



Brenda Longwell Zuluaga

November 15, 1971 - February 22, 2022

Brenda Ann Longwell Zuluaga, loving mother and wife, daughter, sister, loyal friend, and dedicated nurse, died peacefully at her childhood home on the 22nd of February, 2022 surrounded by family and friends.

Brenda was born November 15, 1971 in Irving, TX to Bruce and Betty Longwell. She was raised in Owasso, OK, where she graduated high school in 1989. Driven by desire to make a difference in the lives of others, she earned a nursing degree from Rogers State University and began her career at St. John's Hospital as an RN in the newborn nursery. She adored caring for newborns and became a NICU nurse. Brenda eventually combined this passion with the thrill of experiencing new places as a traveling NICU nurse, taking her to Austin, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York City.

While working in Manhattan in 2011, she met John Zuluaga, whom she married in 2013. They made their home in Litchfield, CT and in 2016 were blessed with twin girls.

Brenda was diagnosed with cancer in 2018. She faced her journey privately, relying on Faith for the incredible fearlessness, optimism, and strength she demonstrated throughout.

Brenda delighted most in simple joys- an Oklahoma sunset, nurturing human connection- and had a penchant for rescuing scrappy dogs. Those who had

the privilege of knowing her will always remember her kindness, her striking beauty, her peaceful disposition. Brenda's love for life, for her daughters, and her family will forever warm the hearts of those she has left behind.

Brenda is survived by her husband John Zuluaga of Litchfield, CT; children Annabel and Nina; parents Bruce and Betty Longwell of Owasso, OK; brother Mark Longwell of Collinsville, OK; in-laws Humberto and Olga Zuluaga of Litchfield, CT; sister-in-law Patricia Savage and husband Chad of Bedford, NY and many other family and friends.

Brenda requested that anyone compelled please make a donation to the charity of their choice in lieu of flowers.

Celebrations of Brenda's life will be scheduled at a later date.

Tribute Wall

KK

“ Brenda was a classmate of our daughter Heather in the Owasso Schools . She was a nurse at St. John's when Heather's baby boy was born and placed in NICU. Bailey was delivered a month early because Heather was starting Chemo for Melanoma. I remember Heather reintroducing us to Brenda when we visited Bailey in NICU. Heather lived to see Bailey celebrate his first birthday. We lost her in August 1999. Bailey will be 23 this August. Heather's little girl Julia was 8 when she lost her Mama. Julia is now 30 years old. I just wanted to tell you that I have some special memories of your daughter. My heart goes out to all of you. I pray for those little girls. I know that they will be surrounded with so much love. May God hold all of you in His arms during this time.
Love, Karen Ketter

Karen Ketter - March 02, 2022 at 11:52 AM

LE

“ Brenda was our twins NICU nurse and a childhood friend of my husband. She was always that ray of sunshine I needed as a worried mother walking in to visit my preemies. Brenda was an absolute angel to my family. She loved her job and her tiny patients. She was so comforting and cried with me the day we graduated home. I can only imagine how many other lives she has blessed along her journey. Thank you Brenda for comforting mine. - Laura Evans

Laura Evans - March 02, 2022 at 09:31 AM


PB

“ Love you Brenda!! Prayers are with all the families.

Pat Bailey




Pat Bailey - February 27, 2022 at 01:40 PM

KI

“Brenda was one of the first nurses I met at St Mary's hospital as a brand new PA. She always greeted me warmly with a big smile and bright eyes, and she made me feel welcomed. We shared memories and laughter through our years working together. She was a beautiful person, kind and generous, with a huge heart. Our babies were so lucky to have her caring for them. She will be truly missed 

Kayla Ingram - February 26, 2022 at 11:48 PM

DM

“How lucky I am to have had something that makes saying goodbye so hard”.
Thoughts and prayers to your entire family, I am blessed to have known Brenda—my compatriot in the “kanker” battle.   

Dana Marker - February 26, 2022 at 08:35 PM