



Cheryl E. O'Leary

January 30, 2014

Surrounded by her family, Cheryl E. O'Leary, 58, of Portsmouth, peacefully succumbed to a prolonged illness on Thursday, January 30th. The eldest child born to Kenneth and Nellie Rush, she was a native of West Virginia and proud graduate of Weir High School in Weirton, WV. Cheryl lived in several locations including North Carolina, California, and Ohio before residing in Virginia.

Cheryl was an extraordinary individual who never knew a stranger. All fortunate enough to encounter her, even briefly, would quickly be engaged by her easy and entreaty conversation and her full, contagious, and engaging laugh. Her captivating demeanor was further enhanced by abundant warmth, kindness, generosity, and acceptance as well as a delightful sense of humor. Her sphere of influence was wide; individuals she called friend, countless. A woman of faith, she radiated an exuberance, love and joy of life – and regularly practiced the golden rule.

With an adventurous and curious nature, she loved to travel both the U.S. and internationally and eagerly tried new things. A proud south-paw who was multi-gifted and talented, she especially enjoyed a wide array of art, poetry, crafting, and music, had a fascination for and love of angels and was an avid reader. A lifetime loyal fan of WVU and the Pittsburgh Steelers, her knowledge and enjoyment of football rivaled anyone's. Cheryl was previously employed at the Daily Press.

Having valued her family above all else, she easily shared a photo or told a recent tale about those who survive and will sorely miss her: her loving spouse, John; her three children Rebecca Meneely, Heather Greer Friend Jay, children Elaina, Devon and Connor, and Kenneth Greer, Sr. Wife Becca and children Kenny Junior and Kayla; her stepson Sean; her mother Nellie Rush; sister Cindy Koelbl of Arizona; brother Ken Rush of Florida; and many in-laws, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Countless friends will mourn her passing.

Cheryl is reunited with her Father, Kenneth, and son, Shane Michael.

Visitors will be welcomed at the Loving Funeral Home, 3225 Academy Avenue, Portsmouth, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, February 3rd . A service to celebrate her life will take place at 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 4th. Interment will follow at noon in Peninsula Memorial Park in Newport News.

To honor Cheryl's great love of her grandchildren, the family suggests memorial contributions for their education. Contributions may be made at any local to Chartway Federal Credit Union.

"It is not length of life, but depth of life that matters most." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Tribute Wall



“ I grew up knowing her and her family. My grandmother, Dorothy Huffman, was her Sunday School teacher and loved her and her family dearly. My thoughts and prayers will be with Nellie, Kenny and Cindy and with the rest of the family and friends of Cheryl.
Rest in Peace###imported-begin##Cathy Maylee White###imported-end##

February 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Cheryl and I grew up together in Weirton. I remember her laughter. My heart breaks for her family and I pray for God to hold you in the palm of His hand as you say goodbye to a piece of your heart.###imported-begin##Brenda Maylee-Miller###imported-end##

February 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ My Darling Daughter, I will miss you terribly. I am sure that you are celebrating with Daddy now. May you rest in peace. I loved you dearly. Mother###imported-begin##Nellie Rush###imported-end##

February 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Always my mother, forever my friend.###imported-begin##Heather###imported-end##

February 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ You have our most sincere condolences. Our prayers are with you!!###imported-begin##LEE SCARBROW###imported-end##

February 03, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Sending thoughts and prayers your way as you mourn Cheryl's passing. She was a bright, wonderful caring person. May you all find peace in the fact that she is in a much better place now.###imported-begin##Kim & Dan Tucker###imported-end##

February 03, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry to hear of your lose. Thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. Love ya Becky.##imported-begin##BK Walden##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ May God comfort you all in this most difficult time.##imported-begin##Jim Godfrey##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Oh love of God, so rich so pure, how measureless and strong. It shall forever more endure, the Saints and Angels song. My heart grieves with the family of Cheryl. Past memories will always keep her in my heart. Space and time don't allow me to post all the good things I remember but pray that God will shelter her family and loved ones with His loving arms. My sincere sympathy to you all, but also the thought of happiness to meet with Cheryl again one day.##imported-begin##Chuck & Ginger Andrews##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Cheryl had a way of making everyone around her feel important, loved, safe and happy. Even with words unspoken, you couldn't help but be drawn to her simply by a comforting smile or by seeing her inner beauty through her bright and beautiful eyes. I would have never thought she could possibly be more beautiful until now when I picture her as an Angel and the radiance she will project. I am comforted by knowing she will be watching over us all. God bless her husband, children, mother, sister and brother. Uncle Kenny, her son Shane, Grandparents Lucy and John Rush are with her now.##imported-begin##Darla Rush##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ I will miss Cheryl's beautiful smile and laugh. Her love and compassion was over whelming but I see her in each of her children. So we know Cheryl will live on thru them.##imported-begin##Teresa Rush##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers remain with the family of this remarkable lady. I will always remember the love she carried within herself and which was instilled into her children, which I am fortunate to be able to call my friends. I feel she would want her life to be celebrated instead of mourned, but it is indeed hard not to miss the light in a world that all too often much too dark.##imported-begin##Phil Lane##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Cheryl, I will miss your laughter and your smile. I know your body and soul is at peace now. I will always cherish your memory. God rest your soul today and lead you into his flock in Heaven.##imported-begin##Katherine Wilder##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Becky, my deepest sympathies to you and your family on the loss of your beloved mother. Having just lost my mother a few months ago, I understand the depth of your pain. May her memory be eternal. Love, Renee##imported-begin##Renee Root##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ I'll never forget Cheryl. It was during a song that her and her sister sang that I was saved at Follansbee Nazarene Church many years ago. Please know that the family is in my thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.##imported-begin##Lucille Trader Davis##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Our hearts go out to the family of Cheryl. We know how much she will be missed. We pray for peace for her family as they deal with her absence. Love, Gary & Vera.##imported-begin##Gary & Vera Meneely ##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ How it hurts to say goodbye to a friend. Cheryl, you were such a fun loving, witty person! Every time I saw you I would have higher spirits just from our belly laughs! Life took us on different paths, but it never took you from my heart. I am so glad to know that you are in the Father's care where there is no more sorrow, sickness or death. I am assured therefore, that I will laugh with you again one day. And the fun and the JOY will go on and on. So glad I got to know you. I will see you on the other side. You left 3 wonderful children behind who all know they were loved. That is the greatest legacy of all. your friend , Kathy Pierman##imported-begin##Kathy Pierman##imported-end##

February 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ I will miss you Cheryl, and always remember your positive outlook on life. We were great friends back in Jr High and High School, and will cherish the times we had together.##imported-begin##Kathy Tucker - Kuzior##imported-end##

February 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ The family of Cheryl O'Leary,sorry to hear about your loss.You are in our thoughts and prayers.Asking God to comfort and give you peace at this time of your sorrow.##imported-begin##Linda Hostuttler##imported-end##

February 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ The family of Cheryl O'Leary,sorry to hear about your loss.You are in our thoughts and prayers.Asking God to comfort and give you peace at this time of your sorrow.##imported-begin##Oren and Wanda Wagoner##imported-end##

February 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM