



Emily Lauren Ferguson

JUN 25, 2001 - APR 14, 2024



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MEMORIAL PARK
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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Emily Lauren Ferguson

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Emily Lauren Ferguson, 22, passed away peacefully at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital early Sunday morning, April 14, 2024 from complications due to treatment of two childhood cancers, Retinoblastoma and later Ewing Sarcoma.

Emily graduated from St. Mary's Episcopal School in 2020. When Emily was not undergoing cancer treatments, she enjoyed rock climbing, tennis, hiking and traveling. It was during her freshman year of high school that she joined the St. Mary's Trap Team coached by Bill Quinlen, Boyd Wade, Richard Morrow, Pierre Landaiche, Charles Bechtel, Jeff Hesselberg, Rick Lewis, and her father, Chris. She was also coached by Jim Dickerson of USA Shooting.

These coaches were powerful, positive role models for her as a teen, so much so that she has always considered them family, not just coaches. She was empowered and encouraged by them and found she had natural talent for the sport. And, she became really, really good.

Aside from holding every trap record at St Mary's and winning a veritable pile of trap shooting medals and trophies locally, Emily also made a name for herself at the state and national level. She was the only lady to ever win the Grand Champion trophy at State (2020) and the only lady to ever win the Rudy Cup at National (2019). She was particularly proud of her 97% average over 4 years at National. Emily also participated in several "invitation only" competitions at the Olympic Shooting Center in Colorado Springs.

After high school, Emily attended the University of Tennessee – Southern on both academic and athletic scholarships as a member of the UT competitive clay target shooting team. However, she was unable to complete her studies as her health issues demanded all of her attention and time.

Everyone that met Emily fell in love with her wit and intelligence. She was fiercely independent and insisted in always doing for herself. She worked endlessly to not allow her story to be only about cancer. Sadly, the disease took her away before she could really begin her life. Everyone and



Obituary

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especially her family has always been awestruck by her bravery, toughness, and resilience. We could not be more proud of how she handled her illness with such dignity and grace despite the insurmountable odds.

Emily is survived by her parents, Dr. Christopher and Christa Ferguson of Eads, her two younger sisters, Catherine and Campbell Ann Ferguson, grandparents, David and Hilda Campbell of Grenada, MS and the late Gerald and Ann Ferguson of Grenada, MS.

We are forever grateful to St Jude, especially Dr Alberto Pappo, and all the other doctors, nurses and other health care providers that loved and cared for Emily over the years.

A Celebration of Life Reception for Emily will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2024 from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Parkside Event Center at Memorial Park Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in memory of Emily.




Events


Emily Lauren Ferguson

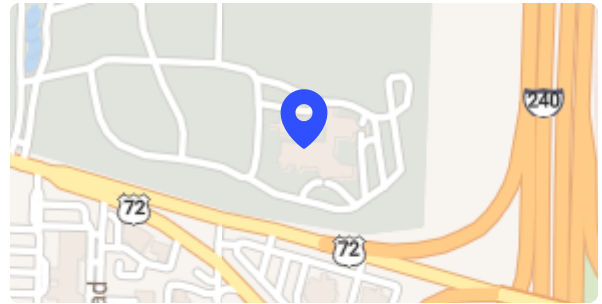
JUN 25, 2001 - APR 14, 2024

Celebration of Life Reception in the Parkside Event Center

 **Thursday**, April 18, 2024

 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM CT

 **Parkside Event Center at Memorial Park**
5668 Poplar Ave., Memphis TN 38119





Tribute Wall

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Memorial Park Funeral Home And Cemetery shared a **Video**.



April 17 at 2:12 PM



Keith Brown posted:

So, so sorry to hear about this Chris & Christa. I am not on Facebook as much as I used to be, but I saw it on our class of 89 page. My condolences to you all. Keith Brown

July 4 at 5:45 PM



Leslie Nierescher shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My daughter had the pleasure of meeting Emily a few years back while attending a shooting camp here in MI together. They continued to keep in touch though out the years. We are so heartbroken to hear the news of Emily's passing, she was to young with a life ahead of her. We wanted to pass along that we are thinking of her and the family during this Difficult time. RIP sweet Emily! We will forever have the memories to cherish! The Nierescher Family



April 17 at 11:50 PM



Anonymous sent a Fairst of All to the Ferguson family.



April 17 at 12:12 PM



Penny Fleming planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.



April 17 at 12:12 PM



Tina J. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Emily.



April 17 at 10:37 AM



Tribute Wall

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GM

Glynda M. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.

April 17 at 7:50 AM



Anonymous sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Ferguson family.

April 17 at 7:42 AM



DG

Dr. Matthew Graves planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.

April 17 at 7:42 AM



KJ

Kim And Erin Jenkins sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Ferguson family.

April 16 at 6:26 PM



JL

Judith L. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.

April 16 at 4:38 PM



MC

Margaret Couloubaritsis posted:

Emily and I were on the same trap team together at St. Mary's, and she was so joyful and kind to me. She always gave me a comforting smile, which was sure to cheer me up if I had missed a target. During our tournament in Ohio, I was so excited that I was placed next to someone who was encouraging and happy to be around for our final round. I had the privilege of standing right next to her as she shot her 200th perfect target. I was beyond amazed and will never forget watching her achieve this exciting goal. I'm so thankful for knowing someone like her.

April 16 at 2:29 PM



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Ashley Bennett And Mary Jane Freeze sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Ferguson family.

April 16 at 10:22 AM



Ashley Bennett And Mary Jane Freeze planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.

April 16 at 10:22 AM



Anonymous sent a Magnificent Life Spray to the Ferguson family.

April 16 at 7:21 AM



Orthosouth planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.

April 16 at 7:21 AM



Anonymous sent a Large Basket Garden to the Ferguson family.

April 16 at 6:03 AM



Anonymous sent a Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses to the Ferguson family.

April 16 at 5:36 AM





Tribute Wall

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BM

Brian And Malorise Martin planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.

April 16 at 5:36 AM



JE

Julie E. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.

April 16 at 4:58 AM



MH

Maureen Hardy posted:

Our heartfelt condolences to Chris,Christa and family on the loss of their beautiful child. Maureen & Pat Hardy

April 16 at 4:21 AM

KF

Kathy F. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Emily.

April 15 at 5:14 PM



SF

Stephanie Crawford & Family sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Ferguson family.

April 15 at 4:53 PM



DA

Doug And Charlotte Adams sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Ferguson family.

April 15 at 4:39 PM





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DA

Doug And Charlotte Adams planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.



April 15 at 4:39 PM

LO

Lisa Kim Oliver posted:

I will cherish my memories of Emily. She was brave, beautiful, funny and smart. I loved her dearly. She was my original "other daughter". Thank you for being Evie's bestie, sweet Embug. You are so loved and will be missed so much.

April 15 at 4:06 PM

LB

Lily Beasley posted:

Emily was such a beautiful light in our community, she did everything with grace, strength, and resilience. She was such a force to be reckoned with in the athletic department, a testimony for how joyous and dedicated Emily was to living life to the fullest. I remember that Emily and I had the greatest time going to the Children's Museum together on playdates with our seniors many years ago, I still have our silly photobooth pictures. She was kind, brave, and truly embodied everything a St. Mary's girl is and should be. We will all miss her dearly, and I am sending many prayers your way. -Lily Beasley

April 15 at 3:23 PM

BB

Balinda Black posted:

My heart breaks for the family. We enjoyed living by y'all on the cul de sac many years ago in Mississippi. My prayers are with you during this difficult time. Much love to you. Balinda and David Black

April 15 at 3:01 PM



Anonymous sent a Lily and Rose Tribute Spray to the Ferguson family.



April 15 at 2:20 PM



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Strait Lake Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Emily.



April 15 at 2:20 PM



Media

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Memorial Park Funeral Home And Cemetery shared a **Video**.

April 17 at 2:12 PM





Media

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Leslie Nierescher shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 17 at 11:50 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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