



## Mary Louise Henderson

July 13, 1952 - November 16, 2025

Mary "Louise" Henderson, 73, passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 16, 2025, at her home in Pittsburg, Kansas. Born on July 13, 1952, in Eureka, Kansas, she was the daughter of Cecil and Bonnie (Gordon) Vaughan. Louise spent most of her childhood in Oklahoma before relocating to Pittsburg following her first marriage to Robert Cannon. They later divorced. She re-married Kevin Henderson on October 14, 1990.

Louise is survived by her devoted husband, Kevin Henderson, who, along with Louise, lived with her son Robert Cannon in Pittsburg during the last few years of her life; her daughters Lacey Cannon and Bonna Cannon, and her grandson Cannon Whitney, all of Twin Falls, Idaho. She was preceded in death by her parents and her older brother, Lee Vaughan. She is also survived by her younger brothers, Robert (Debra) Vaughan and Jim (Cathy) Vaughan.

Louise graduated from Antlers High School in Antlers, Oklahoma, and later attended Pittsburg State University, where she majored in Communication and Editorial Journalism. Throughout her life, she had several jobs, including Manager at Best Western and parts runner for John Deere.

A lifelong swimmer, Louise shared her passion with many by volunteering as a swim instructor at the YMCA, teaching both children and adults in the Pittsburg area. She also enjoyed crafting, cooking, and tending to her flowers,

with a special fondness for Canna lilies that attracted hummingbirds. In her later years, she treasured spending time with her friends, visiting, laughing, and sharing stories.

Louise loved keeping up with her family on social media and was always ready with encouragement and support. One of her favorite quotes was: “The person who never made a mistake never did anything.”

Cremation is under the care of Midland Cremation Society (Joplin). A Celebration of Life will be planned for a later date.

Teaching others to swim came naturally to Louise. Just as she guided others through the water with patience and care, she guided those she loved through life. Her encouragement, love, and steady spirit will continue to buoy us always.