



## Beverly Jean Buchanan

January 19, 2025

Beverly Jean Buchanan passed away in her home on January 19, 2025. Bev was the daughter of the late Dr. Robert James “Buck” Buchanan and the late Shirley Jean King Buchanan. She is survived by her sister Sharon Lynn Buchanan, her brother-in-law Stephen Bowen, many cousins and her 3 cats.

Bev grew up in Churchland and was a 1974 graduate of Churchland High School, ranked third in her class. She was very active in high school. She was selected as an Outstanding Teenager by the Optimist Club of Portsmouth for two years. She also attended National Model UN for two years. Bev was nominated for and attended the first ever Governors School for the Gifted in Virginia held at Mary Washington College. She made the Leger-Star Academic Team twice.

Athletically Bev, lettered in field hockey, basketball, soft ball and swimming (at the YMCA). She also learned to ride horses at Hillcrest Farms in Va Beach.

Because of her academic excellence, Bev was excepted by Duke University and graduated with a BA in Theater in 1978. As a member of the Duke players she acted, sang and danced in many stage plays, portraying Mrs. Lovit in Sweeney Todd, and Berthe the grandmother in Pippin and many others. She was often lauded for her performances in the local newspapers.

In her junior summer she traveled to England and studied Shakespeare at Stratford on Avon sponsored by Bath University.

She received her MBA in accounting from the Fuqua School of Business. During that time and beyond she continued her acting career with the Durham Players and began singing with the Durham Chorale.

After her father died, she returned home to be a housemate and travel partner with her mother. When her mother's health failed, Bev was able to provide the necessary 24/7 health care that enabled her mother to remain in her home until her passing.

Bev was a lifelong cat and animal owner and lover. To honor Bev's memory, please donate to your local animal shelter.

*Ave atque Vale, Soror.*

All services will be private.

# Tribute Wall

MK

“ We are so sorry to learn of Beverly’s passing! I’d been trying to reach her. Please, Sherry, if you receive this message, give me a call at 757-484-7681. Thank you.

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**Mary Korving** - February 04, 2025 at 08:50 AM

LH

“ I grew up next door to Bev when we were young. Such a great family! Used to love coming home from school and watching Dark Shadows at her house and playing with all of her Barbies! We lost touch over the years but as kids ... she was a great friend.

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**Lynn Hamel** - January 31, 2025 at 10:15 AM