



Cheryl Lynn Tarpo

April 30, 1962 - July 30, 2024

On Tuesday, July 30, 2024, our beloved Cheryl Tarpo (Mucher Dore), age 62, of Ogden Dunes received her wings in peace to start a heavenly journey. Having a spirit that would always light a room, her light has been extinguished far too soon.

Cheryl was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer and Millicent Mucher (Fergus). Raised in Northlake, IL, Cheryl graduated from West Leyden High School in 1980 and Columbia College. She worked for several years in public relations, primarily with the Gatorade account and was proud of her work marketing Gatorade to NFL trainers. After obtaining a master's degree in education from Aurora University, she taught elementary school for the Plainfield (IL) School District. Cheryl had a beautiful voice and enjoyed singing with the Triton College choir while taking classes there.

She is survived by her husband, David; daughter, Gabrielle Mills (Rob); stepdaughters: Natalie Tarpo, Rachel Tarpo and Jessica Tarpo; brother, George Mucher (Tamara); beloved niece, Zoe Mucher; nephew, Ian Mucher; devoted mother-in-law, Judy Tarpo; father-in-law, James Tarpo, Jr. (Margaret); Gabrielle's father, Rick Dore (Linda); close cousins, Wendy Rube and Denise Licciardi and a wide network of extended family and friends.

In 2008, fate brought Cheryl and her husband David together. Their

complementary personalities formed the basis of a strong 16-year marriage during which they raised their blended family of girls.

Cheryl was an accomplished woman who lived life to the fullest, traveling all 7 continents with her husband, exploring restaurants in Chicago, frequently hosting parties, sharing weekends with girlfriends, and mentoring the young people in her life. With her outgoing personality, she collected friends throughout her life and enjoyed connecting new friends with longtime friends. During the day she could often be found walking the beach searching for nature's treasures with her dog Riley, while in the evenings she savored lakefront sunsets with her husband and friends.

An excellent and adventurous cook, Cheryl's home was always open for Monday soup nights with friends as a great way to start off the week. Cheryl excelled at creative cookie baking and decorating, and repeatedly won Best Cookie and Best Packaging awards at her friends' annual holiday cookie contest.

An active member of her community, Cheryl was past President and Treasurer of the Ogden Dunes (IN) Women's Club and enjoyed planning fundraising events. She was an avid reader her entire life and participated in the Ogden Dunes Book Club. She very much enjoyed mentoring others, especially young people, and she befriended, encouraged and inspired girls from Willowcreek Middle School through the Girls To Women program. Following her initial cancer diagnosis, she served as a Mentor Angel to numerous fellow cancer fighters through the Imerman Angels organization.

Our dear Cheryl bravely endured a 16-year battle with breast cancer. She fought the battle tenaciously and with a strong heart. The family wishes to express their sincere thanks to Premier Oncology & Hematology in Merrillville (IN) along with Dr. Bharat Barai and his staff for their exceptional efforts over

the years to treat Cheryl's illness.

A visitation will be held on Friday, August 9, 2024, at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN, from 1 p.m. until the time of memorial service at 5 p.m. Rev. Tom Clark officiating.

Cheryl will be deeply missed by her family and all who knew her. Her memory will live on through the many lives that she touched with her beautiful spirit. In lieu of flowers, please consider honoring her life by making a donation to Imerman Angels (imermanangels.org). www.burnsfuneral.com

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

AUG 9. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (cst)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point
10101 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
(219) 769-0044
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Memorial Service

AUG 9. 5:00 PM (cst)

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Tribute Wall

“ I've been wanting to write something after hearing the terrible news of Cheryl's passing, but I just didn't know what to say, and I still don't. Words are just hard to come up with. I knew Cheryl had breast cancer years ago, but I didn't know she was still battling it. So the news of her passing caught me completely off guard. I met Cheryl in 1981, the summer we were both counselors at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center in Oregon, Illinois. We had a sweet, innocent, teenage summer romance, and then the summer was over. We never fought or broke up. We just each went on with our lives, and returned to college. Over the next few years we'd see each other at camp reunions, or the odd visit when I was passing through town - just to re-connect and catch up on the other's life. When we re-connected years later, via Facebook, we'd each been married, and divorced, and she remarried a few years before I did. We'd send each other birthday greetings, and try to stay abreast of the big events in each other's lives via our posts and photos. I haven't seen Cheryl for years. But I was very much looking forward to seeing her at another upcoming camp reunion that I was hoping she'd be at. And now that opportunity is gone. I'm so sad that I will never again get to see her huge smile, or hear her contagious laugh, or just bask in her playful presence. As everyone else who has posted anything here knows, and as anyone who ever met Cheryl knows, she was one-of-a-kind. She touched so many lives, and brought smiles to so many people. Reading more on Facebook about her life, and her friends and adventures, since her passing, I realize that I missed most of Cheryl's life. I knew her for one brief summer 43 years ago. I'm not at all surprised by who she turned out to be, and what she accomplished, and all the friends she made along the way. But I'm sad that I didn't continue the effort to stay closer to her, and to more actively nurture our friendship over the years. Those of you who managed to do that - well, you have your reward: your life was touched by that special angel, Cheryl. May we all carry her loving spirit, her laughter, and her playfulness with us for the rest of our lives, and share those gifts with all who we meet - as Cheryl would have done.

Dave Borneman - August 16, 2024 at 04:43 PM

KN

“ I was so sorry to hear of Cheryl’s passing. I went to high school with Cheryl and she was a great person! There is no words that could ever describe your loss! She will be greatly missed by many! Her beautiful spirit will live on within us all! May God hold you in the palm of his hand, Until we meet again. Rest in peace Cheryl!
Kim Nolan-Hepner

Kimberly Nolan-Hepner - August 15, 2024 at 11:26 PM

AC

“ Attn: Mike C. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



Attn: Mike C. - August 09, 2024 at 01:48 PM

M&

“ Mike &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Mike &. - August 09, 2024 at 01:15 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 08, 2024 at 10:58 PM

BK

“ Bill Kane planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Bill Kane - August 08, 2024 at 10:58 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 08, 2024 at 10:12 PM

ND

“ Nicole, Christy & Nancy Dore planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Nicole, Christy & Nancy Dore - August 08, 2024 at 10:12 PM

LA

“ Sending my love and condolences. Cheryl will be greatly missed. I will never forget the day Jonny Imerman & I met her so serendipitously one night. It was meant to be . Forever my cancer soul sister. xo

Laura Alexander - August 08, 2024 at 08:52 PM

LA

“ Laura A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Laura A. - August 08, 2024 at 08:48 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.*



August 08, 2024 at 06:49 PM



“ *Linda Barbic planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.*

Linda Barbic - August 08, 2024 at 06:49 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.*



August 08, 2024 at 05:14 PM



“ *Jeannette and Bill purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.*



Jeannette and Bill - August 08, 2024 at 04:54 PM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 08, 2024 at 03:47 PM



“ With love and condolences, David Schmahl planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

With love and condolences, David Schmahl - August 08, 2024 at 03:47 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 08, 2024 at 03:05 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 08, 2024 at 03:03 PM

JM

“ Julie and Joe McClure purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



Julie and Joe McClure - August 08, 2024 at 10:45 AM

JM

“ Julie and Joe McClure planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Julie and Joe McClure - August 08, 2024 at 10:45 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 07, 2024 at 10:57 PM

MK

“ Mary and Kam planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Mary and Kam - August 07, 2024 at 10:57 PM

KF

“ In 2014, Tom and I met Cheryl and Dave at a Dave Matthews concert on Northerly Island. It started to rain and we found shelter under a popcorn tent. Cheryl asked if they could share the tent. We started talking about our children who were leaving for college soon. That was it... all of us became fast friends. We shared 10 years of Bears, Cubs, dinners and parties. We came to love listening to Johnny and spent nights together w them in Ogden Dunes. Man they could throw a party!!!

Tim and Dave golfed often and they have the same birthdate!!!

We will miss you dearly, Cheryl - “Sweet you rock, sweet you roll” - DM



karen flory - August 07, 2024 at 07:58 PM

KF

We threw the cd into the lake we live by in NC...

karen flory - August 07, 2024 at 08:00 PM

OC

“ Ogden Dunes Women’s Club purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



Ogden Dunes Women’s Club - August 07, 2024 at 11:38 AM

OC

“ Ogden Dunes Women’s Club planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Ogden Dunes Women’s Club - August 07, 2024 at 11:38 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 06, 2024 at 07:47 PM

HV

“ H. Villarreal planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

H. Villarreal - August 06, 2024 at 07:47 PM

LR

“ Love, Aunt Sharon & Rich purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



Love, Aunt Sharon & Rich - August 06, 2024 at 04:47 PM

LR

“ Love, Aunt Sharon & Rich planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Love, Aunt Sharon & Rich - August 06, 2024 at 04:47 PM



“ So sorry to hear of her passing, I knew her from choir in high school. She had a very outgoing and positive personality, always encouraging others to do their best. She encouraged me to try out for solos and for the musicals which I never would have done without her encouragement. May you rest in peace in Christ our Lord, you will be missed!

Norma Prenta Velarde - August 06, 2024 at 04:24 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 06, 2024 at 12:31 PM



“ Love, Colleen Klimara purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



Love, Colleen Klimara - August 06, 2024 at 11:23 AM



“ Love, Colleen Klimara planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Love, Colleen Klimara - August 06, 2024 at 11:23 AM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 06, 2024 at 09:22 AM



“ ACS Technical Products planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

ACS Technical Products - August 06, 2024 at 09:22 AM



“ Austin, Chris & Terri; Nanny & Papaw purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



Austin, Chris & Terri; Nanny & Papaw - August 06, 2024 at 09:14 AM



“ Austin, Chris & Terri; Nanny & Papaw planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.

Austin, Chris & Terri; Nanny & Papaw - August 06, 2024 at 09:14 AM

FF

“ From the Klimara Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



From the Klimara Family - August 05, 2024 at 10:50 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



August 05, 2024 at 03:22 PM

CV

“ I met Cheryl working at Ponderosa Steakhouse in Franklin Park. She was a happy young lady with a bubbly personality. Beautiful inside and out. So easy to like and an awesome friend to anyone who opened their heart to her. I know she is probably leading a section of the heavenly choir.

Carlos A Velarde - August 04, 2024 at 09:52 PM

BS

“ Bailey, Luke, William, & Stephanie purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.



Bailey, Luke, William, & Stephanie - August 03, 2024 at 10:19 PM

UD

“ *Uncle Dale and Aunt DeeDee purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.*



Uncle Dale and Aunt DeeDee - August 03, 2024 at 03:41 PM

RO

“ *When we were little girls, our parents were best friends. We had so much fun when our families got together and our parents played cards. May you know you are a beautiful angel on earth and now in heaven, may the lord hold you in his arms and bless you. Love and prayers to you and you your family. Love Roxy Dodgers sandoval and family*

Roxy - August 03, 2024 at 12:25 PM

L(

“ *Beautiful eulogy for Cheryl. We had had many fun times in the school pool and outside of school. God bless Cheryl, you are a bright star in heaven*

Lisa Seger (Flood) - August 03, 2024 at 10:27 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Cheryl Lynn Tarpo.*



August 02, 2024 at 09:31 PM



“ I enjoyed my time with Cheryl by helping her in our high school pool. Both assisting her with improving her strokes as a swimmer and to become a lifeguard. We also enjoyed synchronized swimming together. I'll always remember her during those fun years. Always a delightful chat when we did. I'll always hold you in my heart dearest friend. 💔

Jerry Criss - August 02, 2024 at 08:03 PM

BW

Dave, you have our deepest sympathy. Our condolences to the rest of the Tarpo family. May Cheryl rest in peace, she was a beautiful woman.
Bruce & Wafaa

Bruce & Wafaa - August 04, 2024 at 12:24 PM