



Brenda Bickett

May 9, 1950 - March 10, 2025

Brenda Bickett (74) of Arlington, VA passed away Monday, March 10, 2025. Cherished friend of countless admiring fans and respected colleague of the faculty, staff, and students of Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, she will be greatly missed.

Brenda's fascination with the Arab World and Turkey began during her undergraduate study at the University of Texas at Austin. After obtaining her Masters degree in Library Sciences from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Brenda joined the staff of the Cleveland Public Library as a Cataloger for its collection of Folklore, Orientalia and Chess. It was at Georgetown University, however, that Brenda found her intellectual home. In her four dedicated decades as Lauinger Library's Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Bibliographer, Brenda worked tirelessly with both faculty and graduate students to advance knowledge of and appreciation for the region she so loved. She was instrumental in developing, curating and preserving one of the nation's most impressive collections on the study of the Middle East & North Africa, Islam, and the Islamic world. While there, she also had the opportunity to live and work for a year in her favorite place on Earth: Oman, where she furthered Monographic Acquisitions for Sultan Qaboos University in Muscat. Additionally, Brenda contributed her cataloging expertise and knowledge to enhance the collection of the African and Middle Eastern Division of the Library of Congress.

Memorial contributions may be made in Brenda's honor to The Middle East Children's Alliance. Please view and sign the family guestbook at www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Brenda was a very special friend going all the way back to McCallum High School and Rainbow Girls in Austin, Texas. She was smart and funny and will be deeply missed. Charlotte Carl-Mitchell*

Charlotte C Carl-Mitchell - March 20, 2025 at 11:26 PM



Charlotte, I remember her vividly... always cheerful, honest, and kind, and smart as could be!! What a fascinating life she led! So sad to lose her and sending much love to you!

Susie Higley

Susie Higley - March 21, 2025 at 10:36 PM