



Patricia A Reichenbacher

February 27, 1938 - January 23, 2025

Patricia (Pat) Ann Reichenbacher, age 86, of Appleton WI, died Thursday morning, January 23, 2025 at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton. She was born February 27, 1938 in Chicago Heights, IL, the first child of Harold and Mary (Kelly) McGrath.

Pat grew up on the northwest side of Chicago with her parents and four siblings. She enjoyed being part of a Chicago-Irish family and loved summers at their lake home on Post Lake in northern Wisconsin. Pat and her siblings loved to challenge one another to swim across the lake and back. Evening fun at the lake meant spending time at the roller rink.

Pat's education was guided by Catholic priests and nuns at Immaculate Conception (Norwood Park, Chicago), St. Patrick Academy (Des Plaines, IL), and the College of St. Teresa (Winona, MN) where she earned a B.S.N. Later in life, Pat earned her M.S.N. degree at Loyola University's School of Nursing in Chicago.

After college Pat was hired as a Staff Nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, WI. There she accepted her calling as a teacher and began teaching student nurses at the hospital. She went on to teach student nurses in Madison, Chicago, Palatine, IL, and La Crosse, WI.

At the College of St. Teresa, Pat dated Paul Reichenbacher who was studying chemistry at St. Mary's College (Winona, MN). Paul proposed to Pat while he was a graduate student at Penn State, and they married August 31, 1963. Pat moved with Paul to State College, PA and began working as a Public Health Nurse in Centre County, PA. She lovingly cared for Amish farmers, coal miners, and others. In Pennsylvania, their first son, William, was born in 1965.

The small family moved to and flourished in Elk Grove Village, IL in 1967. Sons Mark, Tom, and David were born in 1968, 1970, and 1976. Pat and Paul purchased their own lake home on Post Lake during this time. Pat's love for Post Lake was instilled in her sons. Time with family, sailing, fishing, and waterskiing made each summer memorable. This summer (2025) the McGrath-Reichenbacher family will celebrate 100 years at Post Lake. The first lake home was originally established by Pat's grandparents, Tom and Julia Kelly.

La Crescent, MN became the family's main home in 1976. In La Crescent Pat: provided her sons and husband delicious meals and amazing desserts (cherry pies!), drove her cars up and down the long, steep, often ice-covered driveway, attended thousands of hockey games, served on the La Crescent Public School Board, and taught future nurses at Western Wisconsin Technical College in La Crosse.

Pat retired in 2001, and by 2003 the two empty nesters became snowbirds, spending summers at Post Lake and winters in Phoenix, AZ. Grandchildren and travel made her smile for the next twenty years. In 2021 when Pat's health required professional care, Pat moved into Eagle Court Memory Care in Appleton, WI with Paul next door in Eagle Point Senior Living.

Pat is survived by her husband of Appleton, WI and Post Lake, WI; four sons: William (Tracy) Reichenbacher of Madison WI, Mark (Lisa) Reichenbacher of

Ann Arbor, MI, Thomas (Tammy) Reichenbacher of La Crosse, WI, and David (Kaia) Reichenbacher of Greenville, WI; ten grandchildren: Claire Reichenbacher, Alyce (Dan) Miller, Grant Reichenbacher (William & Tracy), Lauren (Torey) Greenwood and Erin (fiancée Bill Nguyen) Earley (Mark & Lisa), Maya and Ella Reichenbacher (Thomas & Tammy), Rhiannon, Elliot and Scarlett (David & Kaia) and two great-grandsons: Emmett and Cedar Greenwood (Lauren & Torey); two brothers: Philip (Donna) and Thomas (Joyce) McGrath; and brother-in-law Kelly (Carol) Heibel. In addition to her parents, Pat was preceded in death by her sisters Julie Heibel, Mary-Beth and her husband Michael O'Grady.

Pat's family especially thanks the caregivers at Eagle Court Memory Care and the nurses and doctors at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton, WI for their compassion, skill, and dedication.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Pat's name may be made to Marmion Abbey, 850 Butterfield Road, Aurora, IL, 60502, or online at www.marmion.org/abbey. To leave condolences for Pat's family visit www.daleidenmortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Marmion Abbey Cemetery

850 Butterfield Rd.
Aurora, IL 60502

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 30. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary
220 N. Lake Street
Aurora, IL 60506
(630) 631-5500
daleidenmortuary@gmail.com
<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

Funeral Mass

JAN 31. 9:30 AM (CT)

Marmion Abbey Church
850 Butterfield Rd
Aurora, IL 60502

Tribute Wall



“ Daleiden Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Patricia A Reichenbacher



Daleiden Mortuary - January 27, 2025 at 12:35 PM

CL

What a beautiful remembrance of such a dear remarkable woman and friend. Rest in peace, Pat.

Carla LaTour Linssen - January 27, 2025 at 07:43 PM

GF

Oh, what beautiful memories of a beautiful friend. From Penn State to Phoenix, Arizona, the good times were always there when we were together. Pat was one of the most remarkable people I've ever known and will be deeply missed, but the memories of the times we spent together will remain forever in our hearts.

Barbara and Gary Fuller

Gary and Barbara Fuller - January 28, 2025 at 06:27 AM

JV

What wonderful memories I have of my very dear friend, in Elk Grove, Schaumburg, La Crescent, Arizona, but especially Post Lake. The stories we could share! I loved her then, now and always. Paul, I share your sorrow.

Judy VanBooven

judy vanbooven - January 28, 2025 at 05:21 PM

DW

Pat will always be a Great Lady to me. Being on the Lacrescent School Board together in the early 1990's. Pat was the chair of the School Board and led us to the passing of a large School referendum. Pat is also a great friend of ours.

Dick and Teresa Walter

Dick Walter - January 30, 2025 at 08:40 AM

PR

She's with her sisters Julie & Mary Beth, her parents Mary & Harold, and the McGrath & Kelly families — but I miss her here and love her.

Paul

Paul Reichenbacher - May 03, 2025 at 12:41 PM

FH

“*Dear Tom, so sorry to hear of your moms' passing. What a wonderful person she was. I spent a lot of time at your home back in the day and she always was so nice and made me feel at home. I'll never forget spending a weekend at your lake house with you and your family. What great memories. I wish you and your brothers and father all the best during this tough time.*

Frank Harris

Frank Harris - January 31, 2025 at 07:37 PM

RC

“*Bill,
I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. I did not know her but knowing you, she had to be a wonderful mother and person.
Please accept my condolences to you as well as your family.*

*An old friend,
Rick Czeczok*

Rick Czeczok - January 31, 2025 at 12:12 PM

JK

“ Dear Mark, We are so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. God's speed and hope your family can keep your most cherished memories dear.

Jeff and Gina Kolpek

Jeff Kolpek - January 30, 2025 at 11:44 PM

JF

“ Joe and Michelle Johnson and Family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



Joe and Michelle Johnson and Family - January 30, 2025 at 09:35 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



January 29, 2025 at 09:25 AM

YS

“ Your Post lake neighbors, The Spoerkes purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



Your Post lake neighbors, The Spoerkes - January 29, 2025 at 09:06 AM

LK

“ I was one of Pat’s hospice nurses. I always looked forward to going to see her. Although her memory wasn’t always accurate, she always told true stories about being a nursing instructor. I also remember being very nervous because when I met Paul for the first time, I felt like I was having a job interview. In reality, I was! Godspeed Pat, Thank you for your wisdom! Paul, I will respect you always.

Lisa Killingsworth - January 28, 2025 at 08:40 PM

JN

“ Dear Thomas and Family,

I was deeply saddened to hear about the loss of your mother. Please accept my heartfelt condolences during this difficult time.

Your mother’s kindness and love will always be remembered, and I hope you find comfort in the cherished memories you shared with her. May you feel the warmth of her presence in your hearts and the strength of her love surrounding you.

You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

*With deepest sympathy,
Jamie Nowinski & the Staff at PCS-St. Stephen Elementary*

Jamie Nowinski - January 28, 2025 at 12:50 PM

SA

“ Sylvia A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patricia A Reichenbacher.

Sylvia A. - January 28, 2025 at 09:36 AM

WN

“ Pat was one of my colleagues when we taught nursing students at Western Technical College in La Crosse. She was gracious and supportive in all of her interactions with students and colleagues. I will always picture Pat with a smile on her face, a laugh and a kind word for others. When she retired I inherited her office (with a window!) but never felt that I could fill that space as capably as she did. She was missed when she retired, and I know she will be greatly missed by her family.



Wendy Noble - January 28, 2025 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Paul and Pat have been close friends since our meeting on Post Lake Drive while they were taking a walk. It turned out that we were looking at their old cottage that someone else bought. Then we learned that we were both snowbirds going to Arizona and had a love of genealogy! We shared many dinners, theater shows, and the annual zoo lights in Phoenix. They took part in our lake events, like our Mammoth themed parties, skits, and lake fun. When we stopped going to WI and moved back to California due to health issues, our friendship continued through phone, and text. Pat will truly be missed and remembered. To Paul and family my heartfelt sympathy. Pat has given us a genuine model of how to be a good person and a loving friend. May her memory be for a blessing!

Gaye Siddel - January 27, 2025 at 10:40 PM

TF

“ The Booth Family purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



The Booth Family - January 27, 2025 at 09:32 PM

TF

“ The Booth Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patricia A Reichenbacher.

The Booth Family - January 27, 2025 at 09:32 PM

TF

“ Toby & Sandy Johnson and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



Toby & Sandy Johnson and family - January 27, 2025 at 05:15 PM

TF

“ Toby & Sandy Johnson and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patricia A Reichenbacher.

Toby & Sandy Johnson and family - January 27, 2025 at 05:15 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



January 27, 2025 at 05:05 PM



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

January 27, 2025 at 05:05 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



January 27, 2025 at 04:42 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Patricia A Reichenbacher.



January 27, 2025 at 04:18 PM



“ 56 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Daleiden Mortuary - January 27, 2025 at 12:27 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray* was purchased for the family of *Patricia A Reichenbacher*.



January 27, 2025 at 12:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Patricia A Reichenbacher*.

January 27, 2025 at 12:19 PM