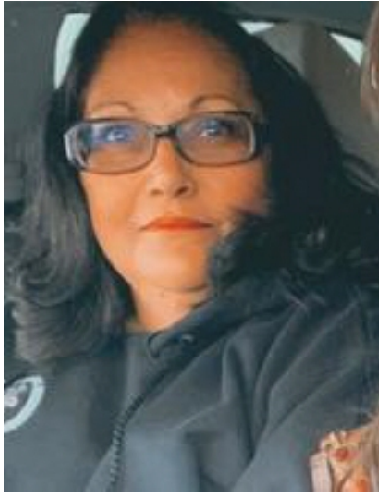


# Mary "Melissa" Berndt

Barstow, California

June 16, 1961 - April 29, 2022



## Obituary

Melissa Berndt

Our beloved Mother, Grandmother, Sister, Aunt and friend

Mary 'Melissa' Berndt passed away on Friday Morning April 29, 2022.

She was born in San Bernardino to Estelle Friedman on June 16, 1961. Raised with her three sisters by Estelle and her husband Floyd Houston in Barstow.

She attended Barstow High School and was an active FFA member, but her true passion was horsemanship, eventually

becoming Barstow Stampede Rodeo Queen in 1978.

Melissa started working as a server at Bob's Big Boy when she was 17. She spent most of her career in Retail Sales most notably at CorningWare and as a member of management for Perfumania for 13 years.

For the last several years she has served her community as an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

She was devoted to her family and friends and especially enjoyed time spent with her grandchildren. Melissa's constant beautiful smile and a friendly disposition made her your friend instantly. She was warm, generous, sincere, kind, fun spirited, and always willing to lend a hand to help others. She is irreplaceable. She is loved and missed beyond words.

Melissa is survived by her children: Zachary Berndt of Barstow, CA., McKyle Axe of Barstow, CA., Dustin Friedman of Troy, IL., and Haley Clark of Granite City, IL. with their families to include seven very loved grandchildren. Sisters: Sheila Jarrett and family of Amberg, WI., Marsha Nelson and family of Ames, IA., and Karlene Morton and family of Barstow, CA.

Preceded in death by Step-father; Floyd Houston, Mother; Estelle Hart Houston, Father; John Friedman, Nephew; Timothy Shigouri, and Niece; Stephanie Shigouri.

Services for Melissa will be held at the American Legion Post #324, 2181 Armory Rd. on May 22, 2022 at 2pm. Reception and fellowship to follow.

The Highlands Funeral Home is entrusted to handle the arrangements.