



## Marsha Lee Waymire

May 11, 1955 - October 28, 2020

The world lost an amazing wife, mother, sister, teacher and bon vivant as Marsha Waymire of Charlotte passed on unexpectedly at home on Oct. 28, 2020.

Marsha lived for her family - her husband David, daughter Emma and her dogs, currently Luca and Nico - as well as her hundreds of first-grade students at Washington Elementary School in Charlotte over the last 20 years, and her many friends who relied on her to bring a smile, laugh and good times whenever she was near.

Born on May 11, 1955 in Flint, Michigan to Carroll Leo Lantz and Virginia Alice Markley Lantz, Marsha was raised in the Civic Park area of Flint before her family, including her brother Mike and sisters Sue and Kim, moved to Flushing where she graduated from high school.

It will surprise no one who knew her that Marsha passed on a chance to attend college and instead moved to Mesick with friends to find her own path. She took many jobs to make ends meet, including working in a cherry cannery and small auto parts factory.

Returning to Flint, she worked 89 days at the former Saginaw Steering Gear factory before leaving once she saw a 30-year path of well-paid drudgery ahead of her. She moved into retail positions before finding a niche in dental office management.

Marsha met David Waymire, then a Flint Journal reporter, in a downtown Flint bar and married him in 1981. When David's job took him from Flint to Lansing, Marsha landed a position at Delta Dental in Okemos. She quickly moved into management at Delta. It was at this time that she developed her long attachment to flamingos, in any form, shape and size, from yard decorations to paintings to pool floats.

Emma was born in 1988. Once she entered elementary school, Marsha left Delta to focus on raising her little girl, her most treasured asset. A few years later, Marsha decided to pursue her longtime interest in teaching, graduating from Olivet College with her

bachelor's degree in education. In 2003, she became a first-grade teacher at Washington Elementary School, where Emma had attended.

For nearly 20 years, she shaped the lives of hundreds of first grade students at Washington and became an integral part of the school. Along the way, she received a master's degree in elementary education from Western Michigan University.

Marsha was a vital part of Emma's life as a soccer mom, equestrian follower, cheerleader at cross country and track events, and more. She and David travelled widely, from California to New York, Oregon and Colorado, as well as Miami, Paris, Tokyo, Belize and more. In March 2018, they helped Emma hold the wedding of her dreams, marrying Jarrett Clark in Costa Rica. With Emma and Jarrett living in Colorado, Denver became a second home for Marsha and David.

Over the years, Marsha and David hosted memorable parties at their Lansing home and then in their country abode between Potterville and Charlotte. A wine aficionado, exemplary mixologist, poolside tanner, gardener, extraordinary quilter, dedicated but mediocre skier and superb storyteller - often by exaggerating small everyday events into comedic episodes - Marsha breathed life, laughter and love into events large and small.

She retired from teaching this year and was planning new interesting paths to follow when she died peacefully in her sleep. She is survived by David; Emma and Jarrett; her dogs Luca and Nico; her granddog Henry; her grandhorse Cayman; her brother Mike and sisters Sue Bradley and Kim Lamphere; many brothers- and sisters-in-law and nephews and nieces; and the many students whose lives she touched.

Visitation will be held outdoors at Pray Funeral Home at 401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, Mich., starting at noon on Tuesday, Nov. 3, with a celebration of her remarkable achievements and love of life starting at 1:30 p.m. Interment will follow at Maple Hill Cemetery, Charlotte. Mask, group capacity, and distancing guidelines will be practiced. The remembrance will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com), click on Marsha's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). Just prior to the beginning of the service, a link will appear on this page to watch the webcast. David and Emma encourage friends who cannot attend to tune in online.

David and Emma hope to establish an endowment fund in Marsha's name to cover the cost of student school supplies that Washington Elementary teachers usually pay for out of their own pockets. More details will be available when the family hosts a major

celebration of this amazing woman's life once the COVID-19 pandemic subsides.

# Cemetery

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## Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.  
Charlotte, MI, 48813

# Events

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**NOV** **Visitation** 12:00PM - 01:30PM

**3**

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Pray Funeral Home Gardens

401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

**NOV** **Funeral Ceremony** 01:30PM - 02:30PM

**3**

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Pray Funeral Home Gardens

401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

# Comments

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“ A webcast video has been added.



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - November 02, 2020 at 08:11 PM



“ Love the coffee anecdote. Nice. :)

**Meegan Holland** - November 03, 2020 at 01:35 PM



“ Dave and Emma, what an absolutely lovely tribute. It's screamingly evident how much the three of you were a team who loved each other very much. How lucky are you to have forged such a deep connection! Thank you for including us - whether it was via video or live - in your stories and memories.

**Meegan Holland** - November 03, 2020 at 02:20 PM



“ Wonderful stories...so sorry for your great loss.

**Ellen Hoekstra** - November 03, 2020 at 02:23 PM



“ Emma, what an amazing woman your mother was. You are a beautiful gift from her to us.

**liz lovins** - November 03, 2020 at 02:32 PM



“ What a wonderful tribute. Great stories. Thank you for including us. Love to you all. Please let us know when the endowment fund is up and running.

**Paul King** - November 03, 2020 at 03:10 PM



“ Thank you for sharing this with those of us -- me -- watching on video.

**Cindy Kyle** - November 03, 2020 at 03:34 PM



“ So much love! What a wonderful tribute to Marsha and her life. Thanks for letting us all participate.

**Nancy McKeague** - November 03, 2020 at 03:44 PM



“ Love the flamingos, rest in peace Marsha

**Ryan Sorensen** - November 03, 2020 at 04:23 PM



“ I remember the tierod story

**Ryan Sorensen** - November 03, 2020 at 04:36 PM



“ Such a beautiful beautiful service! Charlotte Plaza florist did an amazing job helping and with the gorgeous Gloral arrangements looked like the we meant to have Flamingos in them. The stories everyone shared were so so awesome and really captured who Marsha was as a person, friend, wife,mother and one of the most beautiful Celebrations of life I've been to. I would have been seeing Marsha tomorrow and it will be so odd not having her

come to see me anymore. I will forever cherish her in my heart.

**Dawn Kepler** - November 03, 2020 at 09:01 PM

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - November 01, 2020 at 07:04 PM

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“ Marsha had a beautiful flower garden and I remember Julia Weaver and I visiting it many times on our Otto Road walks. I do remember a party with other neighbors in your yard and someone falling out of their chair! May God give you, Dave, and Emma peace and comfort. Char and Willy Williams

**Charlotte May Williams** - November 06, 2020 at 08:00 PM

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“ Healing & Hope Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



November 03, 2020 at 10:15 AM

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“ I asked Anne (former student) what she remembered about Mrs. Waymire....she recalls a time where they went searching for her cell phone and really enjoying hunting for it  
Around the classroom...apparently it was found in the trash can. She will remember her high heels and her love of Flamingos. She was a very caring woman and a wonderful teacher. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you in your time of loss. The Shetenhelm Family



**Sarita Shetenhelm** - November 02, 2020 at 07:21 PM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



November 02, 2020 at 06:09 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



**Laura Dennis** - November 02, 2020 at 12:43 PM

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“ Gary Bender, Murphy & Spagnuolo PC purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



Gary Bender, Murphy & Spagnuolo PC - November 02, 2020 at 11:50 AM

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“ Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



November 02, 2020 at 10:16 AM

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“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



November 02, 2020 at 09:47 AM

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“ Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



November 02, 2020 at 08:13 AM

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“ Dave,Emma and Jarrett,  
It is with a heavy heart that I write this to you,but I wanted you to know what a dear,funny and longtime friend Marsha was (and is ) to me. From Middle School through High School and beyond, from our adventures at Skipps to working for Phillips Shoes together and her being one of my bridesmaids, she was always so much sunshine per square inch!  
While the Earth has grown a little dimmer, the heavens have truly gained a new star. My thoughts and heart are with all of you now and having Marsha as a close friend is something I will always treasure.

Love, Laura (Tarkowski) and Steve Dennis

Laura Dennis - November 02, 2020 at 12:13 AM

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“ 2 files added to the album LifeTributes



Laura Dennis - November 01, 2020 at 11:43 PM

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“ 112 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - November 01, 2020 at 06:55 PM

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“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



November 01, 2020 at 03:33 PM

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“ Dave, Emma, Jarrett, family & friends,  
This is a beautiful tribute for your wife, mother, sister, and friend. I had the pleasure of working with Marsha at Delta Dental and still have the personalized Christmas ornament she gave to her staff in 1990. Marsha's laughter and kindness was contagious and will be forever in our memories. My deepest condolences to you and your family over your loss.

Chris Danford



**Chris Danford** - October 31, 2020 at 01:50 PM

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“ Love's Tapestry was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



October 31, 2020 at 01:01 PM

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“ I have such fond memories of Marsha from our road trips to Mesick listening to The Beach Boys most of the way (her car her music!), to finally moving to the little cabin at Paradise. And though I haven't seen her in years, she has often crossed my mind and caused me to smile. She was truly one of a kind and in my heart always a friend. My condolences to her family and know she will live on in their happy memories.  
Jeanine (Gonyer) Verhaeghe

Jeanine Verhaeghe - October 31, 2020 at 12:06 AM

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“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Marsha Lee Waymire.



October 30, 2020 at 06:50 PM