



Valerie Birnbaum Namken

October 19, 1954 - September 18, 2025

Valerie Ann (Birnbaum) Namken, 70, of Giddings, Texas passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 18, 2025 in New Braunfels, Texas.

Valerie was a lifelong resident of Giddings, Texas. She was baptized at Ebenezer Lutheran Church of Manheim, Texas on October 31st, 1954 where she began her lifelong walk of faith. On April 7th, 1968 she was confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings, Texas. Her confirmation verse was Revelation 3:20.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.”

Valerie met Gene while attending Giddings High School and they were married on September 2nd, 1972 at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Giddings.

Alongside her husband and son, Casey, Valerie proudly owned and operated Leesure Lanes Bowling Alley and PrimeTime Sports in Giddings, where she built countless friendships and created lasting memories with the community she loved.

Valerie’s big heart and radiant smile made everyone feel welcomed as if they

were family. She will be remembered for her generosity, kindness, and the love she poured into her community and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Wilbert Birnbaum, Sr. and Emilie Woelfel Birnbaum; her sister, Melba Birnbaum Drosche; and her brother, Leroy Birnbaum.

Valerie is survived by her brothers, Wilbert and Virgil Birnbaum; her devoted husband, Gene Namken; her children, Amber (Seth) Spacek of Fancy Farm, Kentucky, and Casey (fiancée Sarah) Namken of Giddings; her cherished grandchildren, Rayghan (Aaron) Vilt, Ashby Spacek, Kennedi and Maddox Namken, and Cason and Hunter Schlather. She was also blessed to welcome her great-granddaughter, Charleigh Vilt in 2024.

Her life was filled with faith, the joy of family gatherings, the pride of watching her children, grandchildren and great-grandchild grow, and the bonds she created through her business and community. Valerie's legacy of love and warmth will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

The family requests memories and photos to be emailed to sarahelizabeth6181@icloud.com to be compiled for her memorial service, which will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Michelle Schuetz lit a candle in memory of Valerie Namken*



Michelle Schuetz - October 08, 2025 at 09:16 AM

AP

“ *Prayers for the whole family. Val was always so friendly and kind. She will be missed.*



Amy M Peters - October 02, 2025 at 11:05 AM

MD

“ *Michelle Dunk lit a candle in memory of Valerie Namken*



Michelle Dunk - October 01, 2025 at 06:12 PM

VF

“ *Violet Frosch lit a candle in memory of Valerie Namken*



violet Frosch - September 29, 2025 at 02:43 PM