



Nicole Aryn Popa

May 24, 1990 - September 13, 2014

Nicole Aryn Popa, 24 of Caledonia, Michigan passed away September 13, 2014. Born in Traverse City Michigan on May 24, 1990 at Munson Medical Center. She attended St. Francis Catholic school and graduated from Traverse City West high school in 2008. While living in Caledonia she worked at a dentist office and taught yoga while attending school to become a dental hygienist. Nicole enjoyed everything about the outdoors, camping, kayaking, hiking, snowboarding, campfires, long walks in the woods and on the beach. She lived for music and music festivals and all the excitement that was around her. Mastering yoga and hooping was a passion of hers that she shared with anyone willing to watch. She loves all animals and pampered her kitty like a baby as if it was her own. Survived by her parents William and Sandra Popa, sister Danielle R. Popa and brother Kyle W. Popa currently residing in Houston, Texas but lifelong Traverse city residents. Grandparents Leonard and Betty Popa. Aunts, uncles and cousins: David and Marilyn Popa, Christopher and Jonathan Popa. Mike Popa: Jennifer, Justin, and Benjamin Popa. Charles and Mary Popa, Heather and Eddie Nickerson, Ryan, Jordan Popa. Joe Becker and Shelley Quinn - Becker. Rick and Cathy Newman, Nicholas, Rebecca, and Jonathan Newman. Todd and Michelle Newman, Jacob, Sara and Tessa Newman. Also leaving behind her beloved boyfriend Josh Fournier. Preceded in death by her grandparents Richard T. and Eileen R. Newman. "Coley" as they called her was always giving whether it would be with a huge smile, a laugh, a witty one liner joke, or a infectious corks personality which no one could resist. She was always willing to give a helping hand. She always reminded us to see life in a new positive way. To remember we need "To change your mind set"and never let your emotions run you. She was a free-spirited woman always full of independence and confidence that radiated to anyone in her presence. Nicole was always following her instincts and letting her heart guide and protect her along her journey of life. She was loud, loyal and always made distinct decisions about her life not caring what others thought by living adventurous and free. She will be missed by all and her spirit will live on forever.

A Visitation will be held on Thursday Sept. 18 from 4-7PM at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home with a prayer service at 7PM. A Mass of Christian burial will follow on Friday at St. Francis Catholic Church at 11AM with interment at Oakwood Catholic Cemetery.

Please visit www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com to share your memories of Nicole.

All funeral arrangements under the direction of the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Cemetery

Oakwood Catholic Diocesan Cemetery

1720 Hannah Street
Traverse City, MI, 49686

Events

SEP 18 **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

SEP 19 **Funeral Mass** 11:00AM

St. Francis Catholic Church
1025 S. Union, Traverse City, MI, US,
49684

Comments



“ Video Tribute - Loving Memories of Nicole



Video Tribute - September 23, 2014 at 08:45 AM



“ Just stopping by to see you Coley! I miss you so much! You have been on my mind a lot these days! I just want you to know you truly are one of a kind and I am great fun I got to meet you! Thank you for all the wonderful memories keep looking over us!! Love you :)

michaela - October 30, 2015 at 06:57 PM



“ Bill and Sandy,
Luke just heard of the heartbreaking news....know that we are praying for you. May God give you strength, hope and courage to carry on. Sending all our love.

Luke and Anne Schwartz

Anne Schwartz - September 22, 2014 at 12:13 PM



“ I met Nicole and Josh about three years ago. We had several local hiking adventures as well as camping together and frequently hung out. They both have and had such big hearts, they shared each other's passions in life and just complimented each other so well. She loved that man and that man loved her. Our condolences to both families.

Carrie vanduser - September 20, 2014 at 08:30 PM



“ mi condolences to the family popa from the family menchaca we are the uncles of crystal may god bless and give you the forces to move on



Trs JM - September 18, 2014 at 09:15 PM



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Trs JM - September 18, 2014 at 09:15 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to the Popa Family.. may the lord guide you all through this hard time...from the Sanchez Family (Crystal's Cousins)



Mar Tryztan - September 18, 2014 at 06:31 PM



“ I didn't know Nicole but would like to say what a beautiful girl she was. My sympathy goes out to her family.

Linda - September 18, 2014 at 05:34 PM



“ Deb Strait lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Deb Strait - September 18, 2014 at 04:23 PM



“ Kacey lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Kacey - September 18, 2014 at 03:38 PM



“ I did not know Nicole but she was a friend of my grandson. Our prayers go out for all of her family and friends who loved her. May you find comfort and healing. Irene Fridsma

Irene Fridsma - September 18, 2014 at 01:36 PM



“ Words can not express the sorrow I feel Bill, Sandy, Kyle and Danielle may God Bless all of you in these times of sorrow. Gary Taylor

Gary Taylor - September 18, 2014 at 01:13 PM



“ Ralph Hall lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Ralph Hall - September 18, 2014 at 10:36 AM



“ My daughter Becca Sage went to school with Nicole and Josh and they had some wonderful times together.....I always remember Nicole as being happy, full of life, with an effervescent smile! I am so sorry for everyone who will miss her glow. My prayers and thoughts are with you all.....
Jane (sage) Butzier

Jane Butzier - September 18, 2014 at 09:59 AM



“ I did not know Nicole but my daughter was her friend, I was with my daughter when she got the news. I can't tell you how sadden we both are. My heart and love goes out to all her family and all involved in this tragic accident. God please heal and provide peace.
Love from the Milarch family.

chris milarch - September 18, 2014 at 08:24 AM



“ To Nicole's Family, We did not know Nicole but heard about her from her loving Aunt Shelley and Uncle Joe. Our hearts ache for all of you, as you go through this very sad time. May your memories of special times with Nicole help you through this very difficult time. - Bob & Diane Cotterman

Robert & Diane Cotterman - September 18, 2014 at 12:01 AM



“ Bill, Sandy, Danielle, Kyle,
I am so sorry to hear about Nicole.
Eileen, Joe, Mary, Olivia, Madilynn, Claire, Colleen, Joseph, Caleb Olson

eileen - September 17, 2014 at 09:16 PM



“ I would like to send my sincerest sympathies to your family...you have dear memories to cherish forever...please know that you are in my thoughts

Jackie Hall...I worked with Sandra at Pier 1

Jackie Hall - September 17, 2014 at 09:04 PM



“ Oh, how my heart grieves ~ Nicole was such a fun and spirited student I taught in fifth grade. I just loved her confidence and spark. I remember her bringing me some Morel mushrooms because she knew I liked them. What a beautiful young woman who will always be remembered. Dance and twirl and know that you are so precious, Nicole. My heartfelt thoughts to all the family of beautiful Nicole. Ms. Parcia

Kathleen Parcia - September 17, 2014 at 08:42 PM



“ It's hard to imagine there was ever a happier child than Coley. Though she was a tiny thing, she was pure joy incarnate, and often bursting with laughter. She was the kind who giggled with her whole body until she was gasping for breath, and even if you looked at her she'd break into a smile. We remember how she used to sing a "Beauty and the Beast" song and alter the words so the lead character Belle was included. If you tried to explain to her that Belle was "Beauty" she would let you know you were dead wrong, and between her certainty and that little lisp she had, we didn't dare disagree. Well, that and she used to smuggle sodas and ice cream to her cousins, so who were we to argue?

Hearing the news of her passing has left us reeling this week, not only for a childhood playmate, but also for the loss of the beautiful woman she became. Bill, Sandy, Danielle and Kyle we cannot imagine your pain. While it's impossible to know the right words when faced with such a senseless tragedy, just know that we care and we're thinking of your family every day. We are grateful for what little time we did have with Coley, and it's clear in seeing those who mourn her that she will be missed dearly by many. The world burns a little less brightly with her gone.

Love,
Jenny, Justin, Ben and Joanie



Jenny, Justin, Ben and Joanie - September 17, 2014 at 08:37 PM



“ Coley,

I'll never forget the first time I met you....a crazy dinner with the entire Newman clan. You were just four years old. As if to see if I was good enough for your precious Uncle Todd, you asked me one simple question, "Have you ever been to Europe?" I had to respond no, but I fell in love that very moment with your spunk and charm. You were special. No one ever shined as bright as you did. How I loved our talks....and how you loved me. You were the most beautiful, perfect flower girl at our wedding. That 9 year old giggly girl with missing teeth. You were upset with me for stealing your man. But accepted me whole-heartedly at the same time. You brought a light to each room you entered, and made everyone smile.

I will miss you so much. Uncle Todd misses you SO much. We all love you...and always will. You will always be in our hearts, our sweet Coley. I love that you're with Grandma and Grandpa in Heaven now....teaching grandma how to hula hoop. Share some "cough syrup" with grandma for the rest of us, will you?

Love,
Aunt Michelle



Michelle Newman - September 17, 2014 at 07:27 PM



“ My condolences to the family. I didn't know Nicole but I knew her sister Danielle & her cousin Heather from working with them at North Peak. My heart goes out to them for their loss. Please know that your North Peak. Family is holding you in their thoughts

Becky Lester - September 17, 2014 at 07:15 PM



“ Becky Lester lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Becky Lester - September 17, 2014 at 07:08 PM



“ Nancy Hyliard lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Nancy Hyliard - September 17, 2014 at 04:01 PM



“ Kaylee J lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Kaylee J - September 17, 2014 at 02:13 PM



“ I met Nicole over the summer and she instantly made me laugh. I loved her spunky personality and no nonsense attitude. I thoroughly enjoyed her company and as we said goodbye she told me "never stop saying what your thinking and if people don't like it then to to bad"!! I'm so very truly for your loss and no amount of words can ease your pain. Just know that in her short life she touched many lives and memories of her will live forever.



Jamie - September 17, 2014 at 01:18 PM



“ Sean Baccus lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Sean Baccus - September 17, 2014 at 01:14 PM



“ KW lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



KW - September 17, 2014 at 10:55 AM



“ My sweet baby Coley. I will forever miss your infectious smile, laugh, spirit and zest for life. You had the ability to take any situation and see the positiveness in it. My life will never be the same without you in it. Rest in peace, dance and hoola hoop, chase rainbows and butterflies, and never ever stop smiling. I miss you and my heart aches because you are gone.
Please share your spirit with everyone in Heaven. I love you~ Shelley



Shelley Quinn-Becker - September 17, 2014 at 10:26 AM



“ Erin lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Erin - September 17, 2014 at 10:00 AM



“ Nicole was a friendly free spirited lovely gal and I'm sure loved by everyone she touched. My heartfelt condolences to the family and friends left behind to treasure her wonderful memory. Prayers for your peace

Sonya Girdley - September 17, 2014 at 07:30 AM



“ Cheryl Frawley lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Popa



Cheryl Frawley - September 16, 2014 at 11:08 PM



“ Rest in peace, Coley. I will never forget you, and the laughter and happy days that we spent together so long ago...you and Dani, Austin and Melissa, in your own little world of make believe, love and friendship. My children were blessed to have you and Dani for their very first friends, and I am so glad that we had you in our lives. I watched you blossom into a fiery spirited child with twinkly eyes, gigantic genuine smiles, and a heart of gold. Years later, I watched you practice for a fashion show runway and was stunned by your absolute beauty. You glanced my way and there was that same fiery spirited, happy child. Anyone who has loved and cared for you knows how incredibly special you are... It is no wonder that God wanted you now.

Sandy and Bill, Dani and Kyle, my heart is hurting so badly for you. Please know that my love, thoughts and prayers have been with you for these past few days. I pray that you will find some peace and comfort in knowing that Coley is home and free, and those sparkling eyes are now shining brightly in Heaven.

Love to you all
Cheryl (Wagener) Frawley

Cheryl Frawley - September 16, 2014 at 11:04 PM



“ So very sad to hear about Coley. My heart is breaking for Sandy, Bill, Danielle and Kyle. Please know I am living on Texas now and will not be able to attend the funeral but my thoughts and prayers are with you! praying for strength from our God to get to a all through this awful tragedy. I love you guys and will be in touch soon.



Barb McDonald - September 16, 2014 at 08:13 PM



“ Merri Poba lit a candle in memory of Nicole Aryn Poba



merri poba - September 16, 2014 at 05:27 PM



“ Nicole, our sweet, little, vivacious fairy!
Coley was always the one who would welcome me back to TC by sitting on the foot of the bed (or dancing around :) while I unpacked. She'd catch me up on everything and everyone. Her sparkling eyes and infectious smile brought more than joy to our lives. They showed us a gateway into her soul. Her love, laughter and adventurous, playful spirit shined through in everything she said and did.
She is loved and missed dearly, by many. Our love stretches all the way to the heavens for you, darling girl. Xoxoxo
Aunt Merri-Lyn Poba

merri lyn poba - September 16, 2014 at 05:00 PM



“ We could not sleep last night when we confirmed that this was really the Nicole we knew.

I first met her when she was "the little girl next door" to the guy I was dating. She was adorable and would come chat (and chat and chat) whenever she saw us outside. One day she taught me a new word. She tooted (I believe she tried to blame it on one of us first) and said "Oh, I fluffed".

Years later I was married to that guy and we had a kid with another on the way. She became our sons FAVORITE babysitter. She knew he loved bugs and Bakugon. She took him shopping for special Bakugon key chains which became prized possessions. Another time she brought over two very strange bugs that she lovingly caught, saved, and delivered to our self proclaimed Expert Bug Hunter.

She grew up and got too busy for babysitting.

We hadn't seen her in years. That little bug hunter is now 9 and his sister is 7.

Coley touched our lives so we are sad that this bubbly, fun spirit isn't here anymore. Our hearts ache for Bill and Sandy and Danielle and Kyle. I know Marilyn and Leonard would be devastated by this news and am sure (if needed) were standing by heaven's gate to be certain she was welcomed home.

Love and prayers for your family.

Sue & Duce Olson

Sue Olson - September 16, 2014 at 01:56 PM