



Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 6
Media	Page 14



Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

Wendy Sue (James) Shreve, 70, of Tallahassee went to be with her Heavenly Father on Monday, October 21, 2024 after suffering for 15+ years from vascular dementia. For the past four years Wendy was a resident of Azalea Gardens, a memory care and assisted living facility in Tallahassee. For the past several months she was also under the care of VITAS Hospice. Wendy was preceded in death by her parents Charles and Margaret (Dusa) James.

Wendy was born June 6, 1954 in Torrance, California and grew-up in Blissfield, Michigan. On August 14, 1976 Wendy married her high school sweetheart Dale Shreve. Wendy said when she first saw Dale get off the school bus at Blissfield Jr High she knew that was who she was going to marry. While living in the Toledo, OH area they raised two children, Eric Shreve and Emily (Shreve) Becker. They were also blessed with four grandchildren: Eric and Adrienne's sons Lowell (15) and Henry (13) who reside in Ottawa Hills, OH; and Emily and Brandon's daughter Ella (15) and son Eian (14) who live in St. Augustine, FL. Wendy is also survived by her brother Brian James (Santa Fe, NM) and her sister Linda Sharp (Pocatello, ID) and Linda's two children Benjamin Sharp and Victoria (Sharp) Cooper.

All Wendy ever wanted to be was a nurse. She graduated as a Registered Nurse from The Toledo Hospital School of Nursing in June 1975 and started work immediately in The Toledo Hospital Intensive Care Unit. Once Eric and Emily were older, Wendy returned to school and earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Lourdes College, Sylvania, OH and her Masters of Science in Nursing from the Medical College of Ohio, Toledo, OH. She was completing her Doctor of Philosophy of Science in Nursing at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI when the on-set of her dementia symptoms prevented her from completing her dissertation.

Wendy was proud to be a nurse. She loved bedside care (Intensive Care, Open Heart Recovery, and Trauma). She cared for patients at The Toledo Hospital (Toledo, OH), St Vincent Medical Center (Toledo, OH) and Medical College of Ohio (Toledo, OH) St Joseph Hospital (Ann Arbor, MI) Bixby Hospital (Adrian, MI). Wendy was passionate about finding ways to deliver better care



Obituary

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

which led her to also focus on nursing research, publishing (first RN author to publish in a physician oriented medical journal), teaching nursing students, and she was frequently invited to speak at national conventions. Wendy's professional credentials included NCLEX Item Writer and Reviewer, ATLS Coordinator, ACLS Provider, CMS Med-Surg Certification and CCRN Certification.

In addition to her nursing profession Wendy put a lot of energy into being a wife and mother. Wendy served as her kid's room mother, school fundraising coordinator, Sunday School teacher, Brownie Leader and was a fan and proud momma at Eric's sporting events and Emily's ballet performances. She also enjoyed introducing her kids to Hungarian and English foods and those cultures whom she herself had learned from her Grandmothers. This translated into many good meals and many fun memories of making Christmas cookies and cabbage rolls. In 2013 Wendy willingly left the Toledo area she had called home for decades and relocated to Tallahassee, FL with Dale as he took on the CEO position for Mental Health Corporations of America.

One of the things we will always remember about Wendy is her amazing wit, ability to read any genre of book, (including historical non-fiction), and her zest for learning anything and everything. Whether she was making the kids a costume or clothes, crocheting the grandkids stuffed animals or quilting them blankets, there was not much she couldn't accomplish when she set her mind to it. She made it all look easy with a smile on her face, and usually a good quip. Family was important to her whether near or far and she felt comfort knowing they were always there for her. Wendy's faith was also important to her. She was a member of the Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, Toledo, OH.

Years ago when Dale asked Wendy to help plan her funeral Wendy realized that logistically it might not be possible to get people together for a funeral/memorial service. She suggested we set a day and time for friends and family from across the country to reflect on their memories of her and light a candle in her memory. We ask that you reserve Wednesday, November 20th at 7:00pm ET for this time of reflection on Wendy's life. You are also encouraged to leave condolences and fond memories here, on her Lifesong Tribute.

The family kindly requests memorial contributions to support student scholarships for nursing students at Lourdes University. Donations may be made online:

<https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1937/lg21-form/form.aspx?sid=1937&gid=2&pgid=418&cid=1063>

or by sending a check to Lourdes University at 6832 Convent Blvd., Sylvania OH 43650.



Obituary

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

Questions may be directed to Scott Wills, Vice President of Advancement (swills@lourdes.edu / 419-302-9828)



Tribute Wall

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024



Linda James Scharp posted:

I wrote this today, June 5. I do know that Wendy's birthday was June 6th.

June 5 at 7:28 PM



Tribute Wall

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JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

LS

Linda James Scharp posted:

June 6, 2025. Tomorrow is Wendy's birthday. It is taking me awhile to process this huge loss. We shared a bedroom all the time growing up, so we were closer than most though she was 6 years younger. I can see her life-guarding at the pool, with a body that found itself difficult to float because she was mostly muscle. She always took her responsibilities seriously, but always knew how to make things fun. I can see her every fall marching in uniform with her clarinet at football games. She (and Dale) were an integral part of Blissfield early on. I will never forget their wedding (one Aunt Bim called "the perfect country wedding) where they were so comfortable together—their relationship started at age 14. I'll admit I caused them a bit of concern as I had to keep having my bridesmaid dress let out because I was 8.5 months pregnant. I remember them having a special relationship with their science teacher, Art Brewer, and when they moved away, chuckling every year at his hilarious Christmas letter. He was always their class advisor so as perennial officers of their class, he knew them outside of class as well. I can see Wendy after her initial graduation from nursing school. She charged up the aisle bursting with energy and such joy. Just the first of her many accomplishments as an exceptionally talented RN. She worked a lot of 11 to 7 shifts so she could be home for Eric and Emmy. I was amazed at how she found time to crochet individual pumpkin badges for their entire classes. She was always involved with school, dance, and modeling classes throughout. She had a great time choosing the dresses for pageants with every detail in place. She worked behind the scenes for every dance recital. My daughter Tori loved dance, too, so we shared the special relationship of mothers of dancers. When my daughter broke her arm at the elbow, Wendy sent me mix and match pink and green outfits with tabard tops since it was very difficult to get a two year old to manipulate sleeves successfully. Wendy supported me through the initial surgery, the corrective surgery, and all the physical therapy required, although we lived in separate places. I remember her shedding tears when I went off to college, when I got married, and when my first baby died in infancy. We shared laughs at Cedar Point when our families got together some summers, especially as the kids grew tall enough for real rides and when with the 4 of the kids sharing a bathtub to remove sand, my daughter wanted to see what would happen if she pulled on this knob and Wendy got an unexpected shower. For being 6 years apart in age, our lives were always intertwined. Knowing I hated to be the center of attention, she arranged to have the restaurant staff sing happy birthday to me while dancing around our table. She got a big kick out of planning surprises for people. Wendy adored Dale, Eric, and Emmy (and her dogs) and tried to squeeze fun out of every moment. After they moved to Florida, we still got together. She was amazed when I didn't know how to make a white sauce and teased me and taught me how, even though her stamina and memory were inconsistent as she aged. She chose the best husband who cared for her lovingly and meticulously through good times and who embodies their wedding vows "through sickness and in health." I will love and miss her as long as I'm here. Linda James Scharp, who had the best sister ever.

October 27 at 6:10 AM



Tribute Wall

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024



Adrienne Shreve posted:

Part of being a parent is not knowing what you are doing. You draw on your parents and grandparents for what worked and what didnt. You try to replicate and improve on what worked and leave the rest behind. I know mom tried to move the ball forward. Ive drawn on that with my kids. I also know she was always and advocate for emily/me. Even if we were wrong.I tell my kids during sports that there could be 1000 people there and I could hear my mom's voice like she was standing next to me on the field/ice. Its kinda odd to know ill never hear it again. - Eric

November 20 at 4:07 PM



Adrienne Shreve shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Wendy was right by my side while I was in labor with her first grandchild, Lowell. She held my hand and helped me breathe through my contractions telling me exactly what was going on and what it should feel like. She helped me through the uncertainty and anxiety of child birth. She was a caretaker.By the next Christmas she had taught Lowell to answer the question, "How big is Lowell?" by throwing his hands up in the air when she'd say "So Big"! She took a picture and made me a card for Christmas. I'm always the one making homemade cards and crafts so it was extra special to me that she made me that card with Lowell's picture. The things she did were special.I wish she would have had more time with the grandkids. She would have taught them so much.We miss you, Wendy.

November 20 at 3:40 PM



Brandon Becker lit a candle in honor of Wendy.



Wendy was a woman of many talents. I was constantly surprised by the skills that she knew, and excelled in: From sewing to event planning, I'm not sure there was anything that she hadn't mastered. For me what especially stood out, and what I will be forever grateful to her for is introducing new dishes into my life. During the first Thanksgiving that I spent with the Shreves I was confused as to why we were having cabbage rolls, which I had never had before, let alone at a holiday meal. I went ahead and tried and to my delight, it was absolutely delicious. From then on I was hooked! Fortunately her culinary talents have been passed on to her daughter and in addition to raising an incredible woman that I have the privilege of sharing my life with, I am forever grateful to Wendy for the gifts and knowledge she has given to our family.

November 20 at 3:18 PM



Tribute Wall

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

EB

Emily Shreve Becker lit a candle in honor of Wendy.



It is hard to put into words all that encompasses my Mom. She was the epitome of hard work. She worked as a nurse, went to school to further her nursing education, was often our classroom mom, on top of usually organizing a fund-raising event (Morely candy boxes for days), or leading my Brownie Troop (she did throw me in the lake once trying to help me jump over it, summarizing our camping abilities). I don't remember a field trip she didn't chaperone, and even when I left home at 14 to attend a boarding school for ballet, she never missed a phone call and even surprised me once to the extent of hiding her car in the parking lot so I would not notice she had arrived. For someone who really didn't enjoy pumping her own gas, that was a huge feat. One time we traveled to audition for Boston Ballet. I made it almost to the end and got cut right before big jumps. I remember being so disappointed, but she took me out to a truly Boston dinner ("lobsta") and then even though we were totally exhausted we rented Mr. Bean (and also realized even when slap happy Mr. Bean was not our style). She was a great parent over the phone while I was having a typical teenage girl meltdown. She was able to talk me off of a ledge and try to help me understand what was in my locus of control. I hated that locus so much when I was 15, but now I open my mouth and hear my Mom pop out with the words I am saying to my own 15 year old daughter who will also probably despise that locus of control until she too has her own 15 year old daughter. We shared a pretty similar dark sense of humor, a low tolerance for things that appeared unfair, a momma bear like ferocity if anyone looks at our children funny (like the time she went after a ref in a soccer game with an umbrella after Eric had been concussed and the ref did not manage it to her satisfaction). She also taught me that we fight as a family. When I was away at school my family decided to play family volleyball at the high school my brother attended. The three of them together is always a good time, let alone the mocking of the other teams and the gym teacher who was convinced the ball was not out however, and would instead refer to it as a "miss". I would live for the phone call that provided an update on what happened at the game that week. One time, my brother and my mom were particularly upset about a call. My brother started spouting off and then quickly realized that was probably not the correct course of action, until Mom proudly said "No, we will fight as a family". Just one of the many instances she demonstrated her commitment and devotion to the herd. She was always inventing new awards for long road trips to help us remain occupied in the car in the times where cell phones did not exist. Even though she somehow managed to win the award every time, Eric and I never stopped trying to dethrone her. She taught us 52 card pick up and "Hurts Donut" in the same day and always had a funny saying or code word, or poem to help us survive a situation we were not sure we wanted to participate in (many poems about Art class since neither Eric or I had much aptitude for visual arts). Whether she was helping me paint my face grey to be a mouse in my first Nutcracker, or express ordering pointe shoes so I would have enough in high school or attending my last professional production prior to retiring from POTS, she was always ready to lend a hand and support my goals. I have two teens and I can't imagine letting them leave at 14 to pursue their goals and dreams and I was so grateful my parents believed I could.

October 27 at 6:10 AM

EB

Emily Shreve Becker November 20 at 3:17 PM



Tribute Wall

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

EB

Once I retired from dance, I remember feeling confused about what step to take next in my life. I decided I wanted to pursue physical therapy. Mom dug through all my old papers, found my SAT score report and career profile and said she was just getting ready to call and tell me the same thing based on my career assessment portion and her own. Throughout 8 years of school to earn a doctorate she was always supportive, and was able to lend unique insights into a healthcare career due to her vast experience. Once I had kids it was harder for her to physically participate in their care, but she was always quick to make them a blanket, stuffed animal or listen to a tired mom complain. I hope everyone remembers her as a funny, kind, smart, determined, compassionate, loyal, and sincere person. The epic love she and Dad shared has been so encouraging as I work towards the same almost 50 years of marriage where you can communicate with one look and it says a 1000 words. Dad visited her almost everyday and each time she would see him she had a smile on her face that could light up the darkest room. I am grateful we were able to move here 3 years ago. We enjoyed monthly visits and she would always greet her grandkids with that big beautiful smile and warm hug. The only thing she did not prepare me for is how to live a life without her. Although dementia took a lot from her she was always positive and brave. I am so grateful for everything. I love you Mom!



Adrienne Shreve lit a candle in honor of Wendy.

November 20 at 3:07 PM



BS

Bruce & Tammi Shreve posted:

Tammi and I continue to pray for my brother Dale and his family as we grieve the loss of Wendy Sue. Today, we honor my only sister-in-law with heart-felt memories and reflection. My earliest memory of Wendy was at the Blissfield pool, where she was a sun-tanned lifeguard. To keep swimmers safe, she wielded a whistle and was not afraid to use it. I am two years younger than Dale and Wendy and I bummed many car rides with them on the way to high school, to church youth group, to softball games, to Toledo, etc. I spent a lot of time in the car with Wendy and Dale and they would let me sit in the car's front bench seat with them,,, sometimes. We had epic Monopoly games on the kitchen table in Palmyra. Wendy's birthday was two days before mine so we celebrated birthdays together. I admired her passionate commitment to her very successful nursing career. On special occasions, fortunate guests enjoyed eating her famous Hungarian cabbage rolls. Wendy was a dedicated wife, mother, and grandmother. Tammi and I loved the special effort Wendy made as she offered her daughter Emily's most beautiful and elaborate out-grown dresses to our daughter, Andrea. We remember Wendy being kind and generous with our children, Andrea and Adam. We were blessed to share many formal holiday meals around our parent's (Lowell and Jean) table with Dale, Wendy, Eric, & Emily. With love, Bruce & Tammi Shreve

November 20 at 10:10 AM



Tribute Wall

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

DC

Dee Dowling Crane lit a candle in honor of Wendy.

What an extraordinary obituary/tribute to an extraordinary woman! Wendy obviously impacted so many lives, organizations and the medical profession as a whole. Her legacy will live on through her cherished family and all those who loved and respected her! Sending love and prayers to Dale (a fellow Palmyra School and BHS alum) and the rest of the family! I will be lighting a candle tonight!



November 20 at 7:07 AM

MC

Mike Chittenden lit a candle in honor of Wendy.



November 18 at 4:44 PM

MC

Mike Chittenden posted:

Wendy took care of my Grandmother in Toledo Hospital and she adored Wendy as do I for the huge heart she had for others. The world is a better place because Wendy was in it. RIP 🙏

November 18 at 4:43 PM

BY

Betsy Wolf Yagiela lit a candle in honor of Wendy.



November 17 at 3:48 PM

BY

Betsy Wolf Yagiela posted:

Wendy was a friend during childhood. We spent a lot of time together, along with Sheila, during our adolescent years. There were countless walks to town to buy Mallo Cups. We spent a fair amount of time at her house playing games (I remember "Life" in particular), laughing, and frequently concocting "Individual Pizzas." Once we got locked out of the house and the three of us managed to remove a bedroom window to get in. Her parents were never home...always working...so it was great. Wendy was smart, witty and fun. My sincere condolences to Dale and her family.

November 17 at 3:46 PM



Tribute Wall

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

BS

Betty Jean Shreve posted:

Wendy and Dale always had a well behaved and well dressed family. One of my fond memories of Wendy is when she became concerned about gum being struck under the church pews. She wrote a cute little story about Percy the Church Pew. She was a very creative writer. Wendy was a wonderful mother woe loved her children very much. Betty Jean Shreve

November 17 at 6:11 AM

JG

Jayne (Grinage) Gorski posted:

Wendy was one of my first school playmates who I met in kindergarten . Our friendship grew through elementary and junior high school. We always enjoyed visiting each other's homes after school and an occasional over night on the weekends. She was such a wonderful friend with her easygoing personality. After high school we lost touch, but I will treasure those memories! My condolences to your family and friends. I will be honored to light a candle on November 20th in memory of her. Sending prayers of comfort and peace during this difficult time. Jayne (Grinage) Gorski

November 13 at 7:33 PM

DL

Dave Lehmann posted:

I've known Wendy and Dale for well over 30 years. Wendy was a very proud, loving mother of both Eric and Emily, always supportive of her husband Dale, a successful and compassionate nurse with amazing achievements. I always loved her sense of humor and wit as well as her honesty. She will be missed but she has left many good memories.

November 8 at 2:29 PM

JS

Janie Sulaica posted:

I remember Wendy as a very dedicated mother to Eric and Emily, always attending to their many activities. I worked for Dale for nearly 30 years and know he and Wendy were very close. She had a dry sense sense of humor and was so witty. I'm so sorry for Dale's and the family's loss. Rest in peace, Wendy.

October 30 at 4:01 PM



Tribute Wall

Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024

AS

Andrea Shreve lit a candle in honor of Wendy.

I remember how supportive and loving my Aunt Wendy was to us when Grandpa Lowell passed away at home. It meant a lot to share that experience and say goodbye to grandpa with my uncle and aunt, my parents and Adam there with grandma. My heart goes out to the Shreves and Richard and I send our deep condolences to her children and grandchildren. Love, Andrea Jean Shreve

October 29 at 9:00 PM



CB

Cathy Barnes lit a candle in honor of Wendy.

October 28 at 5:34 AM



AS

Alan Sprunk posted:

Have know Wendy and Dale for years from Blissfield. Our thoughts and prayers go out for the family during these difficult times. Alan & Liz Sprunk

October 27 at 3:50 PM

BS

Betty Jean Shreve posted:

Dale and Wendy shared a love that's truly rare, from their high school days to the day she passed, side by side for 48 beautiful years. Wendy and Dale raised a family in love, surrounded by faith and values they built together. Dale, your unwavering support and dedication to Wendy through the years of illness showed the depth of your love, It's a testament to the beautiful life you built together. I know she felt every bit of that love and I hope it brings you comfort now. I pray that you feel comfort in the fact that you will be reunited with Wendy in Heaven. Wendy will live on through the lives of her children. With love, prayers and sympathy, Mom

October 27 at 6:10 AM



Media

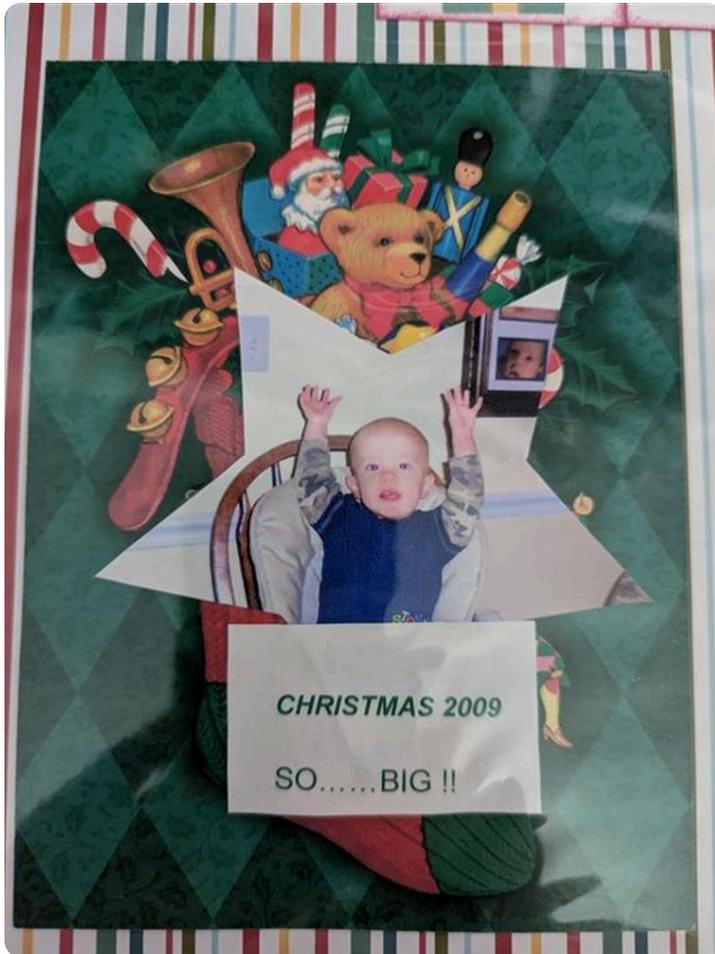
Wendy Sue Shreve

JUN 6, 1954 - OCT 21, 2024



Adrienne Shreve shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

November 20 at 3:40 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Wendy by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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