

OBITUARIES



DEBORAH "DEBBIE" JEAN DIETRICH

Deborah "Debbie" Jean Dietrich, age 76, of Chillicothe, passed away on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria.

Debbie was born on April 1, 1949 in Peoria, IL to Gene and Dorothy (Arnolts) Droll. She married Thomas M. Dietrich on August 5, 1967 in Lacon, IL.

Surviving are her husband of 58 years, Tom; her sons, Tim Dietrich and Toby (Darbi) Dietrich, both of Chillicothe; her grandchildren, Amber (Stanley) Vervynck of Chillicothe, Chase (Zina) Dietrich of Evansville, WI, Drake Dietrich of Bettendorf, IA and Ava (Braden) Tilson of Chillicothe, IL; her great-grandchildren, Gracie, Ellie, Forrest and Baker; and her sister, Mary Davidson of Mascoutah, IL. She was preceded in death by her parents; her niece, Shannon Davidson; and her lifelong best friend, Bonnell Hattan.

Debbie was a member of St. Edward Catholic Church in Chillicothe and served as a Eucharistic Minister, RCIA and a CCD Teacher. She was master gardener and member of the National Hosta Society as well as an accomplished artist. She worked for Tanner's Orchard in Speer for many years and painted a lot of the artwork throughout the property. She also helped Tom make duck decoys. Most importantly, she loved spending time with her family. She was a beloved wife, mom, grandma and Gigi.

The family would like to thank Debbie's medical care team as well as the wonderful staff at the Richard L Owens Hospice Home. A huge thank you also to Debbie's dear friend, Cindy Saltzgeber, who stayed with Debbie 24/7 while in hospice care.

A Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 10:00 am at St. Edward Catholic Church.

Burial followed Mass at Chillicothe City Cemetery. Memorials in her name may be made to St. Edward Catholic School.



ELLA MAE DOWNING

Ella Mae Downing, 67, of Sparland, IL, died on March 22, 2026 at her home of natural causes. Born

on September 6, 1958 to the late Donald and Sylvia (Urban) Hrabak, she married Dennis Downing on June 20, 1988 in Metamora IL. Dennis died on June 21, 2011.

Surviving is her son, Joseph of Sparland; daughter Karen Senders of Kewanee, IL; sisters Kim (Chris) Greer of Spring Bay, IL, Kathy (Rick) Hutchison of East Peoria, IL; grandchildren Jasmine, Damon, Rylee, & Mya; great grandchildren Spencer, Oaklynn, Kennedy, & Paisley; and many nieces, nephews & great nieces & nephews

Ella loved boating and camping with her family. Later in life, she enjoyed working in the yard and watching nature around her. Ella spent over 20 years as a dietary aid at Saint Joseph Nursing Home in Lacon.

Cremation rites have been accorded and a graveside service will be held at the Spring Bay Cemetery at a later date where she will be placed next to her husband, Dennis. Online condolences can be left at lenzmemorialhome.com.

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MARSHALL COUNTY DEMOCRATS

Meeting & Town Hall
Thurs. April 16th 6:00pm

Lacon Area Community Center
405 N. Washington St.
Lacon, IL 61540

16th Congressional Candidate
PAUL NOLLEY
will join via Zoom.

marshall.co.il.democrats@gmail.com
MARSHALL COUNTY ILLINOIS DEMOCRATS

Sponsored and paid for by the Marshall County Democratic Committee.
This is NOT a fundraising event!



Earth Day Electronic Recycling Event

Friday - April 24th 2026

12PM to 4PM

552 State Route 26
Lacon, IL

Open to Marshall and Putnam
County Residents

Accepted Items:

Computers, Monitors, Printers, Faxes, Copiers, Laptops, TV's, Main Frames, Peripherals, Mice, Modems, Telephones, Answering Machines, Adding Machines, Microwave Ovens, Scanners, DVD, VCR's, Stereo Equipment, Pagers, Cell Phones, Camera's, Camcorders, Video Games, Software, CD/DISC Books, Small Handheld Electronics, Cables, Calculators, Shredders, Scanners, Plotters and Terminals.

Items NOT Accepted:

Small Kitchen Appliances, Toasters, Coffee Pots, Blenders, Air Conditioners, White Goods, Smoke Detectors, De-Humidifiers, Vacuum's, Batteries, Fans, Power Tools, Light Fixtures, UPS's, Refrigerators, Stoves, Dishwashers, Light Bulbs, Broken CRT's, Broken Glass, Hazardous Material.



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ENDS 3/31



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Annual
Midland FFA

Plant Sale!



Order On-Line ** Starting Wednesday, APRIL 1st

Order on-line at the website listed below from April 1st – 15th and
choose your plant pick-up day from the following:

Pre-Ordered Plant Pick-Up Days: April 21st, 23rd, and 25th

• Website may be opened at 8:00 am on April 1st.

• Greenhouse will be open for on-site purchases starting April 30th.

<https://midland-ffa-chapter-spring-plant-sale-2026.ceddarup.com>



Baskets

Ivy Geranium, Begonia,
Fuschia, Petunia Waves

8" and 10" Baskets



Vegetable Plants

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Broccoli, Eggplant, Cucumber,
Melons, and Herbs



Annals

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Coleus, Portulaca, Salvia,
Impatiens, Gerbera Daisy,
Geraniums, Vinca, Vinca Vine,
Marigold, Spikes, and more...

