



Bette Lemke

October 3, 1959 - February 28, 2026



Bette Sue Lemke, 66, of Nederland, died Saturday, February 28, 2026. She was born October 3, 1959, in Saratoga Springs, New York, to John and Elizabeth Thomas.

Bette was married to Bruce Lemke for 49 years, and they recently celebrated their wedding anniversary on February 19. She dedicated her career to the finance industry and retired from Wells Fargo in 2024.

Bette found joy in the moments that brought people together—cooking favorite meals for birthday celebrations, watching *Survivor* with her sister, and spending time with family. She rarely missed a chance to support her grandchildren, attending their special events and sports activities and cheering them on with pride. With Bruce, she was a devoted Green Bay Packers fan, and she especially loved spending the entire week at the Nederland Heritage Festival with her grandkids. Bette also enjoyed the little indulgences that made her smile: shopping at Mollie’s (her favorite boutique), getting her nails done, and looking forward to Black Friday shopping each year.

Those left to cherish her memories are her husband, Bruce Lemke; her daughter, Joslynn Geis and son-in-law, Joey; her daughter, Kasie Arceneaux and son-in-law, Marcus; her sister, Linda Kaye and brother-in-law, Ken; her sister, Sandra Fresh and brother-in-law, Brettan, her sisters-in-law, Cathy Esquivel and Terrie Vanderweg; and her nieces and nephews. She is also survived by four grandchildren who she adored and loved more than anything as their Niane, Riley and Kinley Geis and Cameron and Nolan Arceneaux.

She is preceded in death by her grandson, Jake Thomas Geis, and her parents, Elizabeth and John Thomas.

















Next Door

*And when you miss me most, remember
that I have only built a house next door.
A single breath away. We can whisper
through the walls. And send love notes
in the shape of stars and sunsets and
the way that the light glistens on the
water just so. And although things are
hard for you now, I am not far away.
I am absent only in flesh, but my spirit is
dancing with the heavenly ones. We will
reach each other once again. I promise.
Just not yet. Find laughter again, okay?
Find music and purpose and ways to feel
alive. We are only separated by a glimmer
of time. An interval. Take comfort.
I have only built a house next door.*



Memorial Service

Saturday, March 7, 2026 2:00 p.m.

Broussard's Chapel

Nederland, Texas

Justin Esquivel

Committal

Broussard's Crematorium

Beaumont, Texas

Memorial Contributions

St. Anne Catholic School

375 North 11th Street

Beaumont, Texas 77702

Broussard's
Established 1889

Please sign Mrs. Lemke's guest book and share your memories at

broussards1889.com