

Remembering the life of....

Cheryl Elaine Palya, 55, passed away peacefully Tuesday, January 21st, 2020 in Nashville, TN with her loved ones at her side. She was born December 15th, 1964 to George and Elaine Palya (Kasprick) in Grand Forks, ND. She was raised in East Grand Forks with her 3 brothers and 2 sisters. As a child she enjoyed tooling around on her mini-bike and hanging out at her grandma Minnie's farm with her siblings and cousins.

As a young adult, Cheryl moved to Fargo where she met and married Kirk Wetch in 1987. They had two daughters in 1989 and 1991.

Cheryl lived on her own terms, often grabbing life by the horns (her preference were Vikings horns!). When she set her sights on something, she was never too afraid to go for it! She had a fierce love of country music which led her to move to Nashville, TN around 1995, and it was there that she always felt most at "Home". As the years passed, Cheryl would relocate to Fargo, ND, Jamestown, ND and eventually settle again in Nashville.

Cheryl was ambitious and a hard worker. She held numerous jobs as well as volunteer positions throughout her life. She was an independent insurance examiner for many years and started her own business in that field, EMSI. She also helped Kirk grow Dakota Tire to two locations. She was the co-president of the PTA at the elementary school her daughters attended, as well as a member of the Fargo-Moorhead Chamber of Commerce and the Citizen Volunteer Program for the Fargo Police Department - among many other accomplishments.

She loved the outdoors and you'd often find Cheryl soaking up the sun trying to perfect her tan, working in her garden, or at her favorite spot - the lake. She enjoyed campfires, walks, golfing, and always had her beloved dog tagging along beside her. Her fur babies (Sadie Mae Sweetness, Lady Calamity Jane, and Doc Holiday) held very special places in her heart. Spur of the moment trips were Cheryl's specialty. She loved to pack up her girls and take them to places like Mammoth Caves (KY) for adventures, Falls Creek Falls State Park (TN) to hike and swim, or Chattanooga (TN) to see the trains or tour the Science Museum during their summer visits to Nashville. One of her favorite destinations was Percy Priest Lake in Tennessee, where she often took the girls for entire days of swimming, suntanning, and sandwiches.

Cheryl was recently baptized into Cornerstone Church, Nashville, TN and she befriended many selfless parishioners there and also joined a life group. She valued these friendships greatly and was a true believer of Jesus Christ.

Cheryl is preceded in death by her older brother Frankie, her beloved cousin Deanna and her aunt Darlene Dahl, as well as her mother Elaine. She is survived by her loving father Gorge; daughters Cassandra (Brandon) Schmidt, and Kaley Wetch; her siblings, Dave (Nona) Palya, Karen (Rod) Opp, Lori (Mick) Siems, Tom (Marita) Palya, and numerous nieces and nephews, as well as her close friends Brenda Beaver, Lori Kopishke, and Holly Nance.



Her Journey's Just Begun



*Don't think of her as gone away—
her journey's just begun,
life holds so many facets—
this earth is just one...
Just think of her as resting
from the sorrows
and the tears
in a place of
warmth and comfort
where there are no days
and years.
Think how she must
be wishing
that we could know today
how nothing but our sadness
can really pass away.
And think of her as living
in the hearts of those she touched...
for nothing loved is lost—
and she was loved so much.*

E. Brenneman



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

CHERYL PALYA



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

West Funeral Home

West Fargo, North Dakota

Saturday, February 22 - 11:00 a.m.

Officiant

The Rev. Chuck Belzer

Special Music

"Broken Halos" by Chris Stapleton

"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

by Cheryl's dear friends, Wil & Holly Nance

"Only Here For A Little While" by Billy Dean

Honorary Pallbearers

David Palya

Thomas Palya

Michael Palya

The family wishes to express their appreciation for your kindness and support during this difficult time. Please join them for fellowship immediately following the service.

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