



Debra Burchett

May 15, 1956 - December 7, 2025

Debra “Debbie” (Noe) Burchett, 69, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and teacher, peacefully passed away surrounded by family on December 7th, 2025.

Born on May 16, 1956, in Harlan, Kentucky, to Charles and Mary Noe, Debbie graduated from Harlan High School in 1974 and received a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary and Special Education from the University of Kentucky in 1978. Driven by a passion for teaching and helping others, she earned her Master’s degree in Education of the Deaf from Smith College in 1981.

In 1984, Debbie married Dr. Barry Burchett, and together they built a life devoted to family, education, and community. They began their life together in Huntington, West Virginia where they built lifelong friendships. Missing the Bluegrass state, they settled in Lexington, Kentucky in 1993, where they raised their four children. Debbie was a devoted and loyal friend to many. She was always willing to lend a helping hand and champion her friends in all of their pursuits.

Debbie dedicated her career to teaching, working in Madison and Jefferson County schools and the Lexington Hearing and Speech Center. She later inspired countless young minds at the Montessori Middle School of Kentucky and Providence Montessori Middle School.

A lifelong learner and adventurous spirit, Debbie loved reading, cooking, and exploring the world. She especially cherished introducing her children to new countries and cultures, fostering their curiosity and creating treasured memories of discovery. An enthusiastic sports fan, she loved cheering on her favorite teams and supporting her children in all their athletic endeavors.

Above all, Debbie was a devoted mother and grandmother. Her greatest joy was raising her children - Andy (Min), Julie, Ben, and Olivia - and watching them grow into kind, passionate, and accomplished individuals. She adored her grandson, Arthur, and cherished every moment she spent watching him grow

Debbie is survived by her husband, Barry; her brother, Darryl Noe (Debbie); her nephew, Charlie (Kirstey), and niece, Jenna (Brandon); her four children; and her grandson. She will be remembered for her warmth, quick wit, generosity, and the way she made everyone feel valued and loved.