



I met Barbara in 1978, and at that time she had a three-year-old son who was born when she was 15 years old. She was expelled from her high school due to her pregnancy, so when we met, she did not have her high school diploma.

We married in 1985. Barbara then obtained her GED, and enrolled at Meramec Community College. She graduated, on the Dean's List with a GPA of 3.955 with an Associate's Degree in Business Administration in 1987.

Barbara then attended the University of Missouri-St. Louis, graduating Magna Cum Laude, earning her B.S., B.A. in Accounting in 1989. She received her CPA Licensure in 1990.

Barbara's accounting career began in 1989 as Senior Associate at Coopers & Lybrand, which was renamed PriceWaterhouseCoopers in 1993. While at PwC, Barbara held both the Senior Auditor and Audit Manager positions, until moving to Intensiva Healthcare from 1996-1997. Her upward trajectory continued from there:

In 1997, she went to work for UnitedHealthcare, holding the positions of Director of Finance, Regional Finance Director, and Chief Financial Officer/Finance Director.

While working full-time at UHC, Barbara attended Saint Louis University and received her MBA in Finance in 2001. She then attended the Saint Louis University School of Law, graduating with honors in 2008.

In 2009, Barbara was hired by Capes, Sokol, Goodman & Sarachan, PC as an attorney specializing in state and federal tax law, as well as white collar criminal defense.

In 2010, Barbara was hired by Delta Dental of Missouri as Chief Financial Officer. In 2018, she also took on the responsibilities as In-House General Counsel. Barbara maintained this position until her passing in 2023.

Barbara served on the board of YWCA Metro St. Louis from 2013-2018, as both Treasurer and Board Chairwoman. She remained an active volunteer and supporter until her passing. In addition to YWCA, Barbara was a supporter of Women's Another Chance, American Heart Association, USO, and St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Having the support to attain a quality education opened many doors for Barbara. Her continued education propelled her to achieve many academic awards, corporate awards, and recognition for community service.

Giving to others and supporting charitable endeavors were a hallmark of Barbara's life. From extremely difficult and humble beginnings, she was able to create an incredibly successful career and family life. This became possible because it all began with a little bit of support. I hope this bit of support will do the same for you.

*David Bentrup*