



Ms Barbara Richter

July 18, 1935 - February 25, 2025

Beloved and devoted wife of the late Donald Richter; loving daughter of the late Helen and Loretto Ratini. Fun-loving and faithful mother of Danny, Laurie (the late John) Zinkel, Lynette (Jeff) Flight, Christine, David (Julie), Donald (Pam), Barbara (Joe) Ciconte, Julie (Todd) Mack, and Dwayne. Known affectionately as Gram, Grandma, Granny, Grandma Firetruck, Grandma Doh, Grandma Tiny, and Bub to Jonathon (Jessica), Daniel, Gabrielle, Christopher (Lauren), Brian, Andrew, Edward (Beth), Cortney (Brian), Jessica, Sarah (Jon), Rachel, Emma, Jeremy (Anna), Erin, Guiliana, Olivia, Gavin, and Maddie. She also “adopted” as her own, Elizabeth, Lucas, Rylee, Jasper, Jack, Regina and Renee. Great-Grandma to Sophia, Eliza, Fox, Max, Felix, and Silas. Loving sister to Kenny (Sharon). She was a loving aunt, cousin, friend, and neighbor to many. She was a dedicated parishioner at Sacred Heart Church. So much joy came from holding the office of President for the Sacred Heart Women’s Club for over 20 years, because it brought so many friends and joy into her life. She also served as a Eucharistic Minister and Minister of Care. She was the “queen” of baking, not only for her family but for so many friends, neighbors, and anyone she could bring a smile to, especially with her bacon buns. In her lifetime, she had been a friendly bank teller at Melrose Park bank, salad chopper at Teodori’s, supreme babysitter, lunchroom worker at Sacred Heart School, and the neighborhood Avon lady. Barb loved celebrating all the holidays, especially Christmas and Halloween, enjoying the food, camaraderie and costumes that went along with them.

Barbara liked to play bunco, Crazy 8's, bags, Play-Doh, taking walks looking for "stink fish" markers, and baking favorite sweet treats for birthdays and parties. Listening and dancing to music brought joy to her. Barbara spent her entire 89 years in Melrose Park and loved it! Her loving and caring personality touched countless lives. Barbara's faith and family was always the cornerstone of her life. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that you pray the rosary to deepen your faith and spread acts of kindness in memory of Barbara. A phrase she always said to her loved ones, "LOVE YOU MORE!" will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Visitation will be held on Friday, February 28, from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the Mass at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church, located at 819 N 16th Ave, Melrose Park, IL. Interment will follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **28**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Church
819 N 16th Ave
Melrose Park, IL 60160
(708) 344-0757

Tribute Wall

DK

“ *Fly with the angels Mama Richter. Although it's been about 40 years since I have seen you last, I've never forgotten you. You were one of the few people that was always nice to me. RIP sweet lady!!*

DEB KRUMWIEDE - March 20, 2025 at 02:33 PM

DR

“ *Mary Immaculate Queen is watching over Mom now*



Dwayne Richter - March 13, 2025 at 12:01 AM

LZ

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Laurie Zinkel - March 06, 2025 at 12:01 PM

LZ

“ To my angelic mom. I will miss your cards. I will miss your calls. I will miss your smile. I will miss your hugs. I will miss your heart to heart talks. I will miss your support. I will miss everything that made you my mom. No one could have ever asked for a more heavenly body as a mom. I truly believe you shot up to heaven so fast that you passed all the clouds, rainbows, stars, comets, planes, and sky as you arrived in heaven. Your prayers were answered for you and your family and friends that you prayed for faithfully each and everyday. God saw you as an Angel on earth and used you to change peoples minds about him. You will always be on my mind. I love you more than more, I love you until infinity and beyond. May you rest in quiet peace, and love you truest love again...my dad, and your husband in life and in death. With my heart and soul I don't say goodbye, I say I'll see you soon. Your daughter Laurie

Laurie Zinkel - March 06, 2025 at 12:00 PM

JD

“ My heartfelt condolences to Dwayne and the entire Richter family

- Jack Dickens

Jack Dickens - March 05, 2025 at 04:06 PM

TT

“ There were a few memories I can think of that bring a joy to my heart. One that I will always cherish was celebrating her 80th with everyone including my late parents. My mom and dad loved everything about Mrs. Richter. I also was blessed in so many ways by her prayers over the years. She always made me feel special. The way she was always there for me when I going through tough times especially with the passing of my mom and dad. That smile she always had on her face gave me strength when I was weak. She will be missed physically but her spirit will carry on forever in my heart. RIP

Tim Thelen - March 04, 2025 at 05:27 PM

SA

“ To the sweetest and most angelic woman I have ever met ; Rest In Eternal Peace Barbara Richter 🕊️
This woman was a real life Earth Angel ☐ who has the softest heart and the sweetest soul 🙏 Her presence was like a light that filled up your heart with joy and happiness. She always has a positive attitude with the sweetest soul 🙏 I know that she is in heaven right now where she belongs. She is definitely a special soul who endured so much pain and heartache through her life here on earth but yet she still had the strength to stay positive and joyful. I won't ever forget the most delicious and adorable holiday cookies and all of her other delicious meals. A beautiful person nonetheless ! She was like a character out of a storybook. I am extremely grateful to have known her and to have felt her presence. She is certainly in heaven with the Lord and watching over all those who are in her heart 🙏🙏🙏

Sally Audisho - March 03, 2025 at 11:29 PM

CH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Christine - March 01, 2025 at 08:29 AM

DR

“ WWE Adam Pearce tribute to Mom Richter



Dwayne Richter - March 01, 2025 at 03:56 AM

TT

Well said.

Tim Thelen - March 04, 2025 at 05:31 PM

KB

“ *As Earthly Angels walked throughout Melrose Park, they certainly saw Barbara Richter! She was earning her wings from the start of her life! Our whole family sends each member of the Richter family, our sincerest sympathy. Barbara’s kindness, her smile and her “open heart” touched everyone who met her. May God rest her in His loving arms, and may she celebrate heaven as she re-unites with awaiting loved-ones, there to greet her home. Rest in peace, Barbara...you wear your wings beautifully!
Kathie Barajas, Ron, Jacob and Matthew*

Kathie Barajas - February 28, 2025 at 06:46 PM

LZ

To my angelic mom. I will miss your cards. I will miss your calls. I will miss your smile. I will miss your hugs. I will miss your heart to heart talks. I will miss your support. I will miss everything that made you my mom. No one could have ever asked for a more heavenly body as a mom. I truly believe you shot up to heaven so fast that you passed all the clouds,rainbows,stars,comets,planes, and sky as you arrived in heaven. Your prayers were answered for you and your family and friends that you prayed for faithfully each and everyday. God saw you as an Angel on earth and used you to change peoples minds about him. You will always be on my mind. I love you more than more, I love you until infinity and beyond. May you rest in quiet peace, and love you truest love again...my dad, and your husband in life and in death. With my heart and soul I don't say goodbye, I say I'll see you soon. Your daughter Laurie

Laurie Zinkel - March 05, 2025 at 06:49 PM

DD

“ We are sending our deepest Condolence's to The Richter Family.
Debi M. Drog & Tom Kitchens



Debi Drog - February 28, 2025 at 04:53 PM

KT

“ I am so sad to hear Mrs. Richter is no longer earthside, but also only have the most positive and upbeat memories of her! As a kid and young adult, I knew when she energetically approached the pulpit, a stellar event was about to be announced at Sacred Heart. And the women's club pitches were always next level. As a kid I felt like I needed to join on the spot. While I know everyone's hearts are hurting, I hope so much peace and comfort surrounds the entire Richter family now that she is with God. She earned her wings and will undoubtedly be the most enthusiastic angel watching over her loved ones. ☐

Kristin Trusco - February 28, 2025 at 02:38 PM

JS

“ My condolences to my good buddy Dwayne and his family.. RIP Mama Richter..

JOSEPH F SPILLONE - February 28, 2025 at 09:56 AM

MC

“ Such a sweet, special woman. I will remember her fondly.

Mary Ciconte - February 28, 2025 at 09:41 AM

CI

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Ciconte - February 28, 2025 at 08:03 AM

PN

“ Love you Momma !!!!!! 🎸 🎸 🎸 🎸



Prince Nana - February 28, 2025 at 07:31 AM

CH

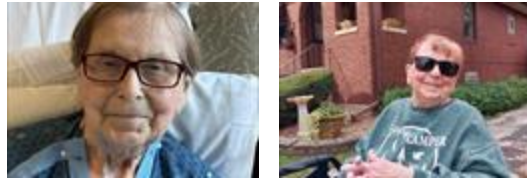
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Christine - February 28, 2025 at 06:48 AM

CH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Christine - February 28, 2025 at 06:44 AM

DR

“ Aew/ New Japan Professional wrestler Rocky Romero pays Tribute to Mom



Dwayne Richter - February 28, 2025 at 03:29 AM

DR

“ It's Truly HONOR to be working for The Village of Rosemont Police Auxiliary much love and Respect for honoring my Mother who was so proud of me for becoming an Auxiliary Police Officer



Dwayne Richter - February 28, 2025 at 01:47 AM

DR

“ I now Have Mom and Dad Angel Wings watching over me every night



Dwayne Richter - February 28, 2025 at 01:12 AM

JM

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Julie Mack - February 27, 2025 at 08:54 PM

JM

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Julie Mack - February 27, 2025 at 08:39 PM

CI

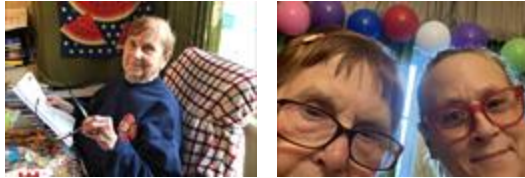
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ciconte - February 27, 2025 at 08:38 PM

CH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Christine - February 27, 2025 at 07:32 PM

MM

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Maddie Mack - February 27, 2025 at 07:02 PM

MM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Maddie mack - February 27, 2025 at 06:45 PM

MM

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Maddie mack - February 27, 2025 at 06:34 PM

MM

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



maddie mack - February 27, 2025 at 06:32 PM

CI

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Ciconte - February 27, 2025 at 06:18 PM

DR

“ AEW Professional Wrestler Mark Briscoe one of the Baddest Tag Team Wrestler on the planet with his Late Brother Jay Briscoe how much mom meant to him and his love for mom



Dwayne Richter - February 27, 2025 at 06:06 PM

EF

“ My family the Enrights on 16th Ave adored Barb. I'm sure my Mom and Dad will be greeting her in heaven.
God bless your entire family!
Betty (Enright) Ferrari

Elizabeth Enright Ferrari - February 27, 2025 at 04:33 PM

CI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ciconte - February 27, 2025 at 04:13 PM

MM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Maddie Mack - February 27, 2025 at 04:08 PM

CI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ciconte - February 27, 2025 at 04:02 PM

CH

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Chris - February 27, 2025 at 04:00 PM

GC

“ Garrett, Heidi, Mia & Charlie purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of Ms Barbara Richter.



Garrett, Heidi, Mia & Charlie - February 27, 2025 at 01:24 PM

GC

“ Garrett, Heidi, Mia & Charlie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms Barbara Richter.

Garrett, Heidi, Mia & Charlie - February 27, 2025 at 01:24 PM

CH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Chris - February 27, 2025 at 12:44 PM

GO

“ My condolences to the family, may she rest in peace 🙏🙏💕



Gloria Olivas - February 27, 2025 at 12:20 PM

RD

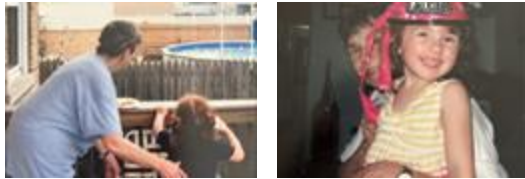
“ I have known Mrs Richter and the children for about 40 years. She was a wonderful mother and her children's behavior in my chemistry class at Proviso East reflected outstanding parenting. I will never forget the kindness that she showed me. If you believe in God there is no such thing as I'll never see you again. God bless the Richter family in their time of need.

Respectfully,
Roger Deddo

Roger Deddo - February 27, 2025 at 11:58 AM

MM

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Maddie Mack - February 27, 2025 at 11:30 AM

MM

“ Maddie Mack lit a candle in memory of Ms Barbara Richter



Maddie Mack - February 27, 2025 at 11:29 AM

MM

“ 15 files added to the tribute wall



Maddie Mack - February 27, 2025 at 11:23 AM

CF

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Ciconte Family - February 27, 2025 at 10:16 AM

CF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ciconte Family - February 27, 2025 at 10:02 AM

DR

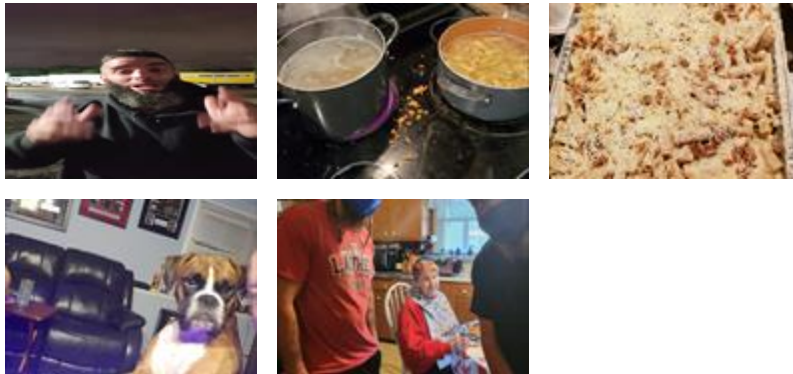
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 27, 2025 at 12:03 AM

DR

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 11:51 PM

KG

“ Thank God for creating people like Mrs. Richter who could light up an entire church with her smile and energetic words. I would always look forward to hearing what she had to say about "why you should join the Womens Club" in church. She was so kind and joyful, and I imagine she is bringing that same irresistible, beautiful spirit to Heaven. Thank you to her entire family for sharing her with us. We are keeping all of you in our hearts.

Kim (Trusco) Graaff

Kim Graaff - February 26, 2025 at 11:06 PM

SD

“ Grandma Richter was the kindest, sweetest lady I’ve ever met. She adopted my family into her own and always had a kind word for everyone. No one loved Easter and Halloween and Christmas like Grandma Richter and she never failed to remember a birthday or send a Christmas card. We always said Grandma Richter would one day have a prime spot in Heaven and now we know she does. Condolences to the whole Richter family from our family.
Scott and Bridget Duren

Scott Duren - February 26, 2025 at 11:06 PM

DR

She loved you all cherish those memories

Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 11:42 PM

DR

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 09:49 PM

DR

Mom and Jay Briscoe is now the ultimate Tag Team in Heaven

Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 09:52 PM

DR

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 09:32 PM

DR

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 09:19 PM

KD

“ Such a kind woman who every time I saw her had a big smile and a big plate of the best cookies! She will be so missed ❤️

Kyleigh Duren - February 26, 2025 at 09:13 PM

DR

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 09:07 PM

RF

“ *I will always have fond memories of Mrs. Richter. She was a kind gentle soul. She was always gracious with me and my late wife Elena Papastefan-Fank. She loved to bake for people and running the women's club. My heartfelt condolences go out to the Richter family and will be in my prayers.*



Ron Fank - February 26, 2025 at 08:54 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 08:33 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 08:09 PM

DR

This is the Polar plunge during Covid that mom encourage me to do to raise money for Special Olympics she the one that taught me my dance skills

Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 11:32 PM

BA

“ 41 files added to the album Great Memories



Barbie - February 26, 2025 at 07:18 PM

SF

“ *Barbara (Mama) Richter, A truly remarkable person, with so many good qualities that Roget's Thesaurus cannot supply enough positive words to describe her. She lived her life as a true Christian in every sense. Her energy, positive thought, and dedication to responsibility was beyond belief. At the same time, she was never judgmental or unkind but would impart her wisdom. Thank you, Mama Richter, you were always inspirational. Every person that met you was better because of it. She was never troubled, tired or finished, because she would always find a way. This time, she found a way and spread her angel wings! The Simpson Family*

Simpson Family - February 26, 2025 at 07:04 PM

DR

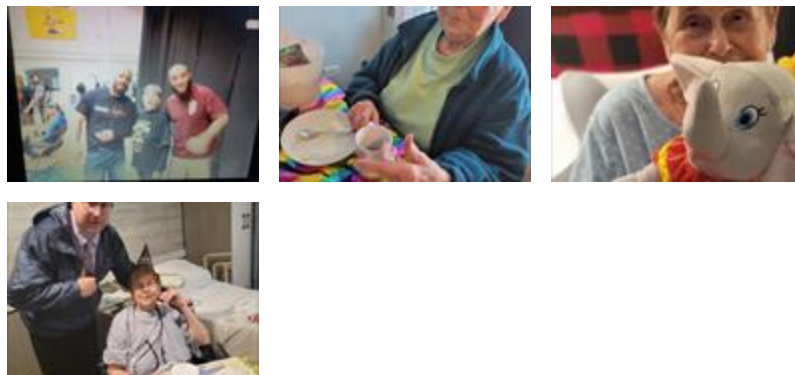
“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 06:09 PM

DR

“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 06:05 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 05:55 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 05:47 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 05:28 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 05:16 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 04:59 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 04:57 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 04:56 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 04:51 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms Barbara Richter.



February 26, 2025 at 04:48 PM

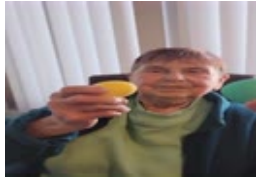


“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ms Barbara Richter.

February 26, 2025 at 04:48 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 04:48 PM

RP

“ Barbara Richter is the epitome of a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. I cherish the memories we made together. Until we meet again....

Regina Pierscionek - February 26, 2025 at 04:43 PM

RG

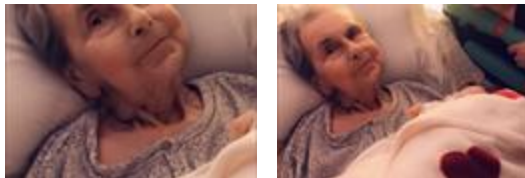
“ Mrs. Richter (momma) although I knew her a short time had become a huge part of my life .. We grew a bond I'll never forget and will treasure always

She was so sweet and loving and funny

I will definitely miss her very much

Until we meet again Momma Richter my sweet Angel 🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️

☐❤️☐❤️☐❤️☐



Renee Garza - February 26, 2025 at 04:26 PM

DR

“ Mom aka old timer you were truly a Rockstar you touch so many lives not only here but global wide from Royalty Prince Nana Sports celebrities Celebrity Dj who else at 85 years old would still go to wrestling events Ring Of Honor Your adopted Sons The Briscoe Brothers your last months was like one of the biggest concert tours in the world one Final Time to say you will be missed does not Justify the word please everyone enjoy these special videos from the she loved of me Dancing which I got the moves from her to Raise money for special Olympics which was truly like a polar plunge the only mom that would go to Wrestling events partake in them even was asked for her autograph but don't lift that purse that's truly a weapon of sorts which one time was almost used in a wrestling event but I said you use that there is no getting up from that one all of you who were part of my mom lives Thank You she truly was a Blessing sent from above and now she is home where she Truly belongs Mom your cookies were outta of this World nothing can compare to hers not to mention the Horseradish Challenge who would cry the first and the Queen of Fireworks I love you Mom I will never say goodbye I will Say Until we meet again
Love
Dwayne



Dwayne Richter - February 26, 2025 at 04:20 PM

JC

“*Mrs. Richter was a living Saint. One of the absolute most kind and loving souls I ever knew. An absolute gem of a human being. Anytime I encountered her, my day became instantly much better. Heaven has acquired a true angel. Condolences to the family. RIP Mrs.Richter and thank you for always being so kind to me and my family. 😇*

Jay Cutrera - February 26, 2025 at 04:00 PM

KV

“*To all of you in the Richter family.*

You have my deepest sympathies. Barb was the best person ever! It was always, always a joy to be with her and nevermind those Bacon Buns! May she be having a great time with all the Sacred Heart beauties that passed before her...

Kathy Hoggatt Vodak - February 26, 2025 at 03:50 PM



“*I am so, so grateful for Mrs. Richter and the many, many times she brought joy and sunshine to my life. She kept me calm when I had to give a speech when I was in eighth grade, and she made me laugh more times than I can count. I'm so grateful that I had Mrs. Richter in my life, and I may have to bake some bacon buns this weekend in her honor.*

Maggie Hendricks Gaines - February 26, 2025 at 03:36 PM



“ *Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms Barbara Richter.*



February 26, 2025 at 03:21 PM



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

February 26, 2025 at 03:21 PM

MM

“ Oh Grammy! I couldn't have asked a better role model that constantly brought kindness, love and happiness to my life. Every sleepover, visit, baking day and fun days will always be in my memories now. I still remember sleeping over on Thanksgiving breaks, and waking up early to cook/bake hundreds of yummy cookies and dancing in the kitchen with you to dean martin and Celine! Or when we'd play GTA together on my Ipad and you'd run over all the cops and laugh! I remember all the trips to Minnesota and Tennessee you came on, and how much fun we'd have with you. Or when I'd sell my rainbow loom bracelets that you would say your friends wanted to buy, but secretly you'd buy them all. I'm so grateful I got to experience you as my grandma, I'm always gonna miss hearing your "hellooo my maddie" walking into the house. You were my little bestie and always will be gram ❤️ love you always.
Your Maddie ❤️



Maddie Mack - February 26, 2025 at 03:08 PM

JM

“ *Ma, you will always be missed. My heart feels broken, but I am glad you are w Dad! Thank you for loving all of us more ! I will remember all our laughs and time spent together ! Love You More ❤️ Julie*



Julie Mack - February 26, 2025 at 02:56 PM