



Mrs. Christine Mary Keiser

May 20, 1961 - December 13, 2023

Christine Mary Keiser, 62, formerly of Petoskey, Michigan, passed away unexpectedly to join her Lord and Savior on December 13th, 2023.

Christine, also known as Chris (or Chrissy to those very special people) was born on May 20th, 1961 to Edward George Zitnik and Noreen Margaret Zitnik (Rayburn) at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital. She was raised in Melvindale, Michigan along with her three siblings. After graduating from Melvindale High School in 1979, she pursued her dream of becoming a nurse and graduated from Henry Ford Hospital School of Nursing in 1983.

In 1984, she married her high school sweetheart and the love of her life, Douglas Craig Keiser. Shortly after becoming husband and wife, they moved to Petoskey, Michigan for Doug to start his career as a Public Safety Officer within the Petoskey Department of Public Safety. Chris began her career as a Registered Nurse. She transitioned to what is now known as the McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital, where she found her passion specializing in pediatrics.

At first, Chris didn't think she wanted to have children, which is probably shocking to those who knew her as a mother. She said that her love of children began with her career and their first child, Jessica, was born in 1987. She then had Lauren in 1990, and Michael in 1994. When she was not supplying unconditional love and support, delicious meals, and lots of laughs to her family, she was excelling in her profession. No matter where Chris went, she was a ray of sunshine and made sure that everyone around her was

cared for and loved.

The only people she loved spending time with more than her children were her grandchildren. She made every holiday, birthday, and special event a reason to be together and celebrate. She established so many beautiful traditions that are guaranteed to be passed on for generations to come. Chris was selfless, caring, witty, and hilarious. She was nuclear powered and could never stay still. She dedicated her life to caring for others with her whole heart and wrapped everyone she met in kindness and warmth, which reflected her beliefs and strong spirituality. She took such joy in life and had many hobbies, including bird-watching, cooking, baking, long walks, gardening, and reading.

Chris was predeceased by Edward George Zitnik, Noreen Margaret Zitnik, and Jennifer Patricia Collins. She is survived by her beloved husband, Douglas Craig Keiser; her children, Jessica (Timothy) Lynn Luke, Lauren (Brock) Marie Kimball, Michael (Kayla) Edward Keiser; her grandchildren, Nadia Patricia Luke, Keira Nicolle Luke, and Liam Arthur Kimball; her siblings Linda (Daniel) Anne Adamson, Anthony Albert Zitnik, and Joseph (Nancy) Howard Zitnik; and many nephews and nieces.

After retiring from an almost 40-year nursing career, Chris and Doug moved to Alabama to be close to and provide support for his family. She lived happily in Alabama with her husband until her passing. Although she is no longer with us, her memory will be cherished always. She will be deeply missed, but her kind and loving nature will continue to serve as a guiding light to us all.

The family requests that all donations be sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at <https://www.stjude.org/donate>. The memorial service will be held in the Spring of 2024.

Tribute Wall

KS

“ Doug

I am so sorry to hear of Chris passing. So many good times we had in our high school years with all of our friends You have my deepest sympathy to you and your entire family. Kevin Schaumburger

kevin schaumburger - December 17, 2023 at 07:21 PM

SM

“ *I met Chris in the 7th grade along with Terri Boggs. She was one of my best friends throughout high School. (Terri too 😍) I loved spending time with Chris and remember having very deep conversations with her. She had a very pleasant personality. She touched my heart in a way that I can still remember.*

After high School our friendship drifted as most do. We talked on the phone under a handful of times throughout the years. I never had the privilege of meeting her kids or grandkids and she never met mine. But I've always thought of her and I know she thought of me too.

Reading what her family said about her in her obituary was so touching and I was not surprised by anything that was said about her. Chris was the kind of person we all wish we could be.

I'm sorry for your loss but what a great example she set for all of you!! 💕

Stephanie Madden

Stephanie Madden - December 17, 2023 at 01:35 PM

TA

“ Sending so much love and deepest condolences to the Keiser and Zitnik families from Steve and myself.

I have countless memories of Chris and myself from 7th grade on. We were inseparable best friends and the laughs and love were endless.

From the first time she picked me up after she got her license to our field trip to Greenfield Field Village in our senior year and then to Hines Drive that day with Barb haha... only we know what was funny. Our trip to Acapulco as seniors and our first concert together (Led Zeppelin) were some of the most memorable moments.. and there are a ton more.

Times with Chris were some of the best times of my life.

Although time passed and we got busy with life, we always picked up right where we left off.

I know our love for each other never faded.

So glad our recent words were “I love you “, but we truly never had to say it... because we knew.

You will forever have a special place in my heart Chris and I will love and miss you forever my longtime bestie and soul sister... until we meet again...love you infinity... Boggsie

And Bad Company Rocks ❤️

Terri Allen - December 16, 2023 at 02:00 AM

RA

“ There are so many memories I can't pick one. Chris will be immensely missed by everyone that had the pleasure of knowing her ❤️ We love you Chris and we will see you when we get there. Love you forever and always 💖💖💖💖 Kenny & Rhonda

Rhonda Arrington - December 15, 2023 at 11:19 PM