



## Kathleen M. Willems

June 28, 1943 - November 28, 2024

Kathleen M. Willems, 81, of Fort Myers, FL, passed away peacefully on November 28, 2024, at her residence. Born June 28, 1943, in Detroit, MI, Kathleen was the cherished daughter of the late Leo and Marie (née Connelly) Trenkle.

Kathleen relocated to Fort Myers in 1984 from Sterling Heights, MI, and quickly embraced her new community. She found joy and purpose working in the cafeteria at Estero High School, where she delighted in connecting with students and staff alike. Her warmth and kindness left a lasting impression on everyone she met.

A devout member of Our Lady of Light Catholic Community, Kathleen's faith was an anchor throughout her life.

She will be deeply missed by her loving children: Robert Willems of Fort Myers, FL; David Willems and his wife, Kristi, of Estero, FL; Donald Willems of Fort Myers, FL; and Megan M. Schilke and her husband, Carl, of Lehigh Acres, FL. Kathleen was a proud and devoted grandmother to eight grandchildren: Logan, Sarah, Emma, Justin, Emalin, Gavin, Joseph, and Avery.

She is also survived by her siblings: Charlie Trenkle of Detroit, MI; Rick

Trenkle of Austin, TX; Pat Muzzin of Gregory, MI; Beth Hedges of Sylvania, OH; and Nancy Courtney of Cummings, GA.

Kathleen was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 50 years, Louis R. Willems, in 2012, as well as her brother, Vince Trenkle, and her parents.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at 11:00 AM at Our Lady of Light Catholic Community, located at 19860 Cypress View Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33967. Burial will follow in the Memorial Garden at Our Lady of Light.

Family and friends can sign Kathleen's guest register or leave condolences at [www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com](http://www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com).

Arrangements are under the care of Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Kathleen's warmth, love, and unwavering faith touched countless lives. Her memory will be treasured forever by all who knew and loved her.

# Cemetery Details

## Our Lady of Light Memorial Garden

19680 Cypress View Dr.  
Ft. Myers, FL 33967

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Light Catholic Community  
19680 Cypress View Dr  
Fort Myers, FL 33967-6201  
(239) 267-7088

# Tribute Wall

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“ Oh dear Kathy, we had so many memories together back when you were lunch lady at Estero High. You got to know my daughter and she loved you, as did many students. I was working at the bank at the time and you would come in every day, making the school lunch deposits or a transaction of your own. I became your Banker and we then became friends. In those daily 15 minute transactions we talked and laughed. You were always a joy to see. We could talk about anything really. I wish I would have gotten together with you over the years. You were loved and will be missed. Rest in Peace my friend. I will always remember you.

Love,  
Renée Meyer

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**Renee Meyer** - January 07, 2025 at 09:25 PM