



## Wendi Leigh Cooper

September 14, 1969 - January 20, 2026

Wendi Leigh Cooper, 56, of Charlotte, an outgoing and integral part of her local community, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 in Lansing. Wendi was born September 14, 1969 in Lansing, the daughter of Garie and Suzanne (Maltby) Bemis. She graduated from Charlotte High School in 1987 before working briefly at a car dealership before going to Douglas J. and earning her cosmetology license. Throughout the years, she worked at several local hairstyling establishments in Charlotte, starting with the Shear Place. Wendi was always passionate about supporting local businesses, especially the "mom and pop" variety. She loved antique shopping in such places. She also loved time spent in her vegetable garden in her yard. Wendi even experimented with crossbreeding pepper varieties to find the spiciest and most delicious, and passion project she enjoyed sharing the bounty of with her family and friends.

Wendi married the love of her life, Peter Cooper, shortly before his death in 2003. Together, Wendi and Pete enjoyed car shows and attending MSU sports events, especially hockey. She was a patriotic supporter of our armed forces, and an active member of the Charlotte community, serving on the Frontier Days board of directors for years. She also loved her pets, particularly Weimaraners. Wendi almost always had a dog or two in her care, and they were usually rescues.

Wendi is survived by her father and step-mother, Garie and Carol Bemis; brother, Brian Bemis; step-siblings, Jessica (Ben) Kellum and Sean (Krystal) Howard; step-sons, Ben and Charlie Cooper; step-grandchildren, Austin, Wyatt, Cody, Dalten, and Kinley Cooper; and step-nieces and nephews; Emmett and Lincoln Kellum and Claire, Cohen, and Carsyn Howard. She was very recently predeceased by her mother, Suzanne.

Friends are encouraged to support Wendi's family by attending services or sharing memories on her Tribute Page at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com). Visitation will be from 2:00 - 4:00 and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 29, 2026 at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte with Laura Cooper officiating. 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](http://www.prayfuneral.com), click on Wendi'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 Eaton County Humane Society or the Folds of Honor Foundation. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 28. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W Seminary St  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Visitation

JAN 28. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W Seminary St  
Charlotte, MI 48813

## Funeral

JAN 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home  
401 W Seminary St  
Charlotte, MI 48813

# Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Wendi Leigh Cooper



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**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - January 28 at 12:00 PM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Wendi Leigh Cooper



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**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - January 27 at 05:12 PM

PF

*Our dear Wendi. Thank you for being a true friend. I'm so glad I got to know you. You will be missed so much. I love you forever my dear friend. I could had missed the pain but then I would had missed the dance. Fly high dear Wendi. I will never forget you And one-day I will see you again*

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**Patricia Faircloth** - January 29 at 11:14 AM

KP

“ Kurt, Milena and Julia Payne purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Wendi Leigh Cooper.



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**Kurt, Milena and Julia Payne** - January 28 at 05:42 PM

MO

“ My dear friend Wendi my heart feels deep sorrow that you are gone, but also rejoices that you are with our creator. You will truly be missed by many. Thank you for being my friend it was truly one of the best genuine friendships I ever had in this life. Rest In Peace my sweet friend ❤️🙏💙

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**Mo** - January 28 at 10:40 AM

LV

“ Love, Jeanna, Lauren, Sarah & Veronica purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Wendi Leigh Cooper.



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**Love, Jeanna, Lauren, Sarah & Veronica** - January 27 at 06:03 PM



“ 36 files added to the album LifeTributes



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**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - January 27 at 05:05 PM

JG

“ *My condolences go out to Wendi’s family. I first became acquainted with Wendi when she was a student at Charlotte Middle School where I was a teacher. She carved the name Grundstrom on the circulation desk in the media center. Not because it was my name but because I had a nephew with the same surname. Her outgoing and feisty spirit was a quality I admired even though I couldn’t always condone it. Our paths crossed many times over the years. The last time I saw her was 3 years ago when she came to my house to buy a hurricane lamp that I was selling. It was always a pleasure to see her. I am saddened to hear of her passing and will remember her fondly.*

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**Jan Grundstrom** - January 25 at 11:22 PM

TD

“ *I remember Wendy when we worked together years ago we had a lot of laughs together at the shear place and village head setters I will miss you girl❤️ Tami sheets*

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**tami dewitt** - January 25 at 07:19 PM

WC

“ To know Wendi was to know a spirit that couldn't be tamed. She was fiercely independent and unapologetically feisty, but she had a heart that was just as vast as the nature she loved so much. Whether she was out in the fresh air, surrounded by her beloved dogs, or sharing a laugh with her family and friends, Wendi lived life on her own terms. She taught us how to be strong, how to be funny, and most importantly, how to love deeply. Rest easy, Wendi—we'll see your spirit in every sunrise and feel your grit in our hearts.



Wendy Collins - January 24 at 10:49 PM

C1

“ CHS Class of 1987 purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Wendi Leigh Cooper.



CHS Class of 1987 - January 24 at 03:30 PM

JP

“ Joey Putman purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Wendi Leigh Cooper.



Joey Putman - January 24 at 08:49 AM

SK

“ I cannot believe you are gone.....but I find peace in knowing you are reunited with your Mom, Pete and your boys. Brian, you are in my thoughts and prayers and I offer my deepest condolences.

Shellie Kundrat - January 23 at 09:25 PM

SC

“ Still can't believe your gone! The girls and I will miss you and remember all the great times we had together.  
Forever in our hearts, we love and miss you seal barker..

Love,  
Suzie, Haylee and Katelynn ❤️

Suzie Curtis - January 23 at 09:11 PM



“ I can't believe you're gone!! ... I will miss you forever , thanks for being so good to me over the years !! One thing Wendy always loved to hear me say in my accent was Clematis lol so this year I will find the prettiest boldest Clematis and plant it in her honor.  
Good night and god bless my sweet friend xxx

Kerry Lewis - January 23 at 07:34 PM

JS

I fondly remember joking around with wendi when we worked together at dean, she always had a smile on her face and lit up every room. Whenever I'd run into her out and about she always had a big hug for me. Wendi was such a hoot to be around and will be greatly missed.

Jen Siefert - January 24 at 10:45 AM

JR

“ *Wendi had been doing my hair for as long as I can remember. Always such a joy to see and chit chat with. Always so much energy and smiles. Forever in my heart. Love you Wendi!* ”

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**Jessica Robison** - January 23 at 07:25 PM

KL

“ *Fly high my beautiful friend!! I dont know who is going to do?my hair now. I know your dogs and Pete are already loving on you!! I will miss you so much* ”

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**Karen Larkin** - January 23 at 06:29 PM