

A Life of Giving . . . A Tribute To Our Mom

Judith Ritchie (Nee Kelly)

This morning our mom passed away. She bravely fought Alzheimer's for years and through it all she remained brave, hopeful and strong. Anyone who knew her said she could light up a room with her huge, bubbly personality like no other. There is also nothing small about her legacy or the impact she had on others.

Looking back mom always had a career involving matters of the heart.

Mom worked as a paramedic for Ingalls Memorial Hospital and was also a part of the Cardiology Department at Olympia Fields Osteopathic Medical Center. She became a foster parent for Evangelical Child and Family Agency and for decades she opened her home to help care for babies and teens in need of a loving home. As kids we can remember coming home from school and often seeing a sweet, frightened child at the door waiting to greet us. We quickly learned that this beautiful child was about to become part of our family for several months until they were adopted. Mom genuinely loved them all. This past week we've received numerous phone calls from the children (now adults with their own families) that she cared for, telling us with heavy hearts, what she meant to them and that they were praying for her. As her daughters, we couldn't be more proud.

Thank you, mom, for teaching us to be the light that helps others see. Thank you for teaching us to be compassionate people and to always see the good

in others. Thank you for telling us that you loved us everyday. Even in your final days, when it was barely audible, you told us that you loved us. Thank you for always listening to and hearing all our hearts so clearly. You will be missed beyond words and when we chat with you, and tell you that we love you more, we know in our hearts you are telling us that it simply isn't possible. Yes, mom . . . it's possible.

Cemetery Details

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 west Hoff Rd
Elwood, IL 60421

Tribute Wall



“ *Judith Ritchie*

October 08, 2023 at 04:39 PM



“ *I always appreciated Judy and David with the very fine new clothing that they collected in Chicago and brought to the Salvation Army in Kankakee. Their generous attitude and smiles brought joy and will be long remembered.*

With deepest sympathies on your big loss. We miss you.

Russ & Julie Johnson

Russ Johnson - January 31, 2017 at 08:03 PM



“ *I remember the first time I met Judie, it was through her husband David whom I worked with. She was so much fun. I still remember her picking me up in the sports car with the top down and riding around. She will me missed so much.*

She always gave me such good sound advice when I needed it and a shoulder to cry on when I needed that too. Farewell my dear sweet friend till we meet again.

Pam Hendricks - January 30, 2017 at 12:18 PM



I met Judith at a fireman's dance. Dave-please accept our deepest condolences for her passing. Dave and I appreciate your friendship. Take care.

tiffanie west - January 31, 2017 at 10:44 AM

JE

Dave and family. I just read that Judie passed away in January. She was a lovely lady and I enjoyed knowing her. Blessings as you remember the gracious, fun loving and kind woman of God.

Jennie Tietjen @ ECFA - May 31, 2017 at 03:56 PM