



Deborah Perkins Schuman

AUG 14, 1963 - OCT 9, 2025



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MEMORIAL PARK
Funeral Home & Cemetery

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Deborah Perkins Schuman

AUG 14, 1963 - OCT 9, 2025

Deborah (Debbie) Perkins Schuman, 62, passed away on October 9, 2025, at her home in Germantown, Tennessee, surrounded by her husband, children and grandson. Her kindness and grace touched so many lives during her time on Earth, and she was adored by many in her roles as a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

Debbie is survived by her loving husband, John Gerard Schuman; her four children, Sarah (Chris) Harlan, Rachel (Matt) Harney, Nicholas (Emily) Schuman and Anna Rose Schuman; her grandson, Noah John Harlan; and her five grand-dogs. She is also survived by her sisters, Patricia (Eddy) Hatcher and Judy Thompson; her brother, Johnny Perkins; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews and a great-great-niece.

Debbie was born August 14, 1963, in Memphis, Tennessee. After graduating from Overton High School in 1981, she attended the University of Memphis and earned a degree in computer science. After graduation, she moved to Washington, D.C., to work for the National Security Agency, where she met her husband, John, before settling back in Memphis, where she raised her four beloved children. Debbie had a successful 30-year career at FedEx as a computer programmer before retiring in August 2025.

Debbie found joy in running, reading and music. An avid runner, she could often be found running with John on the Greenline in Memphis, Tennessee. Debbie successfully completed seven St. Jude Marathons as a St. Jude Hero and had a passion for supporting the children of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. When she was not running, Debbie could be found reading a book (often under a blanket by a fire) or playing her guitar. Most of all, Debbie loved being surrounded by her family and hosting family gatherings filled with joy, laughter and a lot of food.

In more recent years, Debbie thrived in her role as "Mimi" to her grandson, Noah. Whether it was trips to the Zoo, the Botanic Gardens, or the park, Mimi loved spending time with Noah and



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showered him with enough love to last a lifetime. Noah also adored his Mimi, including story time and listening to Mimi play “Grandma’s Feather Bed” on the guitar.

Debbie will be remembered for her loving and accepting nature. All who knew her were touched by her compassion and kindness toward others. She lived her life always striving to better the lives of everyone she met. Although quiet in nature, Debbie had a strong and graceful presence that was felt in every room she entered. The love that she spread will be carried forward for generations to come.

There are no words to express the Schuman family’s sincere gratitude for the kindness shown to them over the past few months. The family feels so blessed to be surrounded by such a loving group of family and friends.

A Mass to celebrate Debbie’s life will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, October 13, 2025, at St. Louis Catholic Church in Memphis, Tennessee. Burial will follow at Memorial Park Funeral Home & Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee.

Visitation is from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 12, 2025, at Memorial Park Funeral Home & Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

[St. Jude](#)



Events

Deborah Perkins Schuman

AUG 14, 1963 - OCT 9, 2025

Visitation

Sunday, October 12, 2025

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM CT

Memorial Park Funeral Home
5668 Poplar Ave, Memphis TN 38119

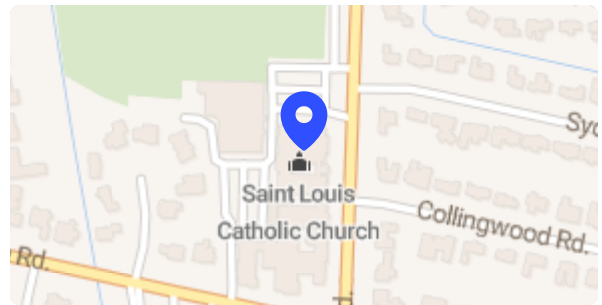


Funeral Mass

Monday, October 13, 2025

10:00 AM CT

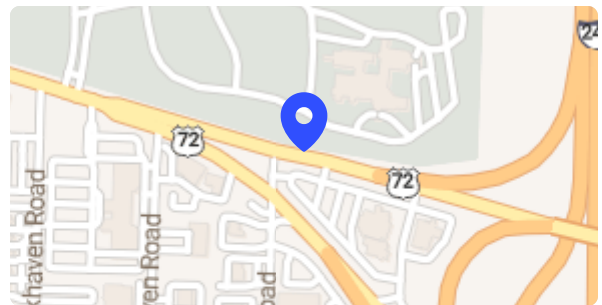
St. Louis Catholic Church
203 S White Station Rd, Memphis TN 38117



Graveside

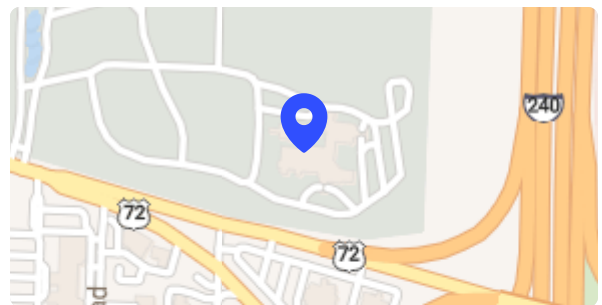
Monday, October 13, 2025

Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery
5668 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN 38119



Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery
5668 Poplar Avenue, Memphis TN 38119





Tribute Wall

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CC

Christopher Collings lit a candle in honor of Deborah.



What a wonderful, graceful, caring, and loving person Deborah was. I feel so fortunate to have crossed paths with her during our working lives. As a colleague at FedEx, though I only had the pleasure of knowing her for a few short years, Deborah's support and dedication to the people around her was truly inspirational. She set a wonderful example of what respect, empathy, and commitment to one's team, colleagues, and friends should look like. Everyone I know who was lucky enough to have known Deborah holds her in the highest regard, speaking fondly of the way she supported, cared for, and guided those around her. Thank you, Deborah, for all the advice and wisdom over the years. You were always the calm, steady voice of reason when emotions ran high — a truly kind and wonderful soul. I will never forget you and will always look back fondly on the time we shared. To Deborah's family and friends in this time of loss, may you find comfort in knowing that the love Deborah gave lives on through each of you. Every memory, every smile, and every gentle act of kindness carries a piece of her spirit forward. May peace find its way to you, and may Debbie's beautiful soul rest in eternal light. You are always in our thoughts and prayers. With heartfelt sympathy, Chris & Kay Collings and Family

October 16 at 4:14 AM

EC

Edward Chin lit a candle in honor of Deborah.



I was deeply saddened to hear about Debbie's passing. While she wasn't my direct manager, she was truly an exceptional leader and a joy to work with. Debbie embodied the spirit of the legacy FedEx culture—putting people first, always leading with heart, and fostering a sense of community and care that made a lasting impact. Her kindness, wisdom, and unwavering support made a difference in so many lives, including mine. I will miss her dearly and carry forward the values she exemplified so effortlessly. My heartfelt condolences to her family, friends, and all who had the privilege of working alongside her. With sympathy, Edward Chin

October 15 at 12:30 PM

KK

Kevin K. planted a grove of 5 Memorial Trees in honor of Deborah.



October 14 at 4:59 PM



Tribute Wall

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Phil Hastings lit a candle in honor of Deborah.

I didn't know Deborah, but she is still part of the FedEx family. My heart goes out to all of Deborah's family.

October 13 at 9:17 AM



Anonymous sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the Schuman family.

October 12 at 7:30 PM



Erica Studdard planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Deborah.

October 12 at 7:30 PM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 9:04 PM



Your Dc & W&M Family sent a Basket Full of Wishes to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 4:32 PM



Jenn, Joe, Patty & Bill sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 4:19 PM





Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 1:13 PM



Love, The Fluegemans planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Deborah.

October 11 at 1:13 PM



Butch, Jeannie, Kathy, Anita, Kristin sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 12:40 PM



With Sympathy, Spine Crushers Book Club sent an Arrive in Style to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 11:57 AM



With Sympathy, Spine Crushers Book Club planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Deborah.

October 11 at 11:57 AM



Launa Morris shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Debbie's kind spirit always brought light to the room. She will be deeply missed.

October 11 at 11:18 AM





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Aubree, Nicole, Sarah sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 10:37 AM



Anonymous sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 10:29 AM



Jamie, Brandon, Leighton, And Lawson sent a Footprints Tribute Blanket to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 10:19 AM



Anonymous sent a Bright and Beautiful Spray to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 9:37 AM



Maggie Gehrlein posted:

As Anna's friend, I remember one of the first times I met her family during a sorority Mothers and Others event. She and my mom hit it off and were fast friends, and later that night the four of us endeavored to play pong against each other. It was a wonderful time filled with laughter and smiles. The joy Debbie brought was infectious, I can see where Anna gets it from. ❤️

October 11 at 7:55 AM



Anonymous sent a Pink Tribute Spray to the Schuman family.

October 11 at 12:29 AM





Tribute Wall

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LV

Layla Vaughn shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Aunt Debbie had a kind of strength that didn't need to be loud to be felt. Her calm, steady presence made everyone around her feel safe and loved. She led by example, with grace, warmth, and quiet confidence that left a lasting mark on everyone who knew her. She showed us what it means to put family first, to love unconditionally, and to show up for one another through every high and low. She celebrated our joys, stood beside us through heartbreak, and believed in us even when we struggled to believe in ourselves. I was lucky enough to have her in my life for nearly fifty years, and her love and influence are woven into who I am. We will miss her deeply, but her spirit will always be part of us. With love, Layla



October 10 at 4:41 PM

TS

The Strausers sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Schuman family.



October 10 at 8:11 PM

TS

The Strausers planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Deborah.



October 10 at 8:11 PM

LT

Lauren Turner sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Schuman family.



October 10 at 4:41 PM



Launa Morris shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 11 at 11:18 AM





Media

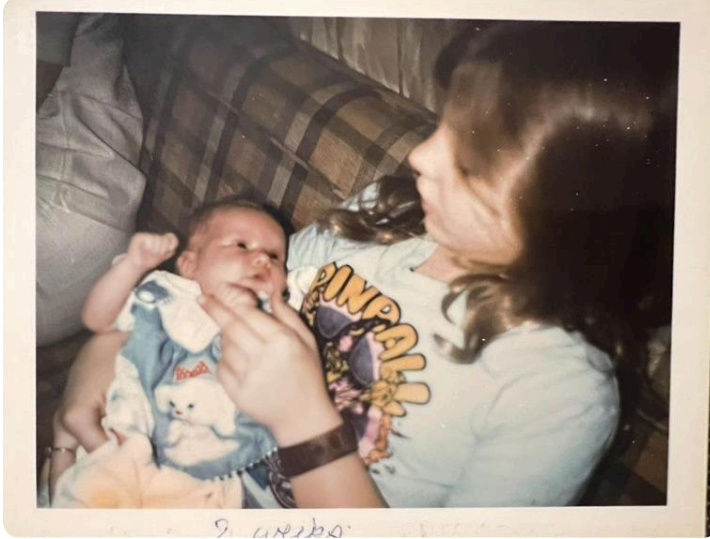
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Layla Vaughn shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

October 10 at 11:07 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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