



## Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins

March 8, 1988 - April 6, 2026

Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins, age 38, of Hobart, Indiana, was born on March 8, 1988, in Merrillville, Indiana, to Mark and Cindy Carter. Known lovingly as Katie, she was first and foremost a loving and devoted mother, and also a cherished daughter, little sister, aunt, cousin and friend. She was deeply rooted in family and tradition, finding her greatest joy in time spent surrounded by those she loved. Whether through holidays, gatherings, or everyday moments, her family meant everything to her, and time spent together was something she held close to her heart.

Growing up Katie excelled in competitive swimming and showing horses, both of which carried with her throughout her life.

Katie was passionate about making a meaningful impact on others' lives. She spent her career working in special education, where her care, compassion, and dedication touched many. More recently, she expanded her love of cooking by attending culinary school, where she was awarded a Certificate of Achievement in recognition of her academic performance.

Kaitlin is survived by her parents, Mark and Cindy Carter; brothers, Matthew Carter and Jacob Carter; nephew, Landon Carter; niece, Aiden Carter; beloved children, Carter and Georgia Watkins; and husband, Gene Watkins. She is also survived by her aunts, uncles, and numerous cousins.

She was preceded in death by her Aunt Becky and Uncle Larry Juzwicky; Uncle R.O. Razia; Great Aunt Mickey Shapley; cousin Madison Carter; and her grandparents from the Carter and Raiza families.

Katie will be remembered for her huge heart, free spirit, and infectious sense of humor. She cared deeply, loved fiercely, and lived authentically. Most importantly, Katie's legacy will live on through her children, who carry her love, strength, and spirit forward.

Services celebrating Kaitlin's life will be held at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory 701 East 7th Street Hobart, Indiana 46342. Visitation will be held Monday, April 13, 2026, from 4:00 P.M. until a time of sharing at 6:30 P.M.

Please visit Katie's online guestbook and obituary at [www.BurnsFuneral.com](http://www.BurnsFuneral.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 13. 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart  
701 E. 7th Street  
Hobart, IN 46342  
(219) 942-1117  
info@burnsfuneral.com  
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

## Time of Sharing

APR 13. 6:30 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart  
701 E. 7th Street  
Hobart, IN 46342  
(219) 942-1117  
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# Tribute Wall

DE

“ I am sorry and deeply saddened by your family’s tremendous loss. Please know each of you is being held close in thought and prayer during this painfully difficult time. Sending my heartfelt condolences and many hugs for all.



Debra Jo Endres-Ard - May 13 at 09:16 PM

TF

“ The Salgado Family purchased the In Heaven's Arms Bouquet for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



The Salgado Family - April 13 at 03:23 PM

LI

“ Lisa lit a candle in memory of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins



Lisa - April 13 at 02:04 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



April 13 at 11:08 AM

LR

“ Love the Bufords and Rogers purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



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Love the Bufords and Rogers - April 12 at 08:32 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



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April 12 at 01:15 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.

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April 12 at 01:15 PM

WF

“ Witcher family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



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Witcher family - April 12 at 10:01 AM

WF

“ *Witcher family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.*

Witcher family - April 12 at 10:01 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.*



April 11 at 09:49 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.*

April 11 at 09:49 AM

JD

“ *Josh, Carl, and Jenny Davis purchased the Sweet Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.*



Josh, Carl, and Jenny Davis - April 10 at 08:30 PM

KD

“ Karen Downs purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



Karen Downs - April 10 at 04:34 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



April 10 at 02:31 PM



“ Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.



April 09 at 03:15 PM

BJ

“ Katie I met you through our girls being best friends. We became friends as well. I was heart broken when I found this out. My deepest condolences to your family. I hope you're watching over everyone.



Brittany Johnson - April 09 at 01:10 PM

IS

“ *Ida Saims lit a candle in memory of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins*



Ida Saims - April 08 at 09:21 PM



“ *Mark, Cindy and Family, Our deepest condolences on the loss of Katie. Prayers for all. 🙏🏻 John and Carol Kundrat*

Carol Kundrat - April 08 at 06:38 PM

RI

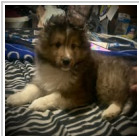
*The Cantwell family send love and strength to you all. We are deeply saddened by the news.*

Rita - April 09 at 01:35 PM

KZ

“ *Hard to believe the only way to hear your voice again is on my voicemail. I loved you so much Katie our talks and friendship really will be missed.*

Kristy zapata - April 08 at 04:34 PM



“ *My deepest condolences. I remember when Katie was in leadline. Hugs and prayers to you all Joe & Kandi Nesbitt Fitzgerald*

Kandi Nesbitt - April 08 at 02:57 PM

PN

“ *Patti & Jess (old nextdoor neighbor) purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.*



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**Patti & Jess (old nextdoor neighbor)** - April 08 at 02:53 PM

CM

“ *My deepest sympathy and love to Mark and Cindy for the loss of their daughter. My heart breaks for you and her children and husband. Prayers to all of you 🙏🙏❤️❤️ Colleen Morgan cousin.*

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**colleen morgan** - April 08 at 02:21 PM

TP

“ *Terry & Janet Postma purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kaitlin Elizabeth Carter-Watkins.*



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**Terry & Janet Postma** - April 08 at 02:20 PM