



Erika Hildegard Marcum

August 16, 1943 - October 15, 2025

Erika Hildegard Marcum was born on August 16, 1943, in Bad Kissingen, Germany. She passed away peacefully in her home, surrounded by love, leaving behind a life full of warmth, kindness, and cherished memories.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Martha and Paul Bessner; her brothers, Hans and Werner Bessner of Bad Kissingen, Germany; her son, Paul Marcum of Kimberly and four brothers-in-law, Charles Marcum, Don Self, Dave Arnold and Eddie Reno.

Erika married the love of her life, Jerry Marcum, on April 25, 1968, and together they shared 57 wonderful years of marriage. Their bond was a true testament to love, devotion, and partnership.

Erika had a lifelong passion for cooking and gardening, always finding joy in creating delicious meals and nurturing the flowers and plants that filled her home with color. She also loved shopping, traveling, and spending time with her family and friends, whose lives she enriched with her warmth and generosity. One of her favorite things in life was being able to stay in contact with so many of her friends from Germany, near and far.

She is survived by her loving husband, Jerry Marcum of Kimberly; daughter Brigitte Byrom (Lanny) of Morris; and son Dieter Marcum (Denise) of Aiken,

South Carolina. She was a proud and devoted grandmother to Nickole Byrom (Stephen Cain), Austin Byrom, Erik Marcum, Kortni Marcum, Jenna Van Pelt, and Kayce Van Pelt.

She is also survived by her dear sisters-in-law Wanda Marcum, Ginger Self, Dinah Arnold, and Emily Reno, along with many beloved friends and extended family who will forever treasure her memory.

Erika will be remembered for her gentle heart, joyful spirit, and the love she shared so freely with everyone she met. Her presence will be deeply missed, but the beauty she brought into the world will continue to live on in all who knew and loved her.

“Für immer in unseren Herzen, wir werden dich für immer lieben.“

Translation: Forever in our hearts, we will love you forever.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Visitation

OCT **21**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home
2214 Decatur Highway
Gardendale, AL 35071
(205) 631-8810
gardendalefuneralhome2@gmail.com

Tribute Wall

KG

“ Keith& Kathy Gospodareck purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Erika Hildegard Marcum.



Keith& Kathy Gospodareck - October 21, 2025 at 09:16 AM

KG

“ Keith& Kathy Gospodareck planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Erika Hildegard Marcum.

Keith& Kathy Gospodareck - October 21, 2025 at 09:16 AM

KC

“ Kimberly-Clark Corp., BI, South Carolina purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Erika Hildegard Marcum.



Kimberly-Clark Corp., BI, South Carolina - October 20, 2025 at 06:08 PM

KC

“ Kimberly-Clark Corp., BI, South Carolina planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Erika Hildegard Marcum.

Kimberly-Clark Corp., BI, South Carolina - October 20, 2025 at 06:08 PM

SF

“ Sandi & Richard Schaffner Family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Erika Hildegard Marcum.



Sandi & Richard Schaffner Family - October 19, 2025 at 10:17 AM

SF

“ Sandi & Richard Schaffner Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Erika Hildegard Marcum.

Sandi & Richard Schaffner Family - October 19, 2025 at 10:17 AM



“ 73 files added to the album Life Tributes



Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home - October 17, 2025 at 03:04 PM

TC

“ Tommy and Christine purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Erika Hildegard Marcum.



Tommy and Christine - October 17, 2025 at 06:56 AM

TC

“ Tommy and Christine planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Erika Hildegard Marcum.

Tommy and Christine - October 17, 2025 at 06:56 AM