



## Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce

May 21, 1967 - November 3, 2022

Michelle "Shelley" Marie (Vaught) Bruce, 55 years young, left this world unexpectedly and all too soon on Thursday, November 3, 2022. She was born in Indianapolis on May 21, 1967, to Freddie R. and the late Sheila M. (Fitzpatrick) Vaught.

The oldest of three daughters in a tight knit family, Shelley was the quiet one who was known as grandpa's girl. Athletic by nature, she was a member of the volleyball and basketball teams, but truly excelled in track. In her sophomore year at Ben Davis High School, the love affair with the boy of her dreams, Mark, began with a rose at a basketball game, and lasted forty glorious years. The two were joyously united in marriage on June 6, 1987, beginning their happy family of four.

Shelley and Mark built their first home in the city, raising the two boys in the Ben Davis district where she was actively involved in all the kid's school activities and referred to as the "mom" of the football club. From the start, she ensured the family's life was constructed on a solid foundation, working tirelessly for the good of all. As time went by and the boys, now men, made lives of their own, Shelley and Mark found themselves with an empty nest. A city girl at heart, she recognized Mark's desire for the country and agreed to purchase their forever home and fixer-upper in the rural countryside with a quaint pond to be near the kids, their wives, and the grandchildren; this

became her happy place where she found her solace regularly watching the sunset across the pond.

Previously employed at One America, Shelley most recently worked in the Fillmore School Cafeteria, where she was afforded the gift of a hug and “I love you” from her oldest grandson daily. A nature lover, she tended her gardens, flowers and vegetable, canning the fruits of her labor, but never sure if it would be edible (it always was!). Weekly date nights with Mark were a must, and she loved traveling, especially to the ocean. Fun spirited, she was known to break out in song and dance for yearly birthday rituals of the Beatles Birthday Song, crooning to those she held dear. With stunning beauty that radiated from within, Shelley was an inspiration in the lives of many, living and breathing for her family and selflessly giving herself while remaining humble. A devoted wife, mother and Nana, she was Mark’s rock throughout their time together, along with serving as his past present and future. Sincerely inspirational, she left an impact on this world that will remain unrivaled. Leaving a hole in the hearts of her family that can never be filled, she also leaves a legacy of hope, love, and beauty.

Shelley leaves behind her best friend and husband, Mark D. Bruce of Fillmore; father, Freddy Vaught of Plainfield; children, Zach Bruce (Natalie) of Fillmore, and Nick Bruce (Alexus) of Coatsville; sisters, Colleen Holder (Bud) of Indianapolis and Denise Kriech (Mike) of Monrovia; along with her adored grandchildren, Braylon, Aylah, Aislyn, Colt, and Cade.

Cremation and Funeral Arrangements have been entrusted to Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia. Friends and family are invited to gather on Friday, November 11, from 3pm to 7pm at the funeral home, with a Celebration of Life Service beginning promptly at 7pm, and Pastor Nathan Couch will officiate. Memory cards will be available at the funeral home to share your favorite thoughts of Shelley so that her family may look back on

them through time and someday smile. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made by mail to St Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St Jude Pl, Memphis, TN 38105-9959, or online at <https://www.stjude.org/give.html>. To share a favorite story, send an online condolence to the family, or light a candle in Shelley's memory, please search @MonroviaFuneralHome on social media or visit her tribute at [www.lightmemorial.com](http://www.lightmemorial.com).

# Previous Events

## Friends & Family Gathering

NOV 11. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel  
585 East Main Street  
Monrovia, IN 46157  
(317) 996-2101  
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

## Celebration of Life Service

NOV 11. 7:00 PM (ET)

Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel  
585 East Main Street  
Monrovia, IN 46157  
(317) 996-2101  
<https://www.lightmemorial.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Marcia Nichols lit a candle in memory of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce*



**Marcia Nichols** - November 11, 2022 at 05:15 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.*



November 11, 2022 at 02:21 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.*



November 10, 2022 at 02:26 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.*



November 10, 2022 at 10:52 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.



November 10, 2022 at 10:39 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.



November 10, 2022 at 09:06 AM



“ 134 files added to the album LifeTributes



Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel - November 09, 2022 at 03:59 PM

JB

I AM SO SORRY FOR THE FAMILY. I KNOW THE PAIN OOF LOSS OF A SISTER

JOCE BALDWIN - November 09, 2022 at 07:25 PM

DB

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you. Love, Kevin and Deb Bruce & family



Deb Bruce - November 09, 2022 at 01:00 PM

MH

“ Some of my fondest and earliest memories were at the Vaught house with the Bruce's. I always thought Shelley was one of the most beautiful people I ever saw. Prayers, love, and hugs to the whole family.

Micaela Hornstein - November 09, 2022 at 09:57 AM

PB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Bruce family, so sorry for your loss.  
Thinking of you all.

Love Pam & Paul Beadle

Pam Beadle - November 09, 2022 at 09:21 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.



November 09, 2022 at 08:38 AM

MP

“ Aunt Shelley was one of the sweetest women I have had the pleasure of knowing. I am so devastated to hear of her passing and send all of my love and prayers to the family. I miss you all <3

Maggie Perry - November 08, 2022 at 11:31 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.



November 08, 2022 at 09:51 PM

HD

“ My prayers are with all of the family at this time. Thank you for sharing Michelle with us. She always had a sweet nice and kind word.

Heidi Highbaugh Van Duzer - November 08, 2022 at 07:04 PM

SW

“ First met Michelle at BDHS. Some almost 40 years later, she is still one of those rare souls that one never forgets. What a reminder of the brevity of life as James said, it is but a “vapor” that appeareth for a time then “vanishes away.”

May God bless her family, as well as the memory of Michelle with all that knew and loved her. Rest well, Michelle.

Steve Wagers - November 08, 2022 at 04:44 PM

GK

“ I want to express my condolences to Michelle’s family on her passing. I am finding it so hard to put into words what her friendship meant to me. I met her through our joint employment with Meridian Insurance some 30 years ago. We traveled together on a few “girls’ trips to Vegas” and had many other good times just getting together around town. I lost track of her in the last few years as our lives went in different directions, but always felt like I could reach out to her anytime I needed a shoulder and I know she would have been there. This is going to sound weird, but I think of her almost daily because of some measuring cups. She had these great measuring cups that you could look down to read the amounts instead of looking on the side of the cups that I discovered when she hosted one of our girls’ evenings. I went right out and bought a set that I use to this day and smile every time I use them because I’m reminded of her and fun we all had. Having our memories of the joy she brought to everyone is a comfort and I hope you find the same comfort from your memories of her.

*With Deepest Sympathy,  
Gina Skelton Koons*

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**Gina S Koons** - November 08, 2022 at 03:49 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.



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November 08, 2022 at 03:26 PM

SB

“ So incredibly sorry to hear of the passing of Michelle. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mark and the entire family. Stephanie and Rich Bear

Stephanie Bear - November 08, 2022 at 12:06 PM

TG

“ Shelley was the absolute best. Always smiling, laughing, and making everyone feel welcomed. One of the best team mom's Ben Davis Football ever had. I just can't believe this...  
Gipsons send all the love, all the hope, and all the Grace during this difficult time to the Bruce family. Sending a big hug to my guy's Mark, Zac, & Nick. - tg

Todd Gipson - November 08, 2022 at 11:59 AM

ML

“ So sorry to hear this. I remember Michelle as a child growing up with my kids. She was always a such a sweet and caring girl. My sympathy to all the family. Mary Lauber

Mary Lauber - November 08, 2022 at 10:56 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michelle "Shelley" M. Bruce.



November 08, 2022 at 08:09 AM