



Cassandra Darnell

January 16, 2015

Cassandra 'Cassie' Darnell, 60 of St. Ignace passed away Friday, January 16 unexpectedly at her home. She was born July 8, 1954 in Port Lavaca, Tx. to Royce and Katherine (Lehto) Darnell. She graduated from LaSalle High School with Honors in 1972 and attended Central Michigan University and Michigan State University in a PreMed course. She worked for Lehto's Pastie Shop on West US #2 for many years, the family business owned by her grandparents and her mother. She was very active in school, was a cheer leader, and an honor student.

She is survived by her brother, Capt. Lee and Sonya Smith, Troutman, N.C.; aunt and uncle, Mike and Barb Lehto, Evergreen Shores; niece, Haylee and John Highley, Troutman, N.C.; nephew, Lee Jr. and Jennifer Smith, Charlesville, TN; great nephews, Jonathan and Leighton, Shepherd and Amelia; cousins, Michael, Cindy and Andy Lehto. She was preceded in death by her father soon after she was born and her mother, Katherine Lehto Babcock., and her grandparents.

A Memorial service is planned for Cassie on Monday, January 26 at 11 am at Dodson Funeral Home with Pastor Susie Hierholzer officiating. Visitation will be from 10 to 11 am. Burial of her ashes will be in Gros Cap Cemetery in the spring. Dodson Funeral Home, St. Ignace assisted with arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Cassandra Darnell*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Cassandra Darnell*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Cassandra Darnell*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *My sister Jane and I were childhood friends of Cassie's. We met her when we were delivering our vegetables we sold to her grandmother and grandfather at Lehto's pastie shop Since 1965 We did 4-H with her, bike riding, cheer leading, and Gros Cap School. Her comments to 6th grade teacher Mrs. Lambert about "Let's have a dispute" when she wanted to debate still makes me smile. She was bubbly, fun, smart and quick. The life of the party. She also struggled with sadness, always. I will fondly remember the quiet times talking with her. I hope she is now at peace.*

Debra Weiss - March 02, 2015 at 09:21 AM

DW

“ My sister Jane and I were childhood friends of Cassie's. We met her when we were delivering our vegetables we sold to her grandmother and grandfather at Lehto's pastie shop Since 1965 We did 4-H with her, bike riding, cheer leading, and Gros Cap School. Her comments to 6th grade teacher Mrs. Lambert about"Let's have a dispute" when she wanted to debate still makes me smile. She was bubbly, fun, smart and quick. The life of the party. She also struggled with sadness, always. I will fondly remember the quiet times talking with her. I hope she is now at peace.

Debra Weiss - March 02, 2015 at 09:19 AM

KB

“ Cassie was always so very nice to me when I was an exchange student in St. Ignace in 1973-1974. The last time I saw her was in 1977 but I still remember how funny she was. I stopped by Lehto's Shop this past July and even though Cassie no longer worked there, I thought of her while eating my pastie. Our Lord called her home way too young. Rest Well Cassie!

Kerstin Björk - January 29, 2015 at 04:07 PM

KH

“ I just attended Cassie's funeral and wanted to say what a lovely person she was. Mike Lehto's eulogy was so inspirational and touching, but he has always been an amazing public speaker. I can't imagine his grief, and yet he got through it. I could barely say a few sentences there, and I was only a friend ... not her Uncle Mike.

Anyhow, my family (Warren, me and son Vincent) enjoyed Cassie so much, she was such a great little gal. I kind of always thought of her as younger than me, but she was 4 years my elder. It's just that she had that childlike quality of goodness and enthusiasm so many people lose when they get longer in the tooth.

Our son Vincent doesn't really take to too many people, but he just adored Cassie. Our whole family, I mean, we would drive by 5 Pasty Shops to get to her. Not just for the food, but for Cassie. She talked to me about some troubles she had, and I was very concerned for a time about how thin she was. I used to bring her smoked chubs, which she apparently loved. I wish I had done more things like that for her, I didn't know.

Anyhow, if any of the Lehto family or Darnell people read this, I would like to thank you for sharing such a wonderful person with the rest of the world. I can't tell you how much she meant to us Hagens. We are so sorry for your loss, and I hope you know it is a loss to many people.

With love and sympathy,

Kim Hagen

Kim Hagen - January 27, 2015 at 12:35 AM

PG

“ RIP Cassie...

PAUL Glashaw - January 22, 2015 at 06:42 PM

LE

“ Cassie, I hope you finally have found the peace you have needed. I will think of you when I eat my next pastie

Lynda Eby - January 21, 2015 at 05:01 PM

RP

“ Cassie, I pray you find peace in the next life. I've known you over 50 years and I will miss you. May the Lord bless and keep you safe.

Ruth Eby Paquin - January 20, 2015 at 04:33 PM

SL

“ Such sadness. Praying you are at peace in the arms of Jesus.

Sharon Laakko - January 19, 2015 at 09:37 PM