



Mary Elizabeth Childs

October 29, 1959 - October 1, 2015

TRAVERSE CITY - Mary Elizabeth Childs, 55, of Traverse City was able to leave her lifetime broken body on October 1, 2015 and go to heaven to be with her Lord, her brother Scott, and all of her grandparents.

Mary was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan on October 29, 1959 where she lived until 1976. While there Mary attended the Rackham School of Special Education at Eastern Michigan University. She then moved to Traverse City with her family, Ross and Helen Childs, her brother Scott and her sister Susan.

Despite having serious physical handicaps Mary enjoyed life to the fullest. This was made possible by Mary Jean Brick who founded BrickWays, BrickWays staff, College Park Staff, Grand Traverse Industries and staff, Pat Pickard and other care givers from In Home Health Services, special doctors Steven Thomas and Lara Madigan and Christine Ibbotson who was Mary's friend, and protector Her life was extended miraculously by the excellent care she received at Munson Medical Center by the Doctors and Nurses who cared for her during the many health crises that came into her life. She was always treated royally on her many emergency trips to Munson.

Mary had some very special highlights in her life, which included: being a part of her sister's wedding, being with the "light of her life" her niece Carly Moffitt, attending a concert by her favorite Canadian Country singer, visiting her grandfather on the great lakes ship he captained, the time her cat had five kittens, going on a trip to Florida with her housemates, the annual BrickWays Christmas parties, attending a Detroit Tiger baseball game this past summer, attending a game at the Red Wing Camp in Traverse this fall, attending Camp Royale and Camp Big Bay in the Upper Peninsula when she was younger, and her many trips to Canada

A celebration of Mary's life will take place on her 56th birthday, October 29 at 1:00 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Traverse City. When people who knew Mary hear of her death, they all say, "I will never forget her beautiful smile."

Mary's extended family all live in Canada. She spent many happy days there with her grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins. For that reason we will take her there for a memorial service that will be held in a small village church at Leith, Ontario and she will be buried there in the church grounds, with her much loved family members who have gone before her.

As an expression of sympathy, memorial contributions in memory of Mary may be made to the BrickWays Foundation. Thank you to everyone who helped make Mary's life complete.

Kindly share your thoughts and memories of Mary by way of her online guestbook at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>.

The family is being cared for by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Events

OCT **Memorial Service** 01:00PM
29

The Presbyterian Church
701 Westminster, Traverse City, MI, US, 49686

Comments



“ Ashley Van Vurst sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Elizabeth Childs



ashley van vurst - July 02, 2016 at 07:53 PM



“ Ross and Helen,
We were so sorry to read of Mary Beth's passing last October. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Susan. We think of you often.
Jo-Anne Donaldson & Barb & Ron Kearsley.

Barbara Kearsley - January 23, 2016 at 03:36 PM



“ My prayers are with Mary's family at this difficult time. I was Blessed to have worked with Mary for a couple of months and truly fell in love with her. She taught me many lessons about life and how people should treat one another. She shared many stories with me, and I tried to do everything in my power to give back to her. I especially love the story of her father washing their English Sheepdog in the bay.

Mary I thank you for being in my life; though it was a short time, you taught me a lot. I love you and I will until the day I am able to walk with you and your dog again.

Mary Ginotti

Mary Ginotti - October 18, 2015 at 09:25 AM



“ Ross and Helen,
My deepest condolences to you and your precious family. There is no greater pain on this earth than losing a child. Mary was so sweet and precious as I remember her as a little girl. May God's love and strength be with you at this time.

Patty Jacobs Case

Patty Case - October 14, 2015 at 10:20 AM



“ Ross and Helen mary was very special to me and most of what happen was my fault. I love her, isorry I never was able to say good_buy. I hope you forgive me if I knew she was bad I would have been there come hell or high wather. Just becuse we didn't see each other dose .ot mean I did not care. My love to all call if you like

Alan - November 03, 2015 at 07:44 PM



“ Ross and Helen--Cindy and I are so very sorry to hear about the loss of your daughter Mary. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time.

John Berck - October 09, 2015 at 07:59 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Mary's family. What a sweet, gentle person Mary was. I had her on my Bata bus numerous times over the fourteen years that I drove for them. She was always in good spirits and a joy to work with. I am so sorry.

Bill Loveland - October 08, 2015 at 09:09 PM



“ I loved Mary so much! I was blessed by being able to take care of her and spend every weekend with her. She was a wonderful woman and always brightened my day with pictures and stories about her life and everything she was able to do! She really did live life to the fullest every single day and that's what I greatly admire about her. Sending prayers for your family.

Melissa Sedlacek - October 08, 2015 at 03:20 PM



“ Ross & Helen -My condolences to you and your family. Praying peace and comfort will abound, during this difficult time.

Diana Pickard - October 08, 2015 at 01:40 PM



“ Prayers and my condolences to you and your family Mr. Childs.
Douglass Tobin

Douglass tobin - October 08, 2015 at 12:16 PM



“ Dear Ross & Helen,
My thoughts and sympathy will be with you in the coming and difficult days.
Mike Gillman

Mike Gillman - October 08, 2015 at 07:30 AM



“ I Fondly Remember Working with You at GTI/GTP back in the Nineties. Quite a shock, am gong to Miss you! Steven Terry

Steven Terry - October 08, 2015 at 06:28 AM



“ So many treasured memories of Mary through the many years I have known her. The obituary lists all of the special people that fought for her care, but Ross and Helen should be at the top of that list. Will miss that smile. Juanita Cole

Juanita Cole - October 07, 2015 at 05:03 PM



“ I was blessed to be able to work with Mary for a few years and get to know her. She truly was an inspiration and blessing to those around her. Her positive attitude and smile were always a highlight of my day. She will be missed greatly. Prayers for your family.

Jeanie Houchin - October 05, 2015 at 09:21 AM



“ Mary you are blessed with your beautiful and loving family on Earth and now in Heaven.

Kim & Deanna Elliott - October 03, 2015 at 06:04 AM



“ A beautiful, wonderful soul has passed on to create a new star in heaven. Mary Childs was a special lady - I will never forget her. When I was brand new at taking her places in the van with wheelchair accommodations and a lift, operating the sling that took her from chair to bed, and helping her with her personal care - she was so patient and helped teach me everything I needed to know.... Always with friendly conversation and a smile on her face - RIP Mary Childs - you will be remembered always by so very many people !!! My condolences to Ross, Helen, Susan and others who loved her dearly.... Mary was a lovely person who gave a smile that warmed the hearts of everyone she met.

Lori Nelson Savage - October 02, 2015 at 09:13 PM



“ i worked with Mary for several years she was a very sweet person may she rest in piece

donna schichtel - October 03, 2015 at 10:02 PM



“ I first met Mary through Jeff Haas and the Fitness Center in the late 1980's. She was a beautiful person with spunk that could light-up an entire room. Sending love and support to Ross and Mary's entire family. She will be missed and fondly remembered.
Susan Odgers and Tom Mair

susan odgers - October 02, 2015 at 11:31 AM



“ It was a blessing and a privilege to know Mary. I enjoyed spending last Friday night bowling with her. What a dear and precious spirit! She will forever be in my heart. Please accept my sympathy for you loss- for all of our loss.

Rebecca Webb - October 02, 2015 at 09:07 AM



“ Ross I know Mary is your angel and you are very special to her

Ashley Van Vurst - October 03, 2015 at 11:44 PM



“ Ross and Helen - Please accept my heart-felt condolences on the loss of your daughter, Mary. May the hole in your hearts be soon filled with wonderful memories. - Chris (David) Rutila

Chris Rutila - October 07, 2015 at 11:34 AM



“ Ross and Helen, we are saddened to hear of your loss. Mary was such a sweet gal, always willing to talk and leave you smiling. She taught us so many of life's lessons especially patience. She will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with you.

Greg and Carol Butzow

Carol and Greg Butzow - October 07, 2015 at 12:21 PM



“ It was a joy to know Mary. Mary shared with me beautiful memories of her childhood when I worked with her. She will be missed so much. She brought so many smile to many people faces. I am sorry for your loss. Your family is in my prayers.

SHerry Opper - October 08, 2015 at 09:49 AM



“ A wonderfully nice picture of a wonderfully nice person. I'm so sorry for your loss.

James - October 08, 2015 at 05:54 PM