



## Carmella Ann Cortese

October 23, 1959 - December 22, 2023

Carmella Ann Morreale Cortese, age 64, was surrounded by family when she passed away peacefully on December 22nd, 2023 in Ocala, Florida after a short battle with cancer. She was born on October 23rd, 1959, to Lois and the late Carl Morreale in Chicago, Illinois. Carmella was a graduate of McHenry High School, 1977. Carmella served the community with her pet grooming business, which she loved dearly. Carmella's deep affection for animals, specifically her dogs George and Gracie and her cat, Annie, was a testament to her compassionate nature, as she devoted herself wholeheartedly to their care and wellbeing. Carmella crossed paths with the love of her life, Terry Cortese, and they married soon after, forging a partnership steeped in love and devotion. They settled in Ocala, where they shared a profound bond and spent their precious time together. She was preceded in death by her father, Carl Morreale, and her brother, Carl Morreale Jr. Carmella is survived by her beloved husband Terry Cortese, her daughter by marriage Shanna Cortese, and daughter-in-law Wendy Rooks, her mother Lois Morreale, her brothers Micheal and John Morreale, and a loving extended family including nephews Carl, Paul, and Michael Morreale, niece Lois Kiser, great-nephew Michael Morreale Jr and Alex Kiser and great-niece Grace Kiser. Carmella's warm spirit, kindness, and zest for life touched everyone who had the privilege of knowing her. She will be dearly missed by her family, friends, and all those whose lives she brightened.

A private memorial funeral will be held for family members only.