



# Willa Tarrant

**Goreville, Il | Wednesday, December 29 2010**

Willa Jean (Keller) Tarrant, 65, passed away at 7:15 am Wednesday December 29, 2010 at home with her family by her side.

She was born on March 18, 1945 in Cody, WY, the daughter of Walter J. & Phyllis (Rickman) Keller.

She married Ronald Tarrant on October 3, 1964 in Bethalto, IL. He survives.



She attended Powell High School in Wyoming and graduated from Civic Memorial High School in Bethalto in 1963.

She worked for Meehan's Grocery in Bethalto and retired from JC Penny in Alton after 24 years of service as their manager of pricing. She was President of Eagle Point Bay Ladies Group, a board member of Eagle Point Bay Association, a member of the Red Hatters, she wrote a weekly column for Goreville, Gazette and attended the Lake of Egypt Christian Church. She enjoyed reading, boating, visiting wineries in Southern Illinois and was very devoted to her grandkids and children and was a Jimmy Buffet fan.

She fought a very courageous battle with breast cancer for 8 years and was admired and respected by her fellow “Chemo-Sabies” and loved by all who knew her.

She is survived by her husband, Ronald Tarrant of Goreville, IL; her mother Phyllis Risk of Muskegon, Michigan; two sons and daughters-in-law and one daughter and son-in-law, Kevin C. & Sherri Tarrant of Moro, IL, Amy & David Davis of East Alton, IL, Jeremy & Julie Tarrant of East Alton; eight grandchildren and spouses, Mandy Tarrant of Moro, Kyle & Melissa Tarrant of East Alton, Trevor Tarrant and girlfriend Sami Basham of Alton, Dustin & Rachel Tarrant of El Paso, TX, Grace Davis of East Alton, Holly Vaughn of East Alton, Cole Tarrant and Emma Tarrant of East Alton; two great grandchildren Camden Tarrant of Moro and Mason Tarrant of East Alton; three siblings and spouses, Gary & Pat Keller of Holland, MI, Donna & Steve Hinkle of Great Falls, MT, and Dr. Robert & Diane Keller of Laguna Woods, CA; several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Dean Tarrant of Bethalto, Dorothy & Darrell Hawkins of Palmyra, IL, Shirley & Daniel McCalley of O’Fallon, MO, Donald & Donna Tarrant of Jerseyville, Jeanette McCarthy of Jacksonville, Linda & Thomas Spurgeon of Bethalto, and Richard & Jan Tarrant of Brighton.

She left many nieces, nephews, and very close friends in the Bethalto area and Lake of Egypt area.

In addition to her father, Walter J. Keller, she was also preceded in death by a grandson, Tyler Andrew Tarrant, grandparents, and a sister-in-law, Mary Ann Keller and a stepfather, Dr. Robert Risk.

Cremation rites will be accorded.

In celebration of her life, a memorial visitation will be held from 1 pm until time of memorial services at 3 pm Sunday January 2, 2011 at Elias, Kallal and Schaaf Funeral Home in Bethalto with Rev. Willard Meyer officiating.

Memorials may be made to Southern Illinois Hospice, Coach Jerry Kill Cancer Fund or Heather Treat Memorial Fund