



Judge Elizabeth Church

January 14, 1967 - August 13, 2017

Judge Elizabeth Lee Biolette-Church, age 50, of Sugar Island, Michigan passed away at her home, surrounded by her family on August 13, 2017. Liz was born on January 14, 1967 in Pontiac, Michigan to Louis "Chuck" and Jeanne (Houck) Biolette. She graduated from Lake Orion High School with the class of 1985. She earned her Master's Degree from Central Michigan University and later her Doctorate Degree from the Detroit College of Law. Liz worked as an Assistant to the Prosecutor in Clare, County as well as working in a private office. Upon moving to Sault Ste. Marie, she became the Chief Public Defender for Chippewa County and later was elected as the 91st District Judge. Liz was a member of the Elks Lodge #552, the American Legion Post #3, the Christopher Columbus Hall, and others too numerous to mention. She was an avid reader, and enjoyed anything Disney or Cola-Cola. She was very family oriented and she loved to serve the community in any way possible. Liz married Wade Lee Miller on October 10, 2010 at the Point Iroquois Lighthouse. Liz is survived by her husband: Wade Miller; her children: Andrew Church, Callie Church, and Abigail Church all of Sault Ste. Marie, MI; a step-son: Parker (Stephanie) Miller of Sault Ste. Marie, MI; her father: Chuck (Doris) Biolette of Holland, MI; her mother: Jeanne Wright of Lakeville, MI; her grandparents: James and Elizabeth Boughner of Port Huron, MI; her grandmother: Maxine Biolette of Holland, MI; and her first husband: Scott (Kelly) Church of Sault Ste. Marie, MI. Liz is also survived by her siblings: Amberlee (Thomas) Ellis of Dryden, MI, Scott (Michelle) Houck of Leonard,

MI, and Audrey Houck of Clarkston, MI; two half-brothers: Richard (Danielle) Biolette and Matt (Jenny) Biolette both of Holland, MI; and many nieces and nephews. Liz was preceded in death by her grandfather: Louis Biolette, and her step-father: JD Wright. A memorial service will be held at 1:00 PM on Friday, August 18, 2017 at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. Friends may gather at the funeral home from 10:00 AM until the time of the service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to the Pickford Community Library.

Tribute Wall

VM

“ We used to be playmates a small child and then we'd party companies in high school I thought of you so often throughout my life but 1997 I had moved from Michigan and moved to Myrtle Beach and lost contact with all my friend you will be well missed but I know one of them Golden shore we will see one another once again the side of heaven and the Kings heaven

Vickie Miller - July 31, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I am so sorry to here of Liz's passing. She was a dear friend from years gone by. Liz was smart and kind, a beautiful person. I have missed her for a long time and will continue to. Prayers for her children and family!

Daniel Strehle - October 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ Offering my deepest condolences to the family on the loss of your dear loved one. May " the Father of tender mercies and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our trials " be with you during this most difficult time. 2Cor1 : 3,4 Isa41 : 10,13 Rev21 : 4 Ps147 : 3

Stephanie - September 04, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WF

“ *The loss of a cherished loved one is the most devastating experiences a family can face. At times, the loss may seem unbearable. Please know that there are family and friends who care and more importantly Psalm 34:18 tells us that "God is near to those that are broken at heart. He is the God of all comfort. God will comfort you during this difficult time of grief. Our prayers are also with you and your family.*

Williams Family - August 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

VJ

“ *So sorry for your loss.*

Victoria Johndrow - August 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *A wonderful co-worker with a great sense of humor. She will be missed.*

Brian Bartlett - August 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ *Just wanted to say how much Elizabeth meant to me and my family. We crossed paths many times. I felt that she was a sympathetic person who viewed the law as more than what is just written on paper. I think she tried to understand the people who were coming before her and understand that that was what was most important. She was truly a gift to this community, and she will be sadly missed by many, I'm sure.*

Carol Jean Nygaard - August 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

N#

“ We the American Legion Auxiliary unit #3 would like to send condolences to her family. She was a member of our unit, and many times was our guest speaker at our George Washington Tea. She will be missed.

Nancy Lowes American Legion Auxiliary unit #3 - August 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Such a wonderful young lady, you will be missed by all I love you cousin Liz..

Jerry Matheny - August 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ I first met Elizabeth when I filled in for Judge Nickolas Lambros, as a visiting Circuit Judge. I counseled with Elizabeth about her ambition to become a judge. She stated that she was not the favored candidate, and that some had suggested that she not run for she did not stand a chance against the likely opposition. I shared with Elizabeth a conversation I had with the Governor Granholm who had appointed me as Probate Judge for Montmorency County. Governor Granholm stated that she had heard that my opposition in the upcoming election was unbeatable, and wanted to know my response. I simply stated that he hadn't run against me yet, and that I don't run to lose!. The Governor liked my response. I shared this story with Elizabeth to encourage her to run for Judge, regardless of what the nay sayers were saying, if she truly want to be a judge and assume the responsibilities of the office. Fortunately, she ran and was elected. I had the privilege to serve the District Court during her illness. May God bless her and her family. Hon. John E. Fitzgerald, Retired Former District, Probate And Circuit Court Judge

Hon John E. Fitzgerald - August 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Deepest sympathy to all of Liz's loved ones. She was such a bright light in our community and a treasured friend. She will be remembered for her terrific sense of humor and compassionate heart. Her memory and that of her three beautiful children will live in my heart forever.

Luanna Luxton Armstrong - August 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ Free from earthly pain and suffering. You touched so many lives in a positive way. May God hold you in His bosom and fold His arms of love and grace around your family. Until we meet again in the paradise of our Father.

Steve and Trish Taylor - August 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ Liz, it's been too many years since I last saw you at CMU. You were always kind and thoughtful. If you need a character reference where you are going... put me down.

Albert Johnston - August 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ On behalf of the Michigan Probate Judges Association we extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Judge Church

Judge David M. Murkowski - August 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Our heartfelt condolences, from all of us.

Bruce w Beaudoin & family - August 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ *Sending my sincere condolences for the loss of a courageous fighter and a true friend. Liz you will be missed by many, but will never be forgotten.*

Robin Eldridge - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ *She was Amazing and Wonderful young women. She will always have a place in my heart!!!*

KIMBERLY HOLMAN - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PR

“ *So sorry for you to lose her at such a young age, but God takes those He chooses when He chooses. Our sympathies to all.*

Patricia Rohn - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *My most sincere sympathy to you all. More than 20 years ago, Liz and I had a good teamwork thing going on some legal matters. I enjoyed working with, and against, her. The next couple of weeks will be a blurry mass of people, interspersed with cold, lonely emptiness (trust me on that). Always remember that we all mean it, when we say that we desire to help. Call on us. Really. .All my love.*

Jaynie Hoerauf - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I know words don't mean a whole lot right now, but you all have been in my thoughts and prayers since I heard of Elizabeth's passing. The days ahead won't be easy, but hold tight to the memories you have of times together, and keep your love for her safely tucked into your hearts. Be strong and know that others share your grief at this difficult time. Love, hugs and prayers to you and yours from me and mine!

Jamie Harvey - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ I worked with Liz during her time in Clare County. She was a wonderful co-worker and friend to me. My heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to her family and friends.

Christal O'Hare - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ I would like to express the my sincere condolences to the family & friends to Judge Elizabeth Biolette Church. I will always remember Liz for her wonderful of humor, dedication to her family and the kindness she extended to everyone. She will be missed ...

Stephanie Szwec Gordon - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

V(

“ It was a pleasure to know Liz during Jr and Sr high...she will be sorely missed. A great friend.

Vicky Smith (Estes) - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Liz was a wonderful person. So many college memories include her. No words can comfort this tremendous loss for anyone who had the honor of spending time with Liz.

Dawn (Zaikowski) Kennedy - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Liz was an amazing person who will be sorely missed by many. I enjoyed many conversations with her over several decades at various family events. May your precious memories bring you comfort during these difficult times and may it ease your pain to know that others share your grief. Heartfelt thoughts and prayers to all of you.

Linda Coleman - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Liz was an amazing woman. She brought so much light and lighter. We will miss her greatly. Our deepest sympathies to her entire family. Mark and Kandra Robbins

Mark and Kandra Robbins - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Wade. Rest in peace my friend 🙏

Jim Johnson - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ We are so sorry for your loss. May God be with you during this difficult time. You will all be in our prayers.

Connie Wood and Family - August 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM