



Kathy Lynn Vance

August 14, 1964 - May 28, 2021

Kathleen “Kathy” Lynn Vance, loud, full of laughter, loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, passed away on Friday, May 28, 2021. Kathy, 56, of Dimondale, was born August 14, 1964, in Hastings, MI, the daughter of William and Patsy (McMillen) Semrau. She began working for the Charlotte Public Schools as a bus driver and later took on the role as the Transportation Supervisor. Kathy has touched the lives of so many people throughout her 27 years at Charlotte Public Schools. She was passionate and bossy, however she wasn’t just a boss, she was a friend. Kathy will be remembered for her ability to connect with anyone that she crossed paths with. Later in life Kathy married Richard Vance, and together the couple took on a love for motorcycles. Kathy wanted to become that “biker chick.” The couple joined the Capital Harley Owners Group “HOG,” and created a large circle of friends. Her hobbies include camping (or should we say glamping), being in the sun, collecting knick knacks, candles – well anything that smelled good, and she also loved bling and sparkles. Above all Kathy’s biggest passion in her life was her family. Her family will always cherish her love of Christmas and the items that she gifted, and also her love for the family Christmas tree.

Kathy is survived by her husband, Richard; children, Tucker (Michelle) Fuller, Dalton (Karin) Fuller; parents, William and Patsy Semrau; siblings, Brenda (Michael) Mauk, Jack (Samantha) Semrau; step-children, Christi (Don) Grinnell, Jason (Trisha) Vance; grandchildren, Benjamin, Hunter, Madelyn,

Christine, Trason; and countless close friends. She was predeceased by her grandparents.

Friends are encouraged to support Kathy's family by attending services or sharing memories on her Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. Visitation is Saturday, June 5, 2021, from 10-11:00 a.m. at the Charlotte High School football field. Funeral services are Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Football field with her Uncle Michael "Mick" McMillian officiating. Mask, group capacity, and distancing guidelines will be practiced. The funeral will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to www.prayfuneral.com, click on Kathy's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the family to assist with ongoing medical expenses for her husband Richard, checks payable to Dalton Fuller. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Charlotte High School Football Field
378 State St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

JUN 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Charlotte High School Football Field
378 State St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 05, 2021 at 09:09 AM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 03, 2021 at 10:59 PM

BB

“ Beverly Brownell lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance



Beverly Brownell - June 05, 2021 at 12:21 PM

EC

“ Elizabeth Carter lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance




Elizabeth Carter - June 05, 2021 at 11:45 AM

BB

It's hard to form words to express my sadness of losing my dear friend. Kathy and I met through MAPT classes and continued our friendship at conferences. There were lots of laughs in our group that we shared together. Kathy had a contagious smile and was full of life and adventure! I will greatly miss her and our conversations. Praying for comfort and peace to all that knew and loved Kathy. Fly high my sweet friend! 🥹❤️

Beverly Brownell - June 05, 2021 at 12:10 PM


Elizabeth
Carter

“ *I will always remember Kathy with her huge smile and that voice that you can hear almost a mile away. She was the best boss that I've ever had. I remember every piece of advice that she's ever given me. I'll continue to hold on do those things that she's told me I do my very best do not let that advice go in vain. Sometimes we have people they come into our life and they have no idea how important they had become the others. Kathy was one of those people. I do not think but she really knew how important she was just so so many people. I will miss Kathy as I know so many people will. My condolences to her entire family and to all of her friends. Transportation office will definitely never be the same without her there. May God bless all the people that she loved and cared about may he help them you'll without her there. I pray for the peace for the family and the friends and I pray for her soul to rest easy.*

Elizabeth Carter - June 05, 2021 at 11:40 AM

BW

“ We will always remember Kathy with her big smile and infectious laugh! Praying that God wraps her family in his peace and comfort! Thinking of you all today! Rest In Peace Kathy!
Bill and Becky Wilson

Becky Wilson - June 05, 2021 at 08:22 AM

CK

“ Dear Kathy,

There doesn't seem to be enough words to describe the profound loss and sadness we all feel at this moment. You not only were a fellow colleague in the world of school bus transportation but also a friend. We shared many laughs at our area monthly meetings and some fun shenanigans at our MAPT summer conferences. Our daily facebook group chats will not be the same without you.

I will miss you. My heart breaks for Rich and the entire family. I hope there will be a time when all the wonderful memories of Kathy overshadow the pain you are feeling right now. My prayers are also with the Charlotte Transportation department as they have lost a great leader and a friend.

Until we meet again my friend.....

*Corrinne Karpinski
Director of Transportation
Okemos Public Schools*

Corrinne Karpinski - June 04, 2021 at 10:42 PM

JW

“ Kathy, I just found out of your passing and I don't even know how to process this. I can barely share memories in a past tense because it doesn't feel possible. You've always been a ray of sunshine!!! A joy, a healing soul, and I'm honored to have had special times with you tap dancing in our adulthood and seeing your smile many times and listening to your laugh. My heart hurts and praying for every person that feels this loss of your beautiful soul. ❤️

Jennifer Wendorf - June 04, 2021 at 03:55 PM



“ 53 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 03, 2021 at 10:53 PM

BD

Still doesn't seem real. Kathy was the kind of person that from the moment you met her you felt like you had been friends for ever!! Rest peacefully dear Kathy, we will all see you again in God's time. 🙏

Bev Davids - June 04, 2021 at 03:46 PM

TS

“ As a former colleague of Kathy's while I was at Okemos Public Schools, I would often look forward to our area monthly meetings as Kathy always added her sense of humor, light-hearted stories, and positive vibes to our meetings. Her high spirited energy was contagious and infectious...she will certainly be missed!

My sincere condolences to her family.

*Todd Sharp
Director of Transportation
Forest Hills Public Schools*

Todd Sharp - June 03, 2021 at 12:18 PM

KW

“ I only got to meet Kathy once as we got to tour the new Little Caesars Arena at an MSBO conference in Detroit. She was a blast! Lots of laughs, and I will never forget that night because of her.

Keith Williams - June 03, 2021 at 09:53 AM

TT

“ Loved listening to Kathy's fun and crazy stories and visiting with her and Rich at the restaurant. She was an amazing friend and lived a life of adventure.

Tim & Pam Tobias - June 03, 2021 at 09:27 AM

DW

“ Deborah D Wilsey lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance



Deborah D Wilsey - June 03, 2021 at 09:24 AM

TT

“ *Tim & Pam Tobias lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance*



Tim & Pam Tobias - June 03, 2021 at 09:23 AM

CD

“ *Cari Dupree lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance*



Cari Dupree - June 03, 2021 at 08:44 AM

CD

“ *Carolyn Donoghue purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.*



Carolyn Donoghue - June 03, 2021 at 08:38 AM

CD

“ *Kathy was one amazing person who loved the school transportation business. I will miss her very deeply, my prayers and thoughts go out to her family.*

Carolyn Donoghue - June 03, 2021 at 08:30 AM

RL

“ Rhonda Lyons lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance



Rhonda Lyons - June 03, 2021 at 08:30 AM

JF

“ To my sister from another mother!!! Your laugh will always carry us to a great place and all the many memories growing up in school to and thru adulthood. I will miss my kathy smile and laugh but will forever be enriched with having been a part of your journey....with love and prays to your family.. love john and denise forell

John Forell - June 03, 2021 at 01:49 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.



June 02, 2021 at 09:19 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.



June 02, 2021 at 08:49 AM

KN

“ Growing up the Semrau’s rode the same bus with us. I remember wanting Kathy to sit by me because she was so fun and I loved her laugh!!! She was a wonderful person. It was sad as well as a shock to hear of her passing. She will be missed by so many. The Semrau and Vance families are in my thoughts. ❤️

Kerry Nickel - June 02, 2021 at 08:32 AM

AG

“ Kathy was in (& graduated) from one of Can Do!’s early leadership programs. She brought a smile and brightness to the room along with great perspective over the 8 months of classroom. She was a chosen leader/speaker for the graduation ceremony! She’ll be missed!

Ann Garvey - June 01, 2021 at 04:52 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.



June 01, 2021 at 02:50 PM

AW

“ I will miss my dear friend Kathy. We went through our Transportation Director classes together and just hit it off since then. My prayers and thoughts are with Rich and the family.



Amelia Walantyn - June 01, 2021 at 01:00 PM

YF

“ *Your Capitol Harley-Davidson Family purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.*



Your Capitol Harley-Davidson Family - June 01, 2021 at 12:53 PM

JK

“ *Bill, Patsy, Brenda, Jack & Families-*

So sorry to hear of Kathy's passing. Thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Jeff, Heather, Justin & Dylan Kennedy - June 01, 2021 at 09:20 AM

FC

“ *From your Friends at Holland Bus Company purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.*



From your Friends at Holland Bus Company - June 01, 2021 at 09:14 AM

PP

“ *Patrick Joseph Powers purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.*



Patrick Joseph Powers - June 01, 2021 at 06:50 AM

DM

“ Dewayne M. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.



Dewayne M. - May 31, 2021 at 08:04 PM

BR

“ Thinking of all, who loved Kathy, she will missed by all who knew her.
Betty (Dull) and Forest Rogers.

Betty Rogers - May 31, 2021 at 05:01 PM



“ Kathy and Rich loved our band and we were honored to play their wedding reception. We learned "Spirit in the Sky" just for her, and now she's up there in the place that's the best!
RIP Kathy, get well soon Rich.
Jon Cohen
The Black Barn Band

Jonathan Cohen - May 31, 2021 at 02:16 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.



May 31, 2021 at 10:27 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.*



May 30, 2021 at 06:24 PM



“ *My friend Kathy,
Got to know her when we were kids, she would come to her Gma McMillens, someone to play with.
Fast forward to high school hanging out here and there, senior skip day, office block career day, powerpuff football.
Reconnected with her just before she married Rich, oh my gosh her infectious laugh, this beautiful lady made EVERYBODY she met feel like they were the only one in the room and like you could do anything. Her positivity was infectious as well and everybody was always welcome to HER party.
Rich and her ALWAYS LIVED THEIR LIVES TO THE FULLEST since day 1. Can you believe she though HE was out of her league, they had an AMAZING love and adventure all day everyday, we should be so lucky.
Our work is not finished for we all know she would want us to make sure the love of her life is taken care of looked after for HER.
Love you my friend
In my heart forever
Deanna*

Deanna Kellogg - May 30, 2021 at 05:22 PM

LC

“ *Kathy and I always had to milk the cows on Friday night. We took her brother Jack and a friend to Cedar Point. When me and Kathy were together it was nothing but fun, smiles, and laughter! I will miss her greatly!* Lisa Cogswell

Lisa Cogswell - May 30, 2021 at 01:37 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.*



May 30, 2021 at 12:50 PM

BB

“ *Sincerest sympathies to Kathy's family! So very very sad to see this! She was such a WONDERFUL friend to my sister, Laurie Zoodsma. I will always remember Kathy coming to the hospital when Laur had her stroke & was in a coma.. Kathy sat right beside her bed reading the Lansing paper to her & talking & laughing! Our family will always remember her sweet kind heart! Thank you for sharing her with our family too!*

Barb Boelens - May 30, 2021 at 12:26 PM

CQ

“ *Carol Quantrell lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance*



Carol Quantrell - May 30, 2021 at 01:34 AM

NT

“ Everyone new her as Ms. Kathy growing up. She drove my bus and I saw her twice every school day for many years. She was a woman of great discipline and great kindness. Ms. Kathy was great with kids and we had so many inside jokes with her. Naturally, she whipped us into shape and made us great people by her example. She will forever be remembered as an incredible woman who made a large difference in our lives as we grew up.

Nick Tennes - May 29, 2021 at 10:20 PM

LI

“ Liv lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance



liv - May 29, 2021 at 09:43 PM

FD

“ Faith Debolt lit a candle in memory of Kathy Lynn Vance



Faith Debolt - May 29, 2021 at 09:26 PM

LI

“ Ms kathy drove the bus i rode for most of my childhood i still remember the day she told us she wasnt going to be our bus driver anymore and it feels like just yesterday we were saying congratulations. You will forever be in my heart ❤️

liv - May 29, 2021 at 08:23 PM

RB

“ *Im truly sorry to hear of Kat's Passing. My sincere condolences to Rich and the family. May her memory be eternal. Kat was the real biker chick and shecwasvthe lught at Capitol area HOG chapter. Shecwill bevgreatly missed. I will miss her.* 😭😭🙏

Robert Basdila - May 29, 2021 at 06:47 PM

RB

My last name is spelled wrong is BASSILA

Robert Basdila - May 29, 2021 at 06:49 PM

BM

If you don't have a fond memory of Kathy that makes you smile or even chuckle, you didn't know Kathy. She was a special niece, full of life, one not to be taken for granted and will not be forgotten. Uncle Bruce

Bruce McMillen - May 29, 2021 at 08:00 PM

JD

To Kathy's loved ones. We're so very sorry for your loss of Kathy. You are all in our Loving thoughts and prayers. Hugs Jack and families. Especially to Patsy and Bill.

June and Larry Decker - May 30, 2021 at 04:39 AM

MS

“ *Growing up and spending time during summers on the farm with Brenda and Kathy is one of my best memories. At family reunions we always went right back into stories and lots of laughter. I am so glad we stayed in touch over the years, family ties are everything. My love and prayers goes out to everyone because she truly will be missed. Kathy sent me a message just last month that ended with "Luv you cuz(cousin)", Love you back Kathy.* ❤️ *Mari Beth*

Mari Beth Speed - May 29, 2021 at 06:12 PM

DW

“ Kathy’s contagious smile and jolly laugh made everyone around her happy. I’m blessed to call Kathy a friend and will miss her deeply. Our transportation group conversations will never be the same. Kathy was so knowledgeable and was our go to person for answers. God bless Kathy and prayers to Rich and the family.

Deborah Wilsey - May 29, 2021 at 05:55 PM

SR

“ Years ago I got to work with Kathy at Washington Elementary, in the lunchroom. Loved her laugh, she was a fun lady to work with. Will miss her post on fb. Such a fabulous lady. Sandy Reed

Sandra Reed - May 29, 2021 at 05:51 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kathy Lynn Vance.



May 29, 2021 at 04:37 PM



“ Miss Kathy-you have always had a special place our hearts from the first day you drove Darien on the bus. That beautiful smile was contagious! Love and prayers to the entire family.

Sally Colegrove-Steward - May 29, 2021 at 04:05 PM