



Barbara Brenner

May 30, 2025

Barbara Brenner, 74, passed away on May 30, 2025. Born in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, Barbara was the beloved daughter of the late Arthur and Norma Wagner. A proud graduate of Ridley High School Class of 1969, she carried her warm spirit into every aspect of her life.

Barbara was the owner of Brenner's Brew, a coffee shop that was located in Bridgeton, NJ. Through her love of the arts, she created a community of kindness and friendship between countless people. Friday nights at "Brenner's" became a staple for the "Brew Crew"; artists, poets, and musicians came to share their talents; while friends, family, and fans socialized on one of the many couches. Following the closure of Brenner's Brew in 2011, Barbara began working for DWK Life Sciences where she was employed until she passed. She also kept in close contact with many of her classmates from Ridley High where she re-kindled past friendships and created new ones at their reunions and luncheons.

Barbara is survived by her loving son Jeffrey Brenner (Christy); her brother Richard Wagner; her sister Dorothy Olshefskie; her cherished grandchildren Peyton and Dylan; and her aunts, cousins, niece, and nephew. She was a source of strength, kindness, and love to all of them.

Barbara will be remembered for her resilience, compassion, and the way she

touched the lives of everyone who met her. She wished for everyone to embrace life; the good, the bad, and the painful. Life is a gift. Love each other as she loved us. Her presence will be deeply missed.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at the Hudson United Methodist Church, 29 N Railroad Ave, Pedricktown, NJ 08067. The church will open at 10:00 a.m. to pay respects followed by the service at 11:00 a.m. A private burial service for immediate family will be performed at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Barbara's memory to Providence Animal Center in Media, PA via their website www.providenceac.org.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

JUN 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hudson United Methodist Church
29 N Railroad Ave
Pedricktown , NJ 08067

Memorial Service

JUN 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hudson United Methodist Church
29 N Railroad Ave
Pedricktown , NJ 08067

Tribute Wall

MA

“ *Missing you, sometimes sadly we don't appreciate what we have until it's gone.*

Marc - July 24, 2025 at 01:05 PM

KY

“ *This hurts. I spent so many nights at Brenner's Brew for local gigs and poetry slams. She was such a wonderful and caring person.*



Kyle - June 12, 2025 at 12:30 PM

CN

“ Barbara was so many things. She was caring, loving, intelligent, beautiful, soulful and most importantly, one of my great friends. The fateful night I walked into Brenner’s Brew for their open mic was a night that truly changed my life. I never would have rediscovered my love for poetry. Poetry encouraged me to become an English teacher, come to terms of my disability, and to become confident enough to host an open mic, which I did for 12 years. However, my “poetry mom” encouraged me to do all these things and soon became a member of my family. Barbara was an integral part of my story, and I owe her so much. She was beloved by myself, my family, and anybody that walked through those doors. She was a frequent confidante for advice, encouragement, and inspiration. My family and are truly blessed to have known her. Yet, she’s not really gone. As Poetry Go Round we had a saying that words connect us. Everyone she touched will forever be connected to this amazing lady, who will be forever missed.



Christopher Ney - June 11, 2025 at 04:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Barbara Brenner.

June 11, 2025 at 03:56 PM

JM

“ Thank you, Barbara for giving so many creative people a chance to have their voices heard. Thank you for inviting me to read at Brenner's Brew and having me as a member of your little community and for continuing Poetry Go Round after your cafe closed. Your generosity touched the lives of many.

Jim Maddox - June 10, 2025 at 10:18 AM

AN

“ I would not be the poet I became, if it weren't for Barbara.

anonymous - June 08, 2025 at 10:34 AM

JO

“ Barbara was such a wonderful human being. Brenners Brew was a cultural oasis - in the cultural wasteland of south jersey . So supportive of the creative arts...especially poetry and music.

Jody - June 06, 2025 at 07:38 PM

MC

“ I met Barbara at a poetry event many moons ago. Following that event, she invited me to Brenner's Brew, where a group of us would sit around, drink coffee/tea, and read poetry to each other. Barbara was a very kind and sweet lady. I never saw her without a smile on her face. She will be sadly missed by all who loved her.

Maggie Casula - June 04, 2025 at 09:01 AM

CM

“ carol molinari-monks lit a candle in memory of Barbara Brenner



carol molinari-monks - June 04, 2025 at 07:29 AM

DT

“ Barbara had such an excellent memory. She was a captivating story teller. She and I had many memories with our high school friends as well as just the two of us out and about. Barb spoke of her loving family and how proud she was of her son and his beloved wife and children. It was wonderful for us to find each other after we'd lived our youthful and fruitful lives and pick up where we left off back in high school. We got together with friends and made some new memories while sharing stories of our lives since high school. It was time to spin those good old Motown sounds and try to remember how to dance. Lots of laughs! We will never forget Barb, she will remain in our memories and our hearts forever. ♡

Diane T. - June 03, 2025 at 08:43 PM

AP

“ I'm a Brenner's Brew poet who became close friends with Barbara over many years. Gosh the coffee, the road trips, the memories! Her open mics saw countless friends and strangers, who like me count her a friend. Thanks, Barbara!

Alma Cole Pesiri - June 03, 2025 at 08:14 PM