



## Julie Siepler

May 25, 2025

### Julie Siepler Obituary 1953 - 2025

Julie A. Siepler (Lill) passed away peacefully at age 72 on May 25, 2025, after a lengthy illness.

Julie was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, attended Kenosha public schools, and graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire with a bachelor's degree in journalism. After graduation Julie married her best friend, Jim Siepler, and they moved to Los Angeles, California, where she worked as a publicist and event coordinator for Hebrew Union College.

After their divorce Julie returned to Kenosha to be with her friends and family. She became the publicist and event coordinator for the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America. She bought a home, rescued Ruby, a Brittany Spaniel, and settled into a life of enjoyment with work, friends, family, her beloved dog Ruby, and gardening until a stroke in May 2009 left her debilitated.

Julie was preceded in death by her parents, Michael J. Lill and Ariel Lill (Schmidt) and her eldest sister, Joyce Thomas. She is survived by her sisters Jeanne Knapp and Kathy Lill-Bonner, her brother Michael C. Lill, and four

nephews: Brian Thomas, David Thomas, Corey McNamar, and Mike Lill-Bonner.

Julie's family extends their gratitude to the staff at Aurora Health Care for their compassionate care and to her close friends for their love and support over the years.

There will not be a public visitation so, in lieu of flowers, please consider a small donation to The Royal Brittany Spaniel Rescue or to your local Humane Society.

# Tribute Wall

“It’s hard to put into words what it means to lose someone as extraordinary as Julie Lill Siepler. She wasn’t just my friend—she was a soul sister, a constant, a bright light in every chapter of my life.

Our journey together began back in high school, where a deep and lasting friendship took root. We laughed, dreamed, and grew up in that newspaper office together. That journey continued through the halls of the University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire, where we studied journalism, shared an apartment, and carved out the beginnings of our adult lives. We cheered each other on, sometimes cried on each other’s shoulders, and somehow managed to make every moment feel like the best kind of adventure.

Julie was in my wedding, and I in hers. When I had my only daughter, I named her after Julie—her name carried such grace, strength, and goodness. Julie was the kind of person whose spirit you want to pass down.

She had a rare magic—charm, warmth, and a quick wit that could light up a room. Many may not have known that she was a gifted actress, and to this day I can still hear her delivering lines from *The Wizard of Oz*—her voice full of life and sparkle. That’s how she was: unforgettable, captivating, and always bringing a little bit of theater and wonder to the everyday.

But perhaps what I’ll treasure most is her heart. Even through the past several difficult years—years that brought her unimaginable suffering—Julie never stopped being Julie. She would still call me, still crack jokes to make me laugh, still ask about my family with genuine love and curiosity. And we would always talk about the love she held for her family, her siblings Joyce, Jeanne, Kathy, Michael and her nephews. That was who she was: someone who thought of others, even when the weight of the world was on her own shoulders. Her strength, her selflessness, and her love were unwavering.

Julie Lill Siepler was beautiful—truly beautiful—inside and out. And while my heart is heavy, I feel peace in knowing that our bond is forever. I will carry her voice, her laughter, and her memory with me always. And I look forward, with all my heart, to the day we meet

*again.*

*Rest in love, my dear Julie. You were the best.*

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**JoAnne Brandes** - June 04, 2025 at 09:10 PM

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*JoAnne Brandes*

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**JoAnne Brandes** - June 04, 2025 at 06:52 PM