



Deborah Williams

January 17, 1960 - May 30, 2025

Deborah Ann Williams, 65, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri passed away peacefully on May 30, 2025 surrounded by her loving family.

Born on January 17, 1960 to Mary Ann Kagle and Carl Kagle, Debbie was a devoted daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. Debbie graduated from Cape Central High School and was active while there in Choir, Band, and Orchestra, earning numerous local and state awards. Upon graduation, she attended Southeast Missouri State University as a member of the Golden Eagles Marching Band. She earned two degrees from Southeast prior to graduating with a B.S. in Elementary Education.

She dedicated her life to teaching, touching the hearts and mind of countless students over her many years as an educator. Her classroom was more than a place to learn - it was a place to feel loved. She taught at Marquand Zion public Schools, Thomas Kelly Public Schools, and Cape Christian School, the forerunner of today's Lynwood Christian Academy in 2020, where she united her passion for educating children with her steadfast commitment to a Christ-centered mission.

A woman of deep faith, Debbie was a devout Christian who lived each day with purpose, grace, and strength. She was a loving and devoted grandmother, who found great joy in spending time with her grandchildren and

creating memories they will carry forever.

She is survived by her loving husband Carroll Williams; her son, Lance Ferrell, and his wife, Jessica Ferrell and their children; her two stepsons, Kevin Williams and Steve Williams; her parents, Mary Ann Kagle and Carl Kagle; her sister Karla Liebherr, and her husband David Liebherr; and many cherished nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her beloved grandparents, Clyde and Ruby Duncan, and Bill and Floye Kagle.

Debbie will be remembered for her unwavering love for her family, her strong faith, and the warmth she brought into every room.

A celebration of Debbie's life will be held on Friday, June 6, 2025 at 1:00 pm, at Lynwood Baptist Church, with visitation beginning at 11:00 am. Burial will follow at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery.

Flowers are welcome, or memorial donations may be made to Lynwood Christian Academy in her honor.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Lynwood Baptist Church
2935 Lynwood Hills Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Service

JUN 6. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lynwood Baptist Church
2935 Lynwood Hills Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Please accept our condolences on the passing of Debbie. The Stranahan Family.

Benjamin J, Stranahan - June 16, 2025 at 01:40 PM

AG

“ Mr Carroll & Family,

I wanted to reach out and extend my deepest condolences to you all.

I was very blessed to have Mrs Williams as my first grade teacher at Kelly Elementary & stayed connected with her, even 25 years later. She was more than just a teacher - she was a mentor, friend, and light for me in such a dark world. Her positivity radiated wherever she went, a trait I so fondly loved in her. I'm thankful to have had the time and friendship with her that I did, I wouldn't trade it for the world.

I pray God wrapped his arms around her in Heaven and made her whole again, free from pain and sickness.

*I know there may not be much I can do, but please know you're in my thoughts and prayers. Thank you for sharing such a wonderful person with me, I am truly thankful to have had her in my life. ❤️
Love and hugs.*

-Addison Glover



Addison Glover - June 09, 2025 at 05:10 PM

ML

“ Our family in MS, NC, and VA will be praying, and we send our condolences. Deborah, our cousin, will be missed but is in the arms of Our Dear Lord. May God Bless the family. Missy, Teri, Kathy, Debi, Suzi, and Laura

Marian Ann Love - June 05, 2025 at 11:26 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Deborah Williams.



June 05, 2025 at 09:10 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Deborah Williams.

June 05, 2025 at 09:10 PM

MW

“ Love and prayers to Debbie's family. I worked with Debbie years ago at Schnuck's when I was a college student at SEMO. She was in the department next to mine. She was a joy to work with. Grateful to have worked with such a sweet person.

Melissa Weber - June 05, 2025 at 07:27 PM

WH

“ Love and prayers to Debbie’s amazing family. I went to Cape Central and enjoyed being friends and singing with her sister, Karla. My mom, Ginny Cayse, and Mary Ann were also friends and worked together many years ago. May you all have the blessings of beautiful memories, until we are all reunited in Heaven together.

Wayne and Janet (Cayse) Harding - June 03, 2025 at 12:44 PM

MK

As Debbie’s mother I wa t ti thank you for all the special & kind words. She loved people Her joy was first of all Jesus. Then family then friends. She loved her students!!!! Thank you for loving her

Mary Ann Kaglev - June 10, 2025 at 09:26 PM

DB

“ Deborah was a wonderful Christian who loved the Lord. She also loved her students. What a joy and blessing to have known her. My sympathy to all her family. What a blessing to know that when she got to heaven the Lord with open arms said welcome home Deborah

Diane Bright - June 02, 2025 at 09:58 PM

FC

“ From your friends at Chick-fil-A purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Deborah Williams.



From your friends at Chick-fil-A - June 02, 2025 at 07:30 PM

JP

“ So sorry for this beautiful family's loss. My girls went to school with Debbie and Karla. Karla was in my Girl Scout troop. Their parent became good friends. I was amazed that one of my girl scouts had such a beautiful family. Mary Ann and Carl were so proud of their girls and families.

Judy Piper

Judy Piper - June 02, 2025 at 02:18 PM

SI

“ I did not have the pleasure of meeting Debbie in person, but her dear mother and I have been life long friends. We grew up together in Chaffee in the same church and graduated from High School together. I moved to Illinois with my parents after graduation but visited Chaffee quite often and met Carl before they married. They were a perfect match! We've stayed in touch throughout the years. She kept me updated about her girls, Debbie and Karla, and her many precious grandchildren. My husband and I moved to Zalma, MO in 2005 and I was able to see and renew my friendship with many of my childhood friends, including Mary Ann. I remained there until after my husband passed away in 2022. Then I moved to San Antonio, TX to live with my youngest daughter (also named Debbie). We still stay in touch and I was so sad to hear of Debbie's passing. I knew that Debbie had been fighting cancer for a very long time and I have been praying for her over the years. Since I moved to Texas, I have been returning to Cape for a family reunion every year and always get in touch with Mary Ann and my other Chaffee friends while I am there. May God give this precious family peace and comfort at this time of great sorrow and also in the future. Thank God for the assurance of our heavenly home that we have in knowing Christ as our personal Savior.



Sue Greemar Ivie - June 02, 2025 at 11:57 AM

RR

“ I am so sorry to hear about Debbie's passing! She was such a blessing to everyone who knew her! She was always doing things for other people, showing her love and caring for others! I was so blessed to know her and her amazing family. Her blessings in heaven will be many. Praying for her family!

Reggie Reed - June 01, 2025 at 10:00 PM

JM

“ Judith E Mayberry lit a candle in memory of Deborah Williams



Judith E Mayberry - June 01, 2025 at 08:46 PM

DP

“ Worked with Debbie at Schnucks. She was so sweet and friendly. Prayers for the family.

Debbie Petty - June 01, 2025 at 07:23 PM

GS

“ How many times have I wondered how Debbie and Karla was doing. My family lived on Jefferson just down the street from Debbie and her family. Carl tested me when I got my drivers license. Sweetest man you could ever ask for and Mary Ann and I usually ran into each other in the grocery store! I loved that family and no doubt, Debbie is with her parents now. I loved that family! Rest in the arms of Jesus Debbie! Tell my mom and dad Hey for me!

Gail Baker Severs - June 01, 2025 at 12:24 PM



“ *Tammy Terry lit a candle in memory of Deborah Williams*



Tammy Terry - June 01, 2025 at 11:16 AM



So sorry for your loss I knew Debbie from kindergarten on up ,Prayers to the family and friends.

Tammy Terry - June 01, 2025 at 11:33 PM



“ *So sorry to hear this, worked with Debbie at Schnucks, watched her raise Lance and fall in love with the man of her dreams ❤️ you will be missed, fly high Debbie ❤️ love Poole and Powers*



Laurie Powers - June 01, 2025 at 01:10 AM

DL

“ We are heart-broken that Debbie has gone on before us to be with the Lord Jesus. Debbie was technically my sister-in-law, but she was truly my sister-in-heart. Debbie was selfless, giving, funny, cheerful, helpful and most of all loving. She loved The Lord Jesus and she loved people— nothing else mattered and you could always feel that when you were with her. I watched Debbie fight her 20 year battle with cancer with tenacious grace and that has encouraged me in my own battles. I loved the way Debbie and Carroll loved each other... what a beautiful marriage! Debbie was amazing at the holidays. Giving gifts was a gift that she had. Even though we have 13 kids Debbie would, without fail, send the “Aunt Debbie Box” up to Wisconsin and our kids’ eyes would widen waiting to see what Aunt ‘Daubie’ had thought up in her heart to give them. She remembered every b-day and anniversary too! She loved to make people happy and one of the things I’ll miss is when her and my wife (her sister, Karla) plus their mom (Mary Ann Kagle) would get “tickled” about one thing or another. The breathless laughter was hilarious and only led to more outbreaks of laughter to tears (and other functions, if I might add). BTW— saying that in her obituary would have earned me one of her loving slugs on my arm — I’m sure I’ll get that when I see her again in heaven. I could say so much more, but what’s most important is that Debbie was a born-again follower of Jesus. If you are reading this, I can assure you that Debbie’s most often voiced prayer for you was that if you don’t know Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord, that you would turn to Jesus and trust Him to wash away your sins and to connect you to God so that we will all be together someday to reconnect with each other in God’s Love in Heaven, forever.

Love you Debbie!

Brother-in-Law

Dave

David J Liebherr - May 31, 2025 at 09:34 PM

MW

*Well said dad, my heart is broken. Thankful for the hope and promise of heaven, but I miss her so much already.
I love you Aunt Debbie.
Mandi*

Mandi Watkins - May 31, 2025 at 10:59 PM

NH

I met Debbie years ago ! I mostly remember when she worked at Schnucks. Alway had a smile and was so kind to me. She talked a lot about her pride and joy son. She will be missed and gone way too soon. Condolences to all of her family. Nancy Hess

nancy Hess - June 03, 2025 at 04:08 PM

CD

“ What a sweet childhood friend. Our families grew up next door to each other. We were always each others playmates. We played "Heidi tag", made mud pies and dared each other to taste them. Always outside playing. And Debbie, I did not eat potted meat! LOL Although our paths have not crossed in many years, I know you will be missed greatly by your family and friends. Rest in peace, my friend, until we meet again.

Christy Naeter Dougherty - May 31, 2025 at 12:44 PM