



## Ilene L. Beckstead

October 21, 2025

Ilene L. Beckstead of Atwater, California, passed away peacefully on October 21, 2025, with the love of her life by her side. She was 80.

Born in 1945 in Murray, Utah, Ilene grew up with deep roots in family, faith, and kindness, values she carried with unwavering devotion throughout her life. After marrying her high school sweetheart, Larry Beckstead, in 1963, the two built a home in California filled with love, laughter and open doors. Their home was a place where neighbors became lifelong friends and every guest was treated like family.

Ilene had many talents and an unstoppable love that knew no bounds. She loved her family and her sons with everything she was, and she went to great lengths to make sure they always knew how deeply she loved them. She was a licensed cosmetologist who made others feel beautiful inside and out, and later a beloved school bus driver known for her warm smile and caring nature toward every child who climbed aboard.

In her younger years, she could often be found cruising the California countryside in her red convertible. Wind in her hair, sun on her skin, headed to the nearest swimming pool or out delivering newspapers. Her sense of adventure, independence, and joy for simple pleasures never faded with time.

Upon retirement, Ilene embraced the adventures she'd always dreamed of: road trips across the U.S. with Larry by her side, visiting family scattered around the country and finding treasures at garage sales and antique stores. She found beauty in the simplest joys: her blooming garden, a heartfelt conversation, a good laugh shared over a sweet treat. Her warmth, humor, and ability to make others feel seen and valued were her true gifts.

Ilene is survived by her husband of 62 years, Larry; children, Anthony J. (Karen); Shannon (Kevin); grandchildren, Shelby (Matt), Jenna (Isaiah), Jay, Matthew, Jonathan; great-grandchildren, Anthony D. and Avalyn. She is preceded in death by her beloved sons, Edward and Spencer. Her life was rich with love, faith and countless friendships that will continue to bloom in her memory.

A service celebrating Ilene's life will take place on Friday, November 14, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. at Turlock Memorial Park, with a lunch reception following at the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 5554 N. Winton Way, Atwater, California, 95301.

In lieu of flowers, Ilene's family asks that you honor her memory by taking time to build a lasting memory with your loved ones - share a meal, take a drive, plant something beautiful, or simply say "I love you." Family always came first in Ilene's life and she would want that legacy to live on in yours

# Cemetery Details

## Turlock Memorial Park

757 N. Soderquist Rd  
Turlock , CA 95380

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

NOV 14. 12:00 PM (PT)

Turlock Memorial Park  
575 N Soderquist Rd  
Turlock, CA 95380-3749  
(209) 632-9111

## Reception

NOV 14. 1:00 PM (PT)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
5554 N. Winton Way  
Atwater, CA 95301

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Ilene L. Beckstead.*



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November 13, 2025 at 04:48 PM



“ *Pete, Sandra, Rianna, Gianna & Riley purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Ilene L. Beckstead.*



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**Pete, Sandra, Rianna, Gianna & Riley** - November 11, 2025 at 11:31 PM



“ *Ilene and I lived on the same street about 5 houses away. We were good friends in high school and even learned how to drive together using her mom's car around town and down to the intersection of a road out of town. I don't think her ever knew about our escapades. I reunited with Ilene on social media in recent years. I will miss her positive outlook on life. May she rest in peace. May the wonderful memories sustain Larry and the family.*

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**Donna Miller Nicol** - November 09, 2025 at 12:13 PM



“ I grew up knowing and loving Ilene. My fondest memory of her is the long lasting connection she made with me and my daughters when me and my young family moved back to Atwater about 20 years ago. She became my loving faithful visiting teacher. My girls crawled all over her and sister Jacobson but Ilene and Gayle just loved them and me and kept coming back. All these years later, my girls and I just feel loved and cared for by her. God be with you Ilene until we meet again my dear heavenly friend. Thank you for your love, smiles and friendship. Love, Jodi

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**Jodi Jenkins** - November 05, 2025 at 11:35 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Ilene L. Beckstead.



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November 02, 2025 at 07:12 AM

HJ

“ Well, you came and opened me  
And now there's so much more I see,  
And so, by the way, I thank you.

Keep smiling, keep shining  
Knowing you can always count on me, for sure  
That's what friends are for.  
In good times, in bad times  
I'll be on your side forever more.  
That's what friends are for.

I love and miss you, my friend.

Helen

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**Helen Jensen** - October 31, 2025 at 06:29 PM