Linda J. McLaughlin Baker

March 11, 1948 - April 6, 2009

Linda J. McLaughlin Baker, 61, of Joplin, passed away Monday, April 6, 2009, at St. John's Regional Medical Center after a sudden illness.

Linda was born March 11, 1948, in Colorado Springs, and moved to Joplin in 1952. A 1966 graduate of Parkwood High School, she received her medical transcriptionist training from M.S.S.U. In the early 1970s and 1980s, she worked as a dental assistant before serving as a medical transcriptionist for St. John's for 12 years. Since then, she worked at Oncology and Hematology Center, where her co-workers were some of her closest friends. Linda was a Christian and absolutely loved her two Shih Tsu's.

Survivors include her loving husband, Dick Baker, who she married in 1994; a son, Jody Angel and wife, Andrea, of Joplin; a daughter, Heather Rausa and husband, Wes, of Joplin; her mother, Retha McLaughlin, of Joplin; a sister, Sharon Conness, of Joplin; three stepchildren, Scott Baker, of Indianapolis, Darren Baker and wife, Jill and Kristi Baker, all of Carl Junction; three grandchildren, Jeremy and Ashley Angel and Gracie Peterson; and eight step grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her beloved father, James E. McLaughlin.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Osborne Memorial Cemetery with Rev. Gary Hamlin officiating. Visitation will be from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Parker Mortuary. The casket will remain closed. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Online condolences may be made at parkermortuary.com

Obituary published: Joplin Globe, April 8, 2009