



## Barbara Mills

September 7, 1957 - January 11, 2022

Barbara Lynn Mills, age 64, passed away on January 11, 2022. She was born on September 7, 1957 in Grand Rapids to David Keeler and Julia Posthuma Keeler. A current resident of Warren, she formerly lived in Gardena, CA and Marysville, MI. Barbara was a retired Financial Controller at The Salvation Army, California South Divisional Headquarters and also worked for The Salvation Army Eastern Michigan Divisional Headquarters since 1985. She worked as a nurse prior to working for The Salvation Army. She earned her License in Practical Nursing at St. Clair County Community College and graduated from Marysville High School (Michigan).

Barbara was a generous and kind woman, helping others with financial support and service. She supported The Salvation Army Children's Home in Haiti as well as The Salvation Army homeless outreach in Los Angeles.

Barbara was a loving daughter, sister, aunt and cousin. She loved children, taking on her church's young children's group at the age of 18. She had a great capacity to love. She loved deeply, she loved eternally, she loved people who needed to be loved. She loved with her wonderful heart, she loved with her money, when a small orphanage in Haiti was destroyed in an earthquake she helped to pay for it to be rebuilt. She loved with her time, she loved with her skills. She had a gift for creating beautiful things and then give them away as soon as she was done. Her precision was akin to an engineer, the resulting

piece as stunning as if she'd hired a designer to make it for her. She would come along side of people and draw them into her circle and start lifting them up. She was a competitive game-player and will be the forever family Farkle champion.

Beloved daughter of the late Julia and David Keeler. Loving sister of Joanne (Ken) Cash of Marysville, Susan Keeler-Perkins of Warren and Beverly (Timothy) Best of Elgin, IL. Proud aunt of Natalie Perkins, Katherine (Michael) Strenger, David (Megan) Best, Elizabeth (Grant) Ream and great aunt of Ruby Strenger, Cash Strenger and Grace Ream.

A memorial service will be announced in the future. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to The Salvation Army's Children's Home in Haiti at [www.sawso.com](http://www.sawso.com) (click donate button; In Memory of Barbara Mills; Program Country: Haiti; Comment: Children's Home). Share your memories at [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com).

# Tribute Wall

SR

“ Barbara was my very best friend!! She was wise beyond measure. She worked for The Salvation Army for more than thirty years in various positions within the finance department. She was a leader and problem solver. She was so kind and generous. She was beautiful inside and out. She was a character builder and a light..she was sunshine!!  
I'm so sad she is gone, but so grateful and thankful she lived!!  
She was the dearest of friends with such a big heart. I carried her heart...I carried her heart inside my heart!!!

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**Susan Rose** - February 21, 2022 at 11:20 AM

CM

“ Barbara always had a smile and kind word for all her guest to her beautiful home she shared with her sister Sue. She had a talent to make wonderful creations and generously gave them to all her friends. She will be missed very much. Cindy M.

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**Cindy McCormick** - January 16, 2022 at 02:38 PM

LT

I am still in disbelief. Working with Barbara was nothing but joy. Even if something came up wrong, it was always lets fix this. She was a person that always looked for peace and harmony. She was generous to a fault. Her knowledge base was beyond belief. I am sorry she is gone. We just take it day by day. Barbara I know the Lord is saying well done my good and faithful servant!

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**Linda J Tucker** - January 18, 2022 at 07:13 PM

ML

*For the years I worked with Barbara at Divisional Headquarters for The Salvation Army in Southern California, Barbara was my "go-to" person. She had an amazing capacity to remember, find, and understand information and numbers. She had a heart for ministry which meant that "finding" the ability to pay for a needed program was as important to her as reporting the bottom line. Barbara had both a firm and gentle spirit. She is missed.*

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**Melinda Lankford** - January 18, 2022 at 07:21 PM

BS

*Barbara was such a beautiful woman. I worked closely with her for many years. She had such a giving spirit and was smart as a whip. We had such fun crafting for different occasions both for the Army and for personal celebrations in my life, she would always come up with a theme and decorations to match. It warms my heart knowing she was able to spend the end of her earthly life with her sisters and extended family. I'm so grateful to have had such an amazing role model, friend and co-worker. She will be missed by all those lives she touched. Rest in peace dear Barbara.*

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**Barbara Stenbakken** - January 19, 2022 at 04:57 PM