



Judy C. Hitchens

July 24, 1953 - July 23, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Judy C. Hitchens, who left us on July 23, 2025, just one day before her 72nd birthday. Judy passed peacefully at her home in Bear, Delaware, surrounded by the love of her family.

Judy was preceded in death by her father, Elmer Hicks; her mother, Kathleen Hicks; and her sister, Diane Zebroski. She is survived by her devoted husband of 41 years, Willis F. Hitchens, and her three children: Mark Thompson, partner of Casey Herman; Michael Thompson, husband of Megan Thompson; and daughter Katie Hitchens, partner of Chris Reid.

A proud and loving grandmother, Judy cherished her time with her grandchildren: Preston, Sierra (wife of Issac Crane), Saige, Brooke, Khai, Meliah, Mikey, Mia, Arwyn, and Mason. She was overjoyed to recently learn she would soon become a great-grandmother to Sierra and Issac's child.

Judy was one of seven sisters and is lovingly remembered by her siblings: Louise Fransti, Sue Leske, Connie Stanley, Jackie Bramble, and Sherri Hicks. She was also a beloved sister-in-law to Bill Fransti, Fred Leske, Allan Stanley, Bobby Bramble, and Tom Connell.

Throughout her life, Judy wore many hats. She was a talented ballroom

dancer, a dedicated school bus driver for Hodgson Vo-Tech, a skilled accounts receivable manager, and a successful business owner. But above all, Judy found her greatest joy in creating a beautiful home and garden, spending time with her neighbors and loved ones, and cheering on her grandchildren at countless dance recitals and sporting events.

Judy was the heart and soul of her family. She was a loving wife, an extraordinary mother and grandmother, a loyal sister, a trusted friend, and a kind neighbor. Her warmth, selflessness, and radiant spirit touched everyone who knew her. She was beautiful inside and out—genuine, generous, and endlessly caring. Judy will be deeply missed, forever loved, and always remembered.

A viewing will be held Friday, August 1, 2025, from 2-3 PM at Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home, 635 Churchmans Rd., Newark, DE 19702 followed by a service in celebration of Judy's life at 3 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the DE SPCA <https://www.humaneanimalpartners.org/give> or St Jude Children's Hospital <https://www.stjude.org>. For directions or to send an online condolence, visit www.stranofeeley.com.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 1. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
635 Churchmans Rd.
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 731-5459

Service

AUG 1. 3:00 PM (ET)

Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home
635 Churchmans Rd.
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 731-5459

Tribute Wall

JH

“ We are so sorry for your loss, Judy was an amazing woman, and such a great friend. She will be deeply missed by many. God gained a special Angel in Heaven on the day she left us.
We sent a donation to St. Jude in her Memory.
Love, John and Jane Hollinger

Jane Hollinger - August 01, 2025 at 03:06 AM

DG

“ Judy was such a friendly and caring person. She worked with me at MBNA for a while and even took a day a week to care for my new baby girl. I called it spa day. Now that baby girl is 20. She is my best friend Sherri's sister and I adore everyone in her family. I am so heartbroken for everyone as I know it has been difficult. Just know she earned her wings and her suffering is over. I'm sure Mom And Dad Hicks and Diane welcomed her with open arms through those pearly gates. Everyone will be missing her sense of humor and unconditional love.

Love to all - The Graney's

dawn graney - July 31, 2025 at 04:30 PM

LT

“ I am just broken hearted for the loss of one of my dearest friends ever. I met Judy when she hired me at Compucom and we instantly became friends. I will never forget our lunchtime adventures every with Judy & Michele. My two besties! I lovingly & jokingly called her "Princess" and the name stuck. She was always Princess from that point on. I will never forget all of our cherished moments together! For Willis, Judy's kids & grandkids....I am truly sorry for your loss. I know you are with Mom, Dad & Diane now and you are no longer in pain. Until we met again in Heaven, I will miss you every day my sweet friend!💔💔💔💔😭😭😭

Lisa Toothman - July 30, 2025 at 09:22 PM

JM

“ Jack Reid and Colleen Mahoney purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Judy C. Hitchens.



Jack Reid and Colleen Mahoney - July 30, 2025 at 01:50 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Judy C. Hitchens.



July 30, 2025 at 07:10 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Judy C. Hitchens.*



July 29, 2025 at 03:21 PM



“ *The Connell Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Judy C. Hitchens.*



The Connell Family - July 29, 2025 at 09:33 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss, many memories of Judy and your family over the years. May she rest in peace. We sent a donation to St. Jude in her memory.*
Our hearts and prayers are with you all.
Isabel & Robert Swanson jr

Armani Hall - July 29, 2025 at 09:06 AM



“ *Bob and Carolyn Frantsi purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Judy C. Hitchens.*



Bob and Carolyn Frantsi - July 28, 2025 at 03:51 PM

VH

“ *It saddens my heart dearly. Judy was an amazing cousin, and I remember at the family reunion's she was always smiling and spoke nothing but positivity and was very encouraging to all. Her uncle Frank loved her (all the girls) like they were his own. and would do anything for them. Judy your beautiful smile will be missed. Love you cuz.. Veronica*

Veronica Hicks - July 28, 2025 at 01:46 PM