



Barbara Ann Tucker

October 8, 1950 - January 15, 2026

Barbara Ann Tucker, 75, was born on October 8, 1950, in Marblehead, Massachusetts, to Priscilla Marie and John Joseph Tucker Jr. Known affectionately as Bibby to her family and Mim to her grandchildren, she devoted her life to caring for others-as a sister, mother, grandmother, aunt, and cherished friend. Her kindness, generosity, and quiet grace shaped every relationship she touched.

She is survived by her daughter, Eileen Tucker Anderson (Zak); her grandchildren, Trenton Brooks (16) and Claire Eloise (14); and her younger sisters and brother: Catherine Marie Speer (Gary), John Joseph Tucker III (Kate), and Nancy Jean Scheld (Brian).

Barbara spent most of her childhood in New City, New York, where she was actively involved in the Catholic Church at Saint Anthony's. She graduated from Albertus Magnus High School, where her love of learning-especially history-first took root. That passion stayed with her throughout her life. She earned a degree in History from the University of Maryland and later completed two master's degrees in Counseling and Special Education from Marshall University, reflecting her lifelong commitment to helping others feel supported, understood, and valued.

Barbara's devotion to young children and their families was showcased during her decades-long tenure with West Virginia Birth to Three. Barbara gave her heart fully to the work she loved, believing with every part of herself in early intervention and the difference it could make in the lives of children and families. She was the person everyone turned to with questions, ideas, or challenges-always ready to listen, problem-solve, and encourage. Learning brought her joy, and she never stopped seeking knowledge, not for recognition, but so she could better serve others. She saved countless articles, notes, and resources simply to share them, wanting those around her to succeed. A mentor, a leader, and forever a student, she leaves behind a legacy of wisdom, compassion, and unwavering dedication that will continue through the many lives she touched.

Barbara was incredibly empathetic and deeply giving. She believed everything happened for a reason and that gratitude mattered, often reminding those around her to appreciate what they had and to be mindful of others who were facing far greater challenges. Helping people wasn't something she thought about-it was simply who she was.

Though she often joked that she "liked her quiet time," Barbara truly never met a stranger. She could-and would-strike up a conversation with anyone. Bibby was a favorite aunt to her nieces and nephews, and as a Mim, she poured her whole heart into her grandchildren. After retiring from West Virginia Birth to Three, Barbara officially moved to Lake Norman, North Carolina, to be closer to her beloved family. She cherished every second spent with her daughter's family. Those moments meant everything to them and will live on forever. She spent countless hours on baseball fields and basketball courts, cheering them on with pride and joy. Trent and Claire grew up helping their grandmother tend her garden and playing outdoors by her side. They were the absolute center of her world, and there was nothing she wouldn't do for them.

Barbara lived a life rooted in love, compassion, and generosity. Her legacy is not only in what she did, but in how she made people feel-seen, cared for, and loved. She spent her life loving others, and her legacy lives on in all who felt that love. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who were blessed to know her.

Barbara's wish was to live forever on Cape Cod, and that wish will be honored during a celebration of life there in July.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home & Crematory, Mooresville, is serving the Tucker family. Condolences may be made to the family at www.cavin-cook.com.

Tribute Wall

JK

“ *My heart goes out to Eileen and her family.*



Jim King - March 11 at 07:29 PM

TB

“ *Tanya Brown planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Ann Tucker.*

Tanya Brown - February 01 at 11:05 AM

TB

“ *Tanya Brown purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of Barbara Ann Tucker.*



Tanya Brown - February 01 at 11:05 AM

MW

“ *I am so shocked and saddened about Barbara's passing. I knew her many years ago when I was a social worker with Region III. Barbara got me that job! and what an interesting job it was!! But she was indeed a fountain of knowledge and guiding light. She was a very good friend and I will miss her.
many condolences to Eileen and the whole family. Peace be with you!*

Martha Wright - January 29 at 08:24 PM

JK

Martha - I was shocked to learn about Barbara as well and immediately thought of you - wondering if you knew. Those times at Region III are special memories with you and Barbara being our hard-working social workers!

Jim King - March 11 at 07:28 PM

MW

Jim so glad to hear from you! I was just talking about you recently and our adventures out in the WV wilds! I will try to leave my email martha2000w@yahoo.com

Martha Wright - April 05 at 07:06 PM

GS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I worked quite closely with Barbara for many years making sure transition was seamless for children transitioning from Birth to Three (the program she guided for River Valley and the preschool programs of Cabell County Schools. She was a tireless advocate for young children with disabilities and their parents-her dedication to the mission of Birth to Three was tireless. I hope she got to enjoy her time in retirement with the family she adored. Rest in peace, Barbara.

Gerry Sawrey - January 29 at 07:21 PM

SS

“ Oh no my heart is so Sad. I loved her so much! She was the reason I was a service coordinator in Birth to Three for 20 plus years. I remember when I first started I was scared to death and she took me under her wings and guided thru the learning process. Rest in Peace my friend. You will always have a special place in my heart



Shirley Sansom - January 29 at 06:54 PM

BK

“ I am so saddened to hear this. I first met Barbara after moving to WV. As a nurse practitioner, I often referred my patients to her. She and I were walking buddies every weekend around Ritter Park and down the creek. Our families were parishioners at the Marshall Catholic Community and our daughters made their First Communion together. Barbara was a loving person to all she met. May she rest in peace!
Barbara Kiernan

Barbara Kiernan - January 29 at 06:20 PM

JG

“ I am saddened to hear of her passing. I worked with Barbara many years ago at the mental health center. I remember her talking a great deal about Eileen who was the center of her world. She was such a kind, caring, and gentle person. May her memory be a blessing. Jo Dee Gottlieb

Jo D gottlieb - January 29 at 05:33 PM

CK

“ Dear Cathy, Jackie, and Nancy,
Annie called me with this sad news. I knew she had health challenges but am still heartbroken to hear of her passing. I feel like growing up together we were like family and even though I hadn't seen her in many years, I will miss her.
Sending love and prayers to you all.
Most sincere condolences,
Carla Miller Krakoviak

Carla Krakoviak - January 24 at 02:49 PM