



# Kathryn Alysia Smith

FEB 4, 1977 - NOV 21, 2024



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# Kathryn Alysia Smith

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**W**ith heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Kathryn Alysia Smith, who tragically died from smoke inhalation following an accident at her Florien, Louisiana home. Kathryn was only 47 years of age.

Kathryn was blessed with chestnut brown hair, hazel eyes, and porcelain-like skin. As an infant, she was adopted by Paul and Patricia VanDorn of Anderson, Indiana. An independent, “artsy” child, with a gift for music, Kathryn enjoyed winter snows and summer water sports. She loved every animal she met.

Kathryn graduated from St. Ambrose Elementary School and Noblesville High School. She then earned an Associate Degree from Vincennes University and became a licensed cosmetologist.

After working various jobs in Indianapolis, Kathryn moved to Louisiana where she married Patrick Smith II. The marriage eventually ended, but the couple shared a never-ending commitment to their awesome daughter, Ember Lilly, now 12-years-old. Ember was the light of Kathryn’s life—her motivation to face serious health challenges with courage and hope.

“Look on the bright side of life” was Kathryn’s guiding star. Family will remember her for her kindheartedness; her unprejudiced and forgiving nature; also for her “manic panic red” hair month and her experimental recipes. Currently, Kathryn was studying the Romanian language just for fun. She was excited about spending Thanksgiving with the Smith family.

In addition to her daughter and mother, Kathryn is survived by a brother, Matthew VanDorn, of Kokomo, along with many aunts, uncles and cousins. Also surviving are members of her birth family, with whom Kathryn re-connected in her later years. Kathryn’s father, Paul VanDorn, died from cancer in 2023.

Memorial services will be held in Louisiana and in Indiana at a later date. Kathryn will eventually rest at Maplewood Cemetery, near her father, with whom she shared a special bond.



## Obituary

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Condolences may be expressed at Labby Memorial Funeral Home in Leesville, Louisiana. In lieu of flowers, the family asks relatives and friends to perform an act of kindness in Kathryn's honor.



## Tribute Wall

**Kathryn Alysia Smith**

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HE

**Heather Eden** lit a candle in honor of Kathryn.

February 4 at 10:14 AM



SM

**Susan M.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Kathryn.

December 5 at 2:50 PM



LG

**Lori Gnott** posted:

I will always remember my cousin, Kathryn, as kind, witty, and friendly. She possessed a compassionate, unique spirit and was a loving mother to her daughter. She was so proud of Ember, her pride and joy. Just as I can "hear" the voice of her late father (my Uncle Paul), I can "hear" Kathryn's deep voice and it makes me smile. My condolences to her loved ones.

December 5 at 2:02 AM

TA

**Theresa Shaw. Aunt** February 4 at 5:19 PM

To a beautiful niece that came into my life for a very short time. God has called your name, and said it was time for you to go home. That he needed you with him. Rest in peace baby girl. Just know how much you will be missed.



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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