



## Rachel J Sturm

October 28, 1957 - February 16, 2023

Rachel Jan (Frerer) Sturm, 65, of Chillicothe, MO, died at her sister's home near Jasper, MO, Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023. Jan's departure to her heavenly home came peacefully with most of her immediate family, including her beloved cat Teddy, at her side, concluding a years-long fight with multiple health challenges.

She was born in Carthage, MO, on Oct. 28, 1957, one of identical twin daughters and the youngest of six children of the late Joseph L. and Marie (Brooks) Frerer.

She graduated from Jasper High School in 1976. She then attended and graduated from then-Missouri Southern State College in nearby Joplin in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature. Writing – especially creative writing, whether in narrative, poetic, or musical form – was one of the greatest passions of her life, as were music and pet animals, particularly cats. She also had an avid interest in family history and heritage, as well as housing designs and decorating, among other things.

Jan was raised in the Southern Baptist faith, attending Zion Baptist Church. She declared her acceptance of Jesus as her Lord and savior as a young girl and was baptized in waters near the family home.

Beginning during college, she worked in the jewelry department of Wal-Mart in Carthage. Jan advanced to assistant department manager in the Carthage store before becoming manager of the jewelry department in a larger Wal-Mart store in nearby Joplin. She eventually transferred back to the Carthage

store, where she was manager until moving to Moberly after marrying. In Moberly, she worked part-time at a local jewelry store before becoming bookkeeper for the advertising department of the Moberly Monitor-Index for about five years until moving to Chillicothe with her husband and first of two sons.

Jan was married to Paul Sturm on Aug. 20, 1988, at St. Ann Catholic Church in Carthage, MO. The couple welcomed beloved sons Brooks Watson Sturm on Sept. 7, 1994, and Matthew Edward Sturm on Dec. 15, 1995. Her children and husband survive.

Survivors also include two sisters – Susan Myers of Jasper and twin, Rebecca Ann Terrill (along with husband Bill) of Carthage; three brothers – Michael (and wife Shirley) Frerer of Carthage, Fred (and wife Raye) Frerer of Duquesne, and Mark (and wife Mary) Frerer of Joplin; and many greatly-loved nieces, nephews, cousins, brothers and sisters-in-law. She was preceded in death by her parents, grandparents, and three brothers-in-law, Terry Sturm, Steven Myers, and Dr. David Daly.

Services will be held 10:00 a.m. Thursday, February 23, 2023, at Ulmer Funeral Home. A visitation will be held 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Inurnment will be in Mitchell Cemetery, Jasper, Missouri. Contributions may be made to Forrest O. Triplett Memorial Animal Shelter, 1400 S. Mitchell Ave., Chillicothe, MO 64601, in care of Ulmer Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.ulmerfh.com](http://www.ulmerfh.com).

Arrangements are under the direction of Ulmer Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## Mitchell Cemetery

Jasper, MO 64755

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **22**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ulmer Funeral Home  
1208 S. Garrison  
Carthage, MO 64836  
(417) 358-2222  
ulmerfh@gmail.com  
<https://www.ulmerfh.com/>

## Memorial Service

FEB **23**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Ulmer Funeral Home  
1208 S. Garrison  
Carthage, MO 64836  
(417) 358-2222  
ulmerfh@gmail.com  
<https://www.ulmerfh.com/>

# Tribute Wall

RR

“ *Ann, I'm so sorry for your loss. Praying for comfort and peace for your family.*

Rosella Rayner - February 20, 2023 at 09:06 PM

GR

“ *I got to know Jan and her family at Bishop Hogan Memorial School and St. Columbian Catholic Church in Chillicothe, Mo. Paul and Jan's two boys went there and were upper classmen to our two oldest boys Rob and Alex. Our friendship began and I truly loved our time together. I missed seeing her as often once their boys moved onto the high school and her battle with health issues kept her at home more. I will truly miss our visits and friendship. Jan was an angel here on earth and I am proud to have been able to call her one of my dearest friends. God rest your soul! May you feel no more pain. Our prayers are with all her family at this tough time. Love & friends, Gina & George Rupp & Family ((Robert, Alexander, Morgan, & Emma Rupp) Chillicothe, Mo*

Gina M. Rupp - February 19, 2023 at 03:10 PM

PM

*I met Jan when she came to work at the Moberly Monitor-Index. She has been one of my best friends for many years. We would have some of the best phone calls and visits with each other for years. We were sisters in our hearts. I will miss her so much. I wish things could have been better for her thru the years. She is at rest now with no pain and reunited with some family members. Will always love you Jan.*

Paulette Massman Myers - February 20, 2023 at 09:26 PM

MR

*I remember Jan's creativity and kindness when she was a volunteer at Bishop Hogan Memorial School and I had her boys in third grade. I enjoyed visiting with her, but lost touch as the boys grew up and I moved on. I was sorry to learn she had health problems. My thoughts and prayers are with her family during this difficult time.*

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**Marty Rogers** - February 21, 2023 at 08:40 PM



“ *My condolences to the family. I remember Jan was always writing in her notebook on the school bus and had such a great smile. She was a truly creative person. Again, my deepest sympathies. Julie Brinkhoff*

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**Julie Brinkhoff** - February 16, 2023 at 07:29 PM