



Darlene Kay Adams

January 11, 1956 - August 2, 2021

Darlene K. Adams, 65, Celina, passed away at 7:45 p.m. Monday, Aug. 2, 2021. She died in profound peace, with the blessed assurance that Christ had called her home. She was surrounded by her husband, sons, daughters-in-law, granddaughters and a longtime family friend. Also present was one of her ministers, Ken Meyer of New Horizons church in Rockford, who prayed over her as she drew her final breaths.

Darlene was born Jan. 11, 1956, in Wapakoneta to Dale & Mary Ann (Myers) Thomas, who still reside in Wapak.

On July 19, 1980, she married Ronald Adams of Celina, who survives.

She is also survived by her two sons, Douglas (Kelli) Adams of Celina and Eric (Annalyn) Adams of Connersville, Ind.; her five grandchildren, Emma & Ruby Adams and Jaedyn, Linkin & Brooklyn Waterman, all of Celina; her sister, Denise (James) Kantner of Wapakoneta and her nieces, Angela (Joe) Kraft of Paris, Ohio and Alaina (Mike) Vecchio of Chicago, Ill. Additional survivors include her brother-in-law, Michael (Kimberley) Adams of Celina; her nephews Brayton & Brecken Adams of Celina and her mother-in-law, Frances Adams of Ottawa.

She is preceded in death by her father-in-law, Kenneth "Ray" Adams, and her mother-in-law, Betty Adams.

Darlene graduated in 1974 from Wapakoneta High School. She then went on to earn degrees from Ohio State University in 1978 and Wright State University in 1984. She was an educator at the Wapakoneta City School

District for 35 years, during which time she nurtured the minds of myriad second-graders. Throughout her career she also remained active in the Alpha Delta Kappa teacher's sorority. Education forever remained Darlene's principal passion, and immediately following her "retirement" in 2013, she began working at the TLC Learning Center in St. Marys.

Outside of the classroom Darlene was a deeply involved member of St. John Lutheran Church in Celina, where she belonged to the bell choir, Stephen Ministry and Monday night Bible study.

Darlene was also a member of the Phi Beta Psi Sorority, Iota Psi Chapter, an organization that raises money for local cancer patients and cancer research. She was president of the sorority during 2020-21 - remaining committed to her duties even while she fought her own battle with pancreatic cancer - and previously held many other offices. For ten years she served as chairperson of the sorority's Singing Valentine fundraiser.

Darlene loved riding bikes with Ron - a pastime they enjoyed both locally and at Mackinac Island, Michigan. She also enjoyed planting and maintaining flowers, and hosting frequent family dinners.

Darlene was a gracious and loyal friend, and she touched countless lives through the organizations she served. The vision of her smile and the music of her laughter will be forever etched in the hearts of anyone who knew her well. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 28, at St. John Lutheran Church. Time for visitation and remembrance will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. that day, with the celebration of life service to immediately follow. A meal will take place directly after the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to the Stephen Ministry of St. John Lutheran Church, and/or Grand Lake Hospice.

Darlene will be inured by the Eley Funeral Home of Wapakoneta, so that her ashes may be scattered together with Ron's at a later date.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 28. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church, Celina, Ohio
1100 North Main Street
Celina, OH 45822

Service

AUG 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church, Celina, Ohio
1100 North Main Street
Celina, OH 45822

Tribute Wall

KW

“*Darlene was an amazing teacher. She was so kind and loving. I am glad to have had the opportunity to teach with her.*

Kimberly Wheeler - October 03, 2021 at 01:26 PM

TD

“*Ron, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Your wife must have been one very special lady. Very involved in many things. I am sure, she will be greatly missed.*

May she now.....

Rest In Peace

Your classmate,

Terri (Davis) Doenges

Terri & Mark Doenges - September 03, 2021 at 10:09 AM

KC

“*Darlene was a faithful member of the St. John Bell Choir for many years. Talented in so many ways she always injected a “note” of levity into every rehearsal with an easy laugh and an unrestrained sense of joy! The secret that we bell players share is that we all really do it for the fun of the rehearsals. We will miss her. May God Bless Darlene, Ron and their whole family.*

Kay and Craig - August 09, 2021 at 04:17 PM

SU

“*My deepest sympathy to the family. While it's been years, I'll always remember our good times as majorettes. Her easy smile and laughter is what comes to mind. Condolences and prayers, Susan Harvey*

susan - August 06, 2021 at 02:09 AM

JL

“ I went to high school with Darlene. I will never forget her smile and laugh. My sympathies to her family. Sincerely Jackie (Wiley) Lyman

jackie lyman - August 05, 2021 at 08:33 PM

RB

“ So very sad to hear this - Darlene was a lovely person, always smiling, always willing to pitch in when help was needed. Enjoyed playing handbells with her. She had such a great sense of humor, too. She will be sorely missed.
Bruce and Rita Bair

Rita Bair - August 05, 2021 at 06:06 PM

EJ

“ Earl and Nikk(Thomas) Jones purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Darlene Kay Adams.



Earl and Nikk(Thomas) Jones - August 05, 2021 at 11:28 AM

SS

“ I taught for many years with Darlene at Centennial Elementary. She was not only an effective teacher, but I am mostly reminded of the gentleness and kindness she modelled to her students and colleagues.

Janet and I wish to express our deepest sympathy to her family.

Janet and Steve Schuler

Steve Schuler - August 04, 2021 at 02:52 PM

JL

“ You have our very deepest sympathy in the loss of Darlene. She was such a great person and cared about others so much. She will be missed. Prayers for you and your family. Rick, Jeri, Jason, and Danielle Lipp

Jeri Lipp - August 04, 2021 at 02:06 PM

GP

“ I will always remember Darlene's laugh and great smile! She was joy to be around at any Family gathering. She left us way too soon ! May she have Eternal Rest. Offering my Sincere Sympathy to Ron, and Doug and Eric and their families. May God Bless Everyone !
Gerald Provci

gerald provci - August 04, 2021 at 12:47 PM

BS

“ Our time on our church's Germany trip would never have been the same without Darlene. Denise and Darlene gave us many laughs. Will miss her.
Brenda Shoffstall

Brenda Shoffstall - August 04, 2021 at 07:37 AM



“ We are so sad to hear of Mrs. Adams' passing. She was a wonderful 2nd grade teacher to our son, Alec. Many thoughts and prayers to the family.
Greg, Wendy, Alec, and Sydney Schlenker

Wendy Clark Schlenker - August 03, 2021 at 08:57 PM