



Rita H. Place

July 5, 1961 - December 22, 2013

Rita H. Place, 52, of Charlotte, MI died Sunday, December 22, 2013. Rita was born July 5, 1961 in Hillsdale, MI the daughter of Lyle and Marie (Gasper) Place. She is survived by her children, Ryan (Amanda) Burcham, and Crystal (Patrick) Galivan; mother Marie Place; siblings, Lyle (Mary) Place II and Linda Place; niece, Jennifer McFaul, nephews Nathan and Jeremy Grove; and countless friends of the heart. She was preceded in death by her infant son, Ricky Burcham; sister, Marcia (Place) Feldpaush; and father, Lyle Place. Rita's beautiful smile was quick to capture other's attention, and while most people meet many people throughout their lives it could be said that most people who came into her life, stayed in her life. Rita was an accountant as well as a massage therapist, and also owned a gym. She was very fitness oriented and lived a very active life. Her children were her pride and joy, and she loved sharing stories of what they were doing, and what their next adventure would be. She was the perfect example of living life to the fullest. Her firstborn died as a baby, second born Ryan followed his dream and is living in California as a producer with his bride Amanda. Rita loved going out to visit and spend time with them, and finding all sorts of unique spots to explore. Her daughter, Crystal, found her path into the nursing world, so was well equipped to help lovingly care for her mom as she went through the many different treatments, in an effort to beat her cancer. While Crystal and her husband, Patrick, were living in England for him to play Hockey, Rita was not only able to visit Crystal and Patrick there, but the mother/daughter, best

friend combo went on a dream trip to Europe to shop, and explore to their heart's content. As Rita said, "we are making memories for Crystal". Visitation will be Friday, December 27, 2013 from 2-4:00 PM and 6-8:00 PM at Pray Funeral Home. A Celebration of Rita's Life will be held on Saturday afternoon at 2:00 PM on December 28, 2013 at Pray Funeral Home with Pastor Phil Hobson officiating. If desired memorial contributions may be made to Eaton Community Palliative Care. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home of Charlotte. Family and friends are encouraged to leave remembrances and condolences in Rita's Book of Memories at www.prayfuneral.com <http://www.prayfuneral.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita H. Place*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 02, 2015 at 12:57 PM

JT

“ *Dear Rita: We shared a lot of special times and memories growing up together in Bankers. I always thought you were so very pretty, sweet, fun and witty. I am glad we got to see each other at the last class reunion and communicated on Facebook. You have a special place in my heart and all the fun times we shared. Thank you for the impression you made in my life. I love you and will miss you. With Love, Joellen*

Joellen Tarantino-Coy - December 30, 2013 at 12:27 AM

BN

“ *I wish to say I am sorry for the great loss your Family had to endure, Crystal, Patrick, Marie, Ryan, Amanda, Lyle (Mary) and Linda. These are the people who will miss Rita the most, her family and her new Granddaughter that she will now have to see from above. Condolences to all, my heart goes out to you in this very difficult time. I will miss her for a long time to come. (forever) With Love Brenda*

Brenda Newman - December 29, 2013 at 03:59 PM

BP

“ So sorry for your loss. Rita was an amazing, positive woman. We are grateful she is now pain free.

Bill and Chris Patterson - December 29, 2013 at 07:33 AM

MO

“ Our prayers to you and your family. Rita is at peace. A gift well done. You gave Rita the best. Sending love your way.

Mollie - December 27, 2013 at 07:43 PM

MP

“ To our Dear Marie and Family, We send our deepest sympathy in the "homegoing" of Rita. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and the family. May God give you peace and hope at this time of loss for your precious daughter, mother, sister and friend. Love, Mickie and Wendy

Mickie Bruner & Wendy Payne - December 27, 2013 at 10:11 AM

MP

“ While I personally did not ever get to meet Rita, I am friends with Ryan's wife, Amanda's mom, Valerie Jenkins. We have been praying for Rita and the family for several months now. Val has kept us up to date on Rita and what has been going on. All I can say is that Rita must have been an incredible women and reading about her here has only confirmed that in my mind. But I had the sense of how amazing she was by hearing how much her children loved and cared for her. I just wanted to say how sorry I am for your loss and convey how impressed I am with how you cared for and loved your mom. Raising children who would be there and do what all of Rita's children have done for their mother exemplify what a special women she was. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to all of you. You are in my prayers. Sincerely, Martha Perry

Martha Perry - December 27, 2013 at 06:28 AM

BN

“ I am so sorry for your great loss, I love you all and if there is anything at all I can do , I am here for you. I guess in the back of my mind I never thought this would happen, your Mom was way too Strong. She is my Hero by far, their were many times that we talked and knew exactly what the other was thinking. She has been such an inspiration to me, with my autoimmune. I love her so very much and will carry her with me the rest of my born days. I will not be afraid to go with god as I know I will see her again someday. Rita, you died to young the story had just begun, cancer tore the pages all away... It isn't fair you Died to young. You will be missed. Love your sister and friend Brenda.

Brenda Newman - December 26, 2013 at 08:52 PM

HB

“ So sad to say good bye to one of my greatest early childhood friends. What great memories I have of our times together playing at either my house or yours or even your grandma Gasper's house. The smell of your dads pipe, playing out in the yard and you coming up and playing at my house. And hooking back up with you on FB just recently was so fun!! Such a sad loss but looking forward to meeting up again with you where there is no more pain and we will be walking the streets of gold!! Hugs to your family!

Heidi Beagle - December 26, 2013 at 07:29 PM

GW

“ Dearest Marie and Family, Praying for God's Peace and Comfort at this time. We will see Rita again. Love In Christ, gloria

Gloria Wilfong - December 25, 2013 at 01:30 PM

VJ

“ I met Rita at her lake house in Gladwin, MI. She welcomed me with her beautiful smile when her son, Ryan, surprised my daughter, Amanda, with a wedding proposal July 2012. She was gracious and so kind; we even enjoyed a paddle boat ride in the lake. I knew immediately she was going to be a precious mommy-in-law to my Amanda. I soon learned of her struggle with cancer so my friends and I, in Ohio, made it a priority to pray for her. The Lord carried her through so many battles in her young life. Rest assured, she is now made whole, in Jesus' precious arms, in heavenly peace. I was privileged to hug her, pray peace and see her smile, just days before her passing. In her selflessness, she even complimented me; "I like your glasses". It was beautiful, but heart-wrenching, to see two newlywed couples; Ryan/Amanda and Pat/Crystal, come together and serve their mom in her final days on this earth. I know her attentive and sweet spirit IS in her children and will continue to be instilled in her grand-children. Thank you Ryan for your gentleness and your love for my daughter. I know where it came from as I saw it firsthand in your mommy. My new favorite song chorus: we live, we love, we forgive and never give up, because the days we are given are gifts from above, so TODAY, we remember to live and to love.

Valerie Jenkins - December 24, 2013 at 05:23 PM

PF

“ While our hearts go out to Rita's family, we think of the words of the Apostle Paul- having a desire to depart and be with Christ which is better by far. You are in our prayers.

Pastor Don & Judi Francis - December 23, 2013 at 10:41 PM

DM

“ Ryan and Amanda, While we only meant your Mom at the wedding she has been in our prayers and hearts for much longer. We are saddened by your loss and know you remain in our prayers. With deepest sympathy, Don and Kris



Don and Kris Murnane - December 23, 2013 at 01:36 PM

SF

“ Rita was a first class lady, full of love, life, laughter and grace. She made everyone she met feel special. That was just Rita's way. Her smile was a light that shined, not from just her face, but straight from her heart and soul. This world has lost a special person, one we desperately need more like! My deepest sympathies to her children, daughter, Crystal; son, Ryan and their spouses, along with her dear mother, Marie and the entire family!! She was loved so much, by so many, and she knew that. I was honored to be a recipient of Rita's kindness, friendship and generosity. Her passing will leave an enormous void in the lives of her family and friends, and soon-to-be born granddaughter, along with hundred of other lives. She is in the arms of our Lord God and His angels, soaring free ~ like a proud eagle, free from any earthly pain, reunited with her infant son, Rick, her sister and her father, who went before her. God Bless you Rita! Rest in eternal peace and pure bliss! With Love, Sandy

Sandy Fox - December 23, 2013 at 12:57 PM

BF

“ *In loving memory of Rita whose light will continue to shine in heaven*



Burgos Family - December 23, 2013 at 11:57 AM

CM

“ *Rita was one of the most unselfish people I've ever had the pleasure of meeting. She helped me out a great deal earlier this year when I was diagnosed with bilateral breast cancer, she helped me to realize, it could always be worse. When I think of Rita, I think of this quote: "The most authentic thing about us is our capacity to create, to overcome, to endure, to transform to love and to be greater than our suffering" (Ben Okri) Rita never complained, she loved life and everyone in her life. May God hold you in his loving embrace Rita. You will be missed.*

Cyndi Miller - December 23, 2013 at 11:04 AM

RF

“ *We are deeply saddened by your loss. May you cherish the memories of the times spent together. Our thoughts and Prayers are with you during this time of grief. Roxanne & Family*

Roxanne Minarde Wooley & Family - December 23, 2013 at 11:00 AM

PF

“ *So sad we have to lite a candle to make up the difference for the lite we lost.*



Phil Fleming - December 23, 2013 at 10:33 AM

HM

“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of a beautiful woman. I wish i could have got to really know her. Marissa will miss her very much but she knows she is in heaven with her grandma marcia. Thoughts and prayers to the whole family.

Heather Morris (Marissa Grove's mom) - December 22, 2013 at 10:10 PM

LD

“ Rita was a wonderful lady, so vibrant and beautiful. Her laugh and smile were contagious. Rita has touched so many, she will always be remembered. My. thoughts and prayers go out to Rita's family.

Lisa Delcamp - December 22, 2013 at 09:51 PM

SP

“ Rita was a blessing beyond measure in my life. Her capacity to love was endless. To describe Rita's essence would fill volumes. I send my condolences to her family and infinite circle of friends. May you go safely Rita. Love, Sara

Sara Powers - December 22, 2013 at 08:55 PM

SP

“ Rita was a blessing beyond measure in my life. Her capacity to love was endless. To describe Rita's essence would fill volumes. I send my condolences to her family and infinite circle of friends. May you go safely Rita. Love, Sara

Sara Powers - December 22, 2013 at 08:53 PM

MR

“ It was an honor to have known this beautiful woman. She had such an infectious smile, attitude, and loving heart. My condolences to your family. You will always be in my thoughts and prayers.

Morgan Retzer - December 22, 2013 at 08:42 PM