



Strength Hope

In Loving Memory
CELEBRATING A LIFE

Memorial Service

New Gottland Covenant Church
McPherson, Kansas
Saturday, April 12, 2025, at 2:00 PM

Officiant

Pastor Dan Parry

Prelude Video Tribute

"The Sound of Silence" by Paul Simon
"Wish You Were Here" by Pink Floyd
"Margaritaville" by Jimmy Buffet
"Walk on the Wild Side" by Lou Reed
"The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin

Service Music

Vocal Solo: "He Saw Me" sung by Alden Dick
Piano Solo: "Clair de Lune"
Recessional Piano Solo: "You Are My Sunshine"
Glenna Balsick, pianist

Ushers

Lee James ~ Gary Abell

Memorial Donations

Memorial donations are suggested to the McPherson Animal Shelter in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

Appreciation & Reception

Darla's family wishes to express their sincere appreciation for your prayers and acts of kindness, evidenced in thought and deed, and for your presence at this service. *Following the service, all are invited to stay for a reception in the fellowship hall.*

Stockham Family Funeral Home



In Loving Memory

Darla Sue Phillips

January 19, 1958 - March 22, 2025





Memories

A Celebration of Life
Darla Sue Phillips



Darla Sue Phillips, 67, formerly of McPherson, KS, peacefully passed away in her sleep on Saturday, March 22, 2025, at her home in Wichita, KS.

Darla was born January 19, 1958, the loving daughter of Howard E. "Chris" and Carol "Sue" (Matlack) Christensen. She was proud to graduate from McPherson High School in 1976, the U.S.A.'s Bicentennial year. She lettered in Music.

During her childhood years, she was a member of the First Baptist Church where she was active in the youth group. Fond memories were made with the church's traveling choir going to Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia. Darla had an adventurous and social spirit. While traveling with her family through the western United States, she had many exciting experiences, often finding a friend to play with wherever they went. She also enjoyed swimming in the pool and dragging main street. Her first jobs were working at Peter Pan, Applegates Landing, and Turkey Creek, all in McPherson.

After moving to Wichita, she started working at Rock Island Café where she met her future husband, Shawn Phillips. They married on May 18, 1995, at a Presbyterian church in Wichita. Soon after, she started, from the ground up, her own successful cleaning business. She retired in 2023.

She completed a course in Master Gardening from Kansas State University. She and Shawn enjoyed walking through the Botanica Garden in Wichita, and she was keen about her Magnolia tree. Darla and Shawn had an extensive flower garden at their home. She liked watching detective shows, "cheesy B-movies", and was a Svengoolie fan. A lover of animals, she had dogs, cats, fish, and even a lizard. Among her enjoyments were sewing, crocheting, but primarily cross stitch.

On trips, Shawn would find Darla sitting back, soaking it all in. Darla would always put others first before herself and often worried about her loved ones and at times, was very protective of Shawn, keeping him out of harm's way. Shortly after moving to Wichita and from that time on, she cherished the connection with her Yaya's sisterhood. Her friends were her life. Darla was faithful in her daily devotions and set aside time every morning.

Survivors include her husband, Shawn Phillips of Wichita, KS; mother, Sue Christensen of McPherson, KS; a brother, Neil Christensen of St. Louis, MO; nieces, Katie Christensen and Elizabeth Banualos; a nephew, Erik Christensen; two step-daughters, Dawn Phillips and Amber Phillips; and many extended family members and friends.

She was preceded in death by her father, Howard "Chris" Christensen, and a brother, Daniel Christensen.

Loving Memory Honor