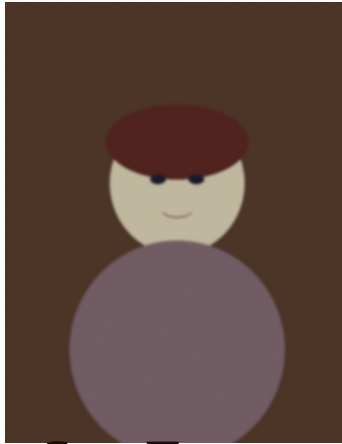




Bernice Sue Fenstermacher

September 12, 1943 - May 18, 2025

Lexington, Kentucky

Friends in Lexington remember Bernice Sue Fenstermacher, who died on May 18, 2025 at 81. Born in Lexington on September 12, 1943, into a Italian-American household that treated work as a language. Young, she understood that quiet competence outlasts loud plans.

She made cores that presses would not forgive if wrong. A core maker mold sand scoop taught that shortcuts show. Colleagues still mention a core maker mold sand scoop.

In 1966 she married John. The marriage was not a speech; it was groceries, repairs, and two sons walked to school in weather that did not care. When John died in 2018, she kept what still worked: the early walk, the small garden, the call on Sundays.

Neighbors remember someone who knew every child's name on the block. She preferred the hour before a town fully wakes. Lexington was home enough that she never rehearsed an introduction. The porch still expects a returning step.

What remains is not a legend but a practice: showing up, keeping a promise, leaving a place better than you found it. Her life was the kind America is built from and too often forgets to name.

Services

Services in Lexington will be simple: stories, coffee, and the names of people who showed up. Flowers optional; support for a local clinic or trade scholarship preferred.

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