



## Mary Elizabeth Goddard

October 23, 2019

On October 23, 2019, Mary Elizabeth Goddard passed away surrounded by her loving children, Elizabeth and William, and her devoted husband, Bradley. They held her hands, said The Lord's Prayer and sang the University of Michigan fight song as she peacefully found rest.

Mary Beth battled Breast Cancer for almost five years. She went through countless rounds of chemo, radiation, a mastectomy, immunotherapy and more. Cancer did not beat her; she stared it down and fought it to a draw.

Mary Beth was born in St. Joseph, Michigan, to Betty and Gene Serpe. She was a frequent tormentor of her older brother, Michael Serpe, but was always his biggest fan. He was her "Mikey". She grew up loving the Chicago Cubs and the Michigan Wolverines.

MB attended Marymount College in New York and established friendships that lasted a lifetime. Her memories and stories of her Marymount days were sources of laughter and joy when she retold them to her children...Go Greased Lightnin'.

With dreams of becoming a Rockette, she moved to Manhattan upon graduating in 1981. There she met her future husband on a blind date facilitated by one of her best friends. The story goes that she was immediately

drawn to Brad's broad shoulders and he to her stunning smile that he would say lit up the room. Although it would take a little bit of convincing for Mary Beth, Brad knew she was the one as soon as he said goodbye and put her in a cab home after their first date. They were married in 1990, and up or down, thin or flush, for 30 years they never left each other's side. They were each other's "Sweetie", a nickname that would be written on every birthday card, family note and Christmas present in the years to come.

Mary Beth's only requirement was that she raise a family on the water, so the family moved to Sarasota, Florida in 1995. She used the beach to teach Elizabeth and William life lessons such as: if you want it, you carry it, never block somebody's view, and know when it's time to go home. She also passed on her love of Broadway, and New York City to her daughter and her dedication to University of Michigan football to her son. Go Blue!

Mary Beth found great purpose as a member of Founders Garden Club of Sarasota, where she served as President with great pride & gratitude. She so loved the women of Founders, several serving as her angels of comfort at the end.

She treasured the beach, talking to her daughter every night on the phone, and singing the Michigan fight song with her son every gameday. She loved to make the gravy on Thanksgiving, and pick out the perfect Christmas tree, driving Brad, Elizabeth and William crazy.

And, at the end of the day, Sweetie and Sweetie would enjoy a martini together, and her stunning smile still lit up the room.

A service will be held Thursday, November 14th at 11:30 at Church of the Redeemer, Sarasota. Florida.

Donations can be made to:

Founders Garden Club of Sarasota Scholarship Fund

P.O. Box 25612

Sarasota, FL, 34277

Please note gift In memory of Mary Beth Goddard

# Previous Events

## Service

NOV **14**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Church of the Redeemer  
222 S. Palm Ave  
Sarasota, FL 34236

# Tribute Wall

HG

“ *Honey Goddard lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Goddard*



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**Honey Goddard** - October 22, 2020 at 03:19 PM

MA

“ *I don't know what made me look up Mary Beths name today. I met Mary Beth and Brad in the early 90's in Rochester NY. Mary Beth was always full of life and had an energy that drew people to her. Brad was the same. I am so sorry that I missed the opportunity to speak with her sooner. I too am battling Breast Cancer and would have loved to have spoken with and supported her in her journey. I am stage four now.. To Brad, my deepest condolences and I wish you and your family peace and comfort. I also hope this won't be too late for you to read.*

*Many blessings and love and fond memories.*

*Mimi Salmon Austin (West when you knew me)  
I live in Huntsville, Alabama*

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**Mimi Austin** - April 22, 2020 at 07:21 PM

FB

“ From Esti, Mike, Devon and Kabisa Baughen purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Mary Elizabeth Goddard.



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**From Esti, Mike, Devon and Kabisa Baughen** - November 12, 2019 at 09:13 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Elizabeth Goddard.



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November 12, 2019 at 04:14 PM

LP

“ Brad,Elizabeth,and William,  
I am so very sad to hear the news of Mary Beth passing. The world has a little less joy in it now . I still remember the night we met. The fun started then. It didnt matter what we were doing. Junior League, garden Club, Book Club, Gourmet Club. Everything was always more fun with Mary Bath there.While we missed her in Rochester, It was a treat to see Mary Beth in Florida!Sunshine always made her smile! Our last conversation in May was about visiting next spring.Of course she spoke about her family she loved so much. I am heartsick we never had that time . The brightest smile, best laugh and the most flair of anyone I know.Lots of love to all of you.  
Deepest Sympathies,  
Lisa Phelps

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**Lisa Phelps** - November 12, 2019 at 03:54 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Elizabeth Goddard.*



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November 12, 2019 at 03:14 PM



“ *Sandy & George Mazzarantani and Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mary Elizabeth Goddard.*



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**Sandy & George Mazzarantani and Family** - November 08, 2019 at 02:07 PM



“ *Brad, Elizabeth and William:  
Sandy and I simply don't have the words to express how deeply affected we are by your loss....we only take comfort in the fact that you were with her, singing to her, as she went to God. We know in our hearts she was hearing you.*

*May your grief be brief, but your memories long, and please know that you have 'extended family' out here, praying for you now, and in the future.*

*With heartfelt sorrow,*

*The Mazzarantani Family*

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**George Mazzarantani** - November 08, 2019 at 02:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Elizabeth Goddard.*



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November 07, 2019 at 11:55 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Elizabeth Goddard.*



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November 02, 2019 at 10:54 PM



“ *Brad, Elizabeth and William,*

*Our hearts are broken, we are so sorry. I am reading all my past messages from Mary Beth, they are always about plans with Will or Elizabeth. she loved her family. May those memories stay with you always .Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. Love you!  
Mark and Vicki(Capizzo) Matthews*

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**Vicki Capizzo Matthews** - October 31, 2019 at 08:18 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*

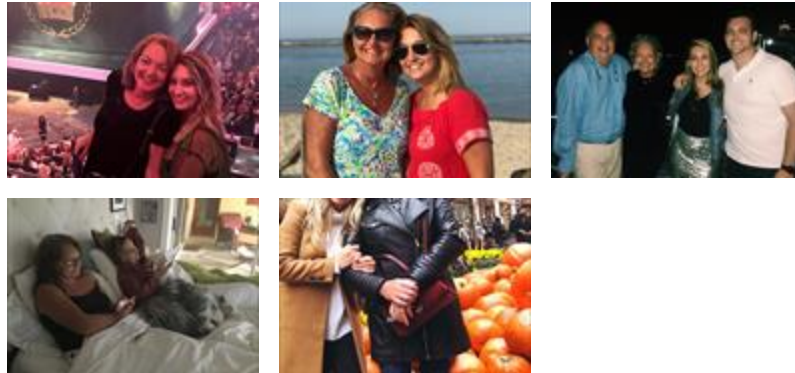


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**Vicki Capizzo Matthews** - October 31, 2019 at 08:10 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - October 31, 2019 at 09:17 AM

RC

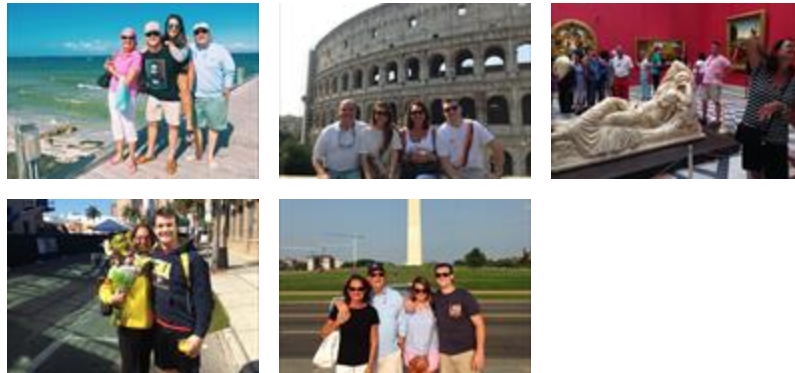
“ Brad, Elizabeth, and William,  
*It is with a heavy heart I write this—so sad to hear of the loss of beautiful, Mary Beth. She loved, loved her family so much! I will treasure the memories of visits to St. Joe and especially the times we spent at your home, sharing wonderful food, conversation and laughter. She always made us feel at home, greeting us with a warm welcome and yes, that wonderful smile. Cherish your memories and know that she will always be watching over you! I will keep her in my prayers and all of you as well! With Deepest Sympathy! Love you all!*  
Roe Capizzo



Roe Capizzo - October 30, 2019 at 05:13 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - October 30, 2019 at 04:23 PM

NO

“ Brad, Will & Elizabeth, we are so sad to hear of your loss. Marybeth did love coming back to St. Joseph and we always loved seeing all of you. Please know you all are in our hearts and in our prayers. She definitely will be missed, but memories are forever.



Nancie Capizzo Oetter and Family

Nancie Oetter - October 30, 2019 at 03:16 PM

FA

“ Brad, Will, and Elizabeth, I can't tell you how sad I am for the loss of your wife/mom. I will so miss her too. We shared so many UM game days, texting our emotions and cheering on the Wolverines win or lose. I thought of her the whole time I stood in the rain during Saturday's game. She loved the beach up here in Michigan too and we loved when you all would come up. She will be missed by all of the Capizzo family.

Ferol Allen - October 30, 2019 at 10:07 AM

FA

“ *Ferol Allen lit a candle in memory of Mary Elizabeth Goddard*



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**Ferol Allen** - October 30, 2019 at 09:53 AM

SM

“ *I'm so saddened to hear about Mary Beths passing. My heartfelt sympathy goes to Brad, Libby and William. The world has lost a beautiful, fun, loving person.*

*Mary Beth was a dear friend of many years going back to our Rochester NY days.*

*Her involvement in the Arts mentored me to get involved with her on various fundraisers which she always pulled off with style and grace.*

*Rest well and in peace dear Mary Beth*



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**Scott McGowan** - October 29, 2019 at 03:37 PM