



Barbara L. Carpenter

February 4, 1944 - June 12, 2025

Barbara L. Carpenter of Cadillac passed away Thursday evening, June 12, 2025, at Maple Ridge Living Center in Cadillac. She was 81. Barb was born on February 4, 1944, in Traverse City to Arthur and Margaret Waldron.

Barb was the heart of her family—a woman whose love and nurturing spirit made every event, and everyone feel special. She always put her children first, offering unwavering support, comfort, and love. Her warmth could be felt in her embrace, her words, and the kitchen where she was known for her incredible baking—especially during the holidays, when she filled the hearts and homes of her family with the sweet scents and memories that will forever be cherished.

She had a special place in her heart for animals, especially dogs. She taught her family not just how to love, but how to love well—through patience and kindness.

On March 8, 1963, she married Douglas A. Carpenter I, and he preceded her in death on October 13, 2017. Her marriage was a testament to loyalty and devotion.

Throughout the years, Barb held various positions. She was a dog groomer and worked alongside her husband at their Sears store in Cadillac. Later she worked as a recess aide for many years for Cadillac Area Public Schools in the middle school and junior high before retiring. Her role as a mother was the one she held most dear.

She is survived by her children: Douglas (Christa) Carpenter II and Candy

(Robert) Hefron; grandchildren: Douglas III (Desiree), Tiffani, Cody, Brady, Colton, Tony, Chuntel, Ashlyn; great-grandchildren: Cameron, Morgan, Kaliah, Isabella, Hailie, Elijah, Weston, Michael, Jaxson; her sister, Jean McGrath and sister-in-law, Cindy Waldron.

She was also preceded in death by her sons, Arthur Carpenter and Christopher Carpenter; a granddaughter, Corina Carpenter; a brother, Jim Waldron and brother-in-law, Mike McGrath.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 AM, Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services in Cadillac with Rev. Fr. Michael Janowski officiating. Friends may meet the family one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will take place at Maple Hill Cemetery in Cadillac. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Wexford Twilight Bark Network. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

Mitchell Street
Cadillac, MI 49601

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services
205 East Cass Street
Cadillac, MI 49601
info@petersonfh.com

Funeral Service

JUN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services
205 East Cass Street
Cadillac, MI 49601

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Barbara L. Carpenter.

June 17, 2025 at 08:47 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Barbara L. Carpenter.



June 17, 2025 at 08:47 AM



“ Barb was one of the kindest and sweetest friends I have ever known. She and Doug were the perfect couple. My deepest, heartfelt sympathy to her family. Your Mom was the best. Love and prayers.

Elsie Moore - June 14, 2025 at 08:50 AM