



## Barbara Ann Chester

November 5, 1939 - June 30, 2025

Barbara Ann (Wisner) Chester, beloved mother, grandmother, wife, sister and friend passed away peacefully on June 30, 2025, at the age of 85.

Born on November 5, 1939, in Gary, Indiana, Barbara dedicated her life to her family and community. She gave her time to Merrillville Little league, Merrillville Girls Softball, Sts. Peter and Paul school and the Andean Parents Association. Whether it was cutting hair, working in the school cafeteria, running a concession stand, coaching, refereeing or just supporting her kids' sports teams, Barbara was a hardworking friend to the community.

Barbara graduated from Lew Wallace High school in Gary and went on to take classes at Ball State Teacher's College. There she met the love of her life, Joe Chester. They shared a deep love for family, a healthy passion for the Chicago Cubs and the joyful hobby of fishing.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph P. and Ann (nee Weber) Wisner, sister Jo Ann Williams, sister Melinda Carden and granddaughter Erica (nee Raines) Tompkins.

She is survived by son Joseph Francis (Jennifer) Chester of Albuquerque, NM, son Thomas (Dr. Ashley) Chester of Muncie, IN, daughter Annie (David) Endres of Speedway, IN, and brothers-in-law Ronald Williams and Jerry Carden. Barbara loved her 11 Grandchildren as well as her 10 Great-Grandchildren. She was affectionately known as "Grandma Ducky" to all the grandkids.

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at Nativity of Our Savior Church

(2949 Willowcreek Road) in Portage, on July 26th, at 10am.

An open house in Barbara's honor will be held at The Fireside Room (2709 Brandt Street) in Portage, on July 26th from 12:00pm to 3pm. Family and friends are invited to gather, share memories and honor the beautiful life she lived.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks for donations in her memory to Andean High School Athletics, 5959 Broadway in Merrillville, IN, 46410

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUL **26.** 10:00 AM (CT)

Nativity of Our Savior Church  
2949 Willowcreek Road  
Portage, IN 46368  
<http://2949>

## Celebration of Life

JUL **26.** 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (cst)

The Fireside Room  
2709 Brandt Street  
Portage, IN 46368

# Tribute Wall

JE

“ We are sorry and deeply saddened by your family’s tremendous loss. Please know each of you is being held close in thought and prayer during this painfully difficult time. Sending our heartfelt condolences and many hugs for all.



Jay Ard & Debra Jo Endres-Ard - October 14, 2025 at 09:40 AM

AE

“ Dang Ma! Can't believe it will be three months tomorrow. Doesn't seem like that long ago. Hope you're finally happy. Hey to Pop.

Annie Endres - September 29, 2025 at 02:38 PM

TR

“ My condolences to the family , i meet Barbara and Joe at St Bridgets and always sat either in front of them or behind them , my kid alway wore a White Sox shirt and they would boo at him.

The Renn's - July 24, 2025 at 01:28 PM

Annie Endres

Ha! Of course they did!  
I know who you are. Thanks.

Annie Endres - July 26, 2025 at 09:33 AM