

BARBARA THOMMEN



January 16, 1941 — September 15, 2024

Barbara Jean Thommen, our beloved Mom and well-known Grama, passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 15, 2024, with family by her side. She was born in Yankton, South Dakota, on January 16, 1941, to William and Irene Nooney, the fourth of ten children in a loving Catholic family. Her life was enriched by her deep connections with family, friends, and her faith.

In 1962, Barbara left her small-town roots to pursue her dreams in the big city of Seattle, becoming a flight attendant for United Airlines. It was in Seattle where she reconnected with the love of her life, Tom Thommen. They built their home in Magnolia, where they were blessed with two children, Molly Shutes and Tommy Thommen.

She joined the Katherine Meloy Circle in 1967, devoting herself to helping others throughout her life. She had a special gift for making people feel welcome, often opening her home during holidays to those without nearby family. Her warmth and generosity left a lasting impression on everyone who knew her.

Barbara was predeceased by her husband, Tom Thommen. She is survived by her daughter, Molly Shutes, and her son, Tommy Thommen; her granddaughter, Sarah Shutes; and great-grandchildren, Bodhi and Poppy Shutes, and Connor, Andrew, and Anika Thommen. Barbara is also survived by her sisters Bonnie Bilder (New Jersey), Carol Anderson (Minnesota), Colleen Thompson (Texas), MaryLee Stewart (South Dakota), Theresa Allen (Kansas), Bridget Fitchner (South Dakota), along with a large extended family and many loyal friends.

We were blessed to have had our Mom, Grama/Gigi in our lives, and we will carry the memory of her love, generosity, and endless support with us always.

We love you, Barbara, even in death. Your memory will forever remain in our hearts.

Katherine Meloy