



Kelly Jo Combs

August 12, 1964 - July 23, 2014

Kelly Jo Combs, age 49, passed away on Wednesday, July 23, 2014 at her home in Farwell. Kelly was born to Donald and Joyce (Wilson) Lucasse on August 12, 1964. She and Michael Combs married June 7, 1986 in Flint. Together they moved to their home in Farwell in 1990 and have touched many lives in their years here. From home daycare to college professor and preschool teacher, small group leader to beloved actress in many church dinner theater productions Kelly has shared her loving heart and beautiful smile with countless people.

Kelly is survived by her husband Mike; daughter, Laura (Josh) Boulis of Luther and son, Lucas of Farwell; her mother Joyce Salsgiver of Flint; siblings Margi (Jerry) Laird of Grand Blanc, Kathy Lyons of Traverse City, Jim Lucasse of Georgia and Sandy (Mike) Lancaster of Three Rivers as well as many other loving family, friends and extended church family. Kelly was predeceased by her father Donald; stepmother Delores "Scotti" Lucasse and her stepfather Rex Salsgiver.

Visitation and services for Kelly will take place at the Brown Corners United Brethren Church in Clare. Visitation will be held on Sunday, July 27 from 3 to 8 P.M. with the service on Monday at 11 A.M. with Pastor Jeremiah Ketchum officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the MidMichigan Home Care and Hospice or the Pardee Cancer Treatment of Clare County.

Arrangements handled by the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. On-line guestbook at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 27. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Brown Corners United Brethren Church
5540 S. Clare Avenue
Clare, MI 48617

Service

JUL 28. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Brown Corners United Brethren Church
5540 S. Clare Avenue
Clare, MI 48617

Tribute Wall

LA

“ *I didn't know Kelly well but had the privilege to play her country cousin in our church play what fun she mafe it!! Blessings to her family, Laura G.*



Laura - August 03, 2014 at 10:14 PM

SL

“ *Our daughter, Tessa, was in Kelly's preschool class. Tessa adored Mrs. Combs. She was a wonderful teacher who cared about the students and their families. We send our thoughts and prayers to her family...*

Shane and Lacie - August 03, 2014 at 06:31 PM


Marlene
Escue

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. May your memories bring you comfort as this most difficult time.*

Marlene Escue - July 30, 2014 at 09:37 PM

AM

“ *Aileen McCoy lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Aileen McCoy - July 29, 2014 at 08:40 AM

CB

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Cherie Bell-Swarts - July 28, 2014 at 09:56 AM

CB

My son Walker loved being in Mrs. Combs class. She was so warm and welcoming - making things so much easier for us parents. My heart breaks for her family and friends. She was a special lady.

Cherie Bell-Swarts - July 28, 2014 at 10:18 AM

JE

“ *Jeremiah & Elisa lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Jeremiah & Elisa - July 28, 2014 at 08:04 AM

CB

“ *Connie Blatt lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Connie Blatt - July 28, 2014 at 07:53 AM

DG

“ *Diane Green lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Diane Green - July 28, 2014 at 07:44 AM

DG

Sorry for your loss, prayers to you and your family

Diane Green - July 28, 2014 at 07:45 AM

AI

“ *So sad to hear of your loss. I will be saying prayers for your family that God will shine His peace and strength down upon you and circle you lovingly with His arms as He calls this angel home.*
~ The Isaac Family (Eric, Angela, Abby and Chloe)

Angela Isaac - July 28, 2014 at 07:42 AM

DL

“ There is so much emotion for a parent to leave their little one on their very first day of school, this women made is bearable. She had the most comforting smile and would hold your crying child tight giving encouraging words and eventually made it okay for Mom and preschooler to go through with the day. Soon both of my girls got to experience the warmth and love of Mrs. Combs and let me tell you the second time around it was much more comforting knowing who you were going to leave your baby with for those 3 hours of newly found independence. I don't know what God gives those who can handle an entire room of preschoolers but she sure got it! My girls will always have fond memories and a great start in education thanks to her. My heart goes out to the Combs family while they live with this great loss.

The Lance family (Mayson and Marlee)

doug and connie lance - July 27, 2014 at 08:45 PM

DH

“ Deb Hoyt lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Deb Hoyt - July 27, 2014 at 02:16 PM

JL

“ We will miss you so much Aunt Kelly, we are feeling very selfish as we grieve. We know that you are in a better place an we know that we will see you again in Heaven. You are one of the greatest people we know! happy to call you family. Tell Jesus we love Him and can not wait to meet Him! NO more cancer. Until then, we will fight for a cure.

Jason and April Laird - July 27, 2014 at 11:53 AM

KE

“ Kelly was a wonderful co-worker. She was always encouraging, always willing to share ideas and try new activities to benefit her students. I appreciated knowing she was part of a committed adjunct faculty in our department. When MMCC wanted to grow our programs on high school campuses, I was not very enthusiastic. However, Kelly jumped at the opportunity to teach our class at Clare HS, which made me much more comfortable. We have now expanded onto more high school campuses, and successful teachers like Kelly helped pave the way. Students always had high praise about her as an instructor and as a person. I will really miss her - she has definitely been missed by our department and our students already!

Kelley Eltzroth - July 27, 2014 at 09:52 AM

“ I have found in my life that sometimes we don't realize what we have until it's gone. This is true for people, too. I have learned some very valuable life lessons from the battle my friends Kelly and Mike and their family have faced. Life takes turns we don't expect. How we face these trials determines the path for our future. I have watched this family face the giant before them in the most courageous way imaginable. I am changed because of how they have endured through their faith, strength, courage, and their amazing ability to continue to find a way to laugh in the midst of such hardship. This family and extended family have moved me to be a better person. Thank you! I am blessed to love you all!

Some special words come to mind when thinking back on the way Kelly changed my life that I would like to share.

GRACIOUS: Many of you know how long Kelly waited to get new furniture. It was something she looked forward to and was so happy about. Mike and Kelly invited our family, including our dog, Buddy, to come up. We exploded on the scene, as young family's often do...dog and all. Buddy promptly bounded over to their brand new beautiful recliner and peed all over it! While I stood in shock, mortified, Kelly just went to get a towel. She laughed about it and said something like...well, what else can we do! I remember how relieved I felt by her gracious response. I learned something that day.

Later, when I finally could, we had a good laugh about it...thankfully!

PRACTICAL: When changing from teaching third and fourth grade to kindergarten, I asked Kelly for the best advice she had for me with this big move. She told me that tattling would be a big issue. She shared her advice when children came to tattle. She said she asked two questions: Is someone hurt. Is someone in danger? If not, the children were instructed to go and talk to a little bobble-head to share their issue. I laughed at the thought of it. But, I instituted it in my new kindergarten classroom. I reported back my findings. The children, in all seriousness and purity, told their stories to my bobble head moose! It was amazing how much better they felt after they

had shared their story. It worked like a charm! We laughed about their earnest tales of woe that were miraculously cured! I learned that simple and humorous things can solve all kinds of problems.

COURAGEOUS: Years back, I started to notice changes in Kelly. I was still a big party girl. But, I could see how she had changed. At first, I secretly thought these changes were not good I even thought her new ways were prudish, because I didn't want to honestly look at myself and my own behavior. I could explain it away with those thoughts and did. I'm sure she felt my disdain. But, she stood fast and stuck to her new values. I couldn't help but notice how much different she was. Over time, I came to understand that she had something I didn't. She knew Jesus. She courageously moved forward in her walk with Him. Soon after, I gave my life to Jesus and understood where her courage had come from. She was a light in the darkness for me and for that I am so grateful!

Throughout her illness, Kelly remained courageous, so courageous! It was mind boggling. Her inner strength and fortitude (and that of her family)...never complaining, but smiling instead, rocked me to the core! I learned that we are made to be courageous of heart and can be when we know the One who keeps us safe in His arms!

Finally, MIRACULOUS: Though Kelly, by all reports, should have spent these last two years in tremendous pain, she didn't. She had some very challenging times where pain was ever present. But, it could have been so much worse, even though that seems impossible to say. I have been reminded that God is a God of miracles! He hears every cry and prayer. He hears the individual and every body of believers, like Brown Corner Church and others, who call out to Him! He pours out when his kids come to Him!
Laurie

Laurie Bradshaw - July 27, 2014 at 09:40 AM

LW

“ *Loretta Wischmeyer lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Loretta Wischmeyer - July 27, 2014 at 09:36 AM

CD

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Carol Darlington - July 27, 2014 at 07:23 AM



“ *Kelly was a good friend in high school. We often competed in band for that sacred "first chair" of the clarinet section! We always had fun together and I will miss her. My condolences to Mike and family.*

Christine Butler Wilson - July 26, 2014 at 11:03 PM



“ *Love Everlasting Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kelly Jo Combs.*



July 26, 2014 at 01:32 PM

KA

“ *She was a wonderful lady that will truly be missed* ”



kaela - July 26, 2014 at 09:35 AM



“ *Written in the Stars was purchased for the family of Kelly Jo Combs.* ”



July 26, 2014 at 09:13 AM

KH

“ *Kathy Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs* ”



Kathy Hopkins - July 25, 2014 at 08:44 PM

BB

“ *Becca Beaty lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs* ”



Becca Beaty - July 25, 2014 at 03:55 PM

JD

“ Jennifer Dancer lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Jennifer Dancer - July 25, 2014 at 03:42 PM

JM

“ We miss you and we loved you as our teacher. You were a great and fun spirited person. - Love. Ethan and Makenzie Miller

Jonathon Miller - July 25, 2014 at 03:30 PM

JG

“ Jody Grant lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Jody Grant - July 25, 2014 at 01:28 PM

JI

“ Jennifer Ivey lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Jennifer Ivey - July 25, 2014 at 12:31 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kelly Jo Combs.*



July 25, 2014 at 12:06 PM



“ *Linda Miner lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Linda Miner - July 25, 2014 at 11:42 AM



“ *JulieWalker lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



JulieWalker - July 25, 2014 at 11:20 AM



“ *Mike and Family, I am so sorry for your loss. Kelly was an amazing, beautiful lady and will be missed by many! You all are in my thoughts and prayers.*



Jennifer Toner and Family

Jennifer Toner - July 25, 2014 at 10:14 AM

DC

“ *Diane Cook sent a virtual gift in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Diane Cook - July 25, 2014 at 09:29 AM

GR

“ *Mike*
Words really can't express how sorry I am for your loss. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.
Gretchen Klyczek

Gretchen - July 25, 2014 at 09:08 AM

DV

“ *Michael & family, Please know that my prayers are with you all. You will always remember that wonder smile and loving person in your hearts. Share a story or something fun that made Kelly laugh or was special to you all and your heart will heal a little bit each day. Have faith that Kelly is now smiling down you and she will always be with you because she is still watching over you. Love and prayers*

Diane Vinton

Diane Vinton - July 25, 2014 at 08:32 AM

JT

“ *Jennifer Tucker lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Jennifer Tucker - July 25, 2014 at 08:32 AM

RB

“ Robert Baker lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Robert Baker - July 25, 2014 at 08:29 AM

JF

“ Jennifer Ficek lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Jennifer Ficek - July 25, 2014 at 08:14 AM

SP

“ Sabrina Paolucci lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Sabrina Paolucci - July 25, 2014 at 08:10 AM

JF

“ Jennifer Federico lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs



Jennifer Federico - July 25, 2014 at 08:05 AM

DE

“ *Dave And Eileen lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Dave and Eileen - July 25, 2014 at 08:00 AM

KJ

“ *Krenda Jewell lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Krenda Jewell - July 25, 2014 at 07:56 AM

TM

“ *Tammy Miller lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Tammy Miller - July 25, 2014 at 07:44 AM



“ *Richard Baker lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Richard Baker - July 25, 2014 at 06:02 AM

DK

“ *Deb Koch lit a candle in memory of Kelly Jo Combs*



Deb Koch - July 24, 2014 at 02:47 PM