



Lauri L. Washburn

August 21, 1961 - February 5, 2026

Lauri Stein Washburn (August 21, 1961 – February 5, 2026)

Lauri Stein Washburn was born on August 21, 1961, in Dearborn, Michigan, to Harold and Norma Stein. She grew up in Canton alongside her siblings, Sandy, Mark, and Mickey. The Stein household, filled with camaraderie, lively cocktail parties, and neighborhood adventures, shaped Lauri's vivacious and magnetic spirit.

Summers were spent on Long Lake in Alpena, Michigan, where some of her most cherished memories were made. She loved fishing with her grandfather, Mike, despite her being notorious for having a snagged line. She developed an early understanding of the importance of family.

In 1965, Harold and many of his Wayne Memorial High School classmates built homes right by one another, which created a close sense of community. Lauri's childhood home on North Drive was in an incredible neighborhood of large yards and woods affectionately known as "The Pines," where kiddos got into mischief and laughter were abundant.

At age 12 Lauri taught the neighborhood gals to dance. Of course recitals were held in family garages as well as nursing homes. She felt deeply blessed to have carried those childhood friendships with her into adulthood.

Lauri graduated from John Glenn High School, where she distinguished herself as a leader, accomplished student-athlete, and active participant in the arts. Crowned Homecoming Queen, she was admired for her poise and school spirit. She pursued gymnastics, dance, track, cheerleading, and

theater, showing early on her multifaceted talents and love of performance. Following graduation, Lauri pursued pageantry and professional modeling, achieving recognition as a Top Three finalist in the Miss Michigan competition. Her success reflected her confidence, composure, and determination.

In the early 1980s, during the disco era she adored, Lauri moved to Chicago, Illinois, where she earned her professional license from the Ippolito School of Cosmetology and apprenticed under her brother Mark at his salon, Mark James. Her reputation drew notable clients, including players of the legendary 1985 Chicago Bears, known as the 'Monsters of the Midway,' whose fierce defense and Super Bowl victory changed history.

Returning to Michigan in the mid-1990s, Lauri worked in various Ann Arbor salons including Heidi's, Tricho, and Infinity. After the loss of her brother Mark, she took on many of his clients, demonstrating her strength, loyalty, and commitment to preserving his legacy. She continuously honed her craft through workshops, seminars, Barber Boot Camp in North Carolina, and volunteer work cutting hair for the homeless. She traveled to Los Angeles, Chicago, and across Michigan to improve her skills, always embracing growth both professionally and personally.

In 2001, Lauri married Craig Washburn. Together, they shared vibrant personalities, easy conversation, and a genuine care for others. They traveled extensively, visiting Bora Bora, Mexico, Aruba, and Barbados. Lauri never packed lightly, once arriving with 26 pairs of shoes, a humorous testament to her love of fashion and flair for being prepared for every occasion.

In September 2003, Lauri welcomed her only child, Haylee Washburn. Motherhood became one of the defining roles of her life. She poured into her daughter the same drive, confidence, and determination that guided her own journey, creating a bond through holiday traditions, timeless films, and evenings filled with song and dance. Lauri always showed up for Haylee, every dance competition, birthday party, and most importantly her graduation from Western Michigan University. Though uncertain whether her health would

allow her to attend, Lauri was determined to be present at Haylee's graduation ceremony, and that she did. She was exceptionally proud of Haylee and every accomplishment she achieved.

In 2018, Lauri was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent a lumpectomy. When the cancer metastasized in 2022, she faced the biggest battle of her life with extraordinary courage. Not once did she complain nor ask why, instead she chose to fight hard.

We will forever miss our sweet Lauri's beautiful face, smile, and witty personality. Our hearts are broken without her; our lives will be forever changed. Lauri will be remembered for her elegance, ambition, unwavering work ethic, and deep devotion to family. She lived a life of growth, perseverance, and purpose: a legacy that continues through those she loved most.

Lauri was preceded in death by:

Grandparents: Michael and Clara Hogan; Frederick and Florence Stein

Parents: Harold and Norma Stein

Brothers: Mark and Michael Stein

She is survived by:

Husband: Douglas Craig Washburn

Daughter: Haylee Washburn

Nieces and nephews: Davion, Emitt, Gabriel, Jayden, Jessica, Jodi, Leah, and Rachel

Sister and Brother in Law: Sandy and Tim Burton

Sister in Law: Sandy Washburn and (husband) Mike Long

Visitation Thursday, February 19th 3-8 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road West, (between Sheldon & Beck) Plymouth, MI 48170. Funeral Service Friday, February 20th 11 AM at the funeral home.

A Special thank you to all of Lauri's family, friends, and clients who supported us during this difficult time. The family asks that all donations be made to Hospice of Michigan in Lauri's honor

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **19**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth
46401 Ann Arbor Road West
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 459-2250
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

Funeral Service

FEB **20**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth
46401 Ann Arbor Road West
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 459-2250
plymouth@vermeulenh.com

Tribute Wall

JW

“Lauri...We were 5 years old when you and I and Sandy met on North Drive. I crashed my bike into the ditch and picked flowers for both of you! I have so many fond memories of the “Canton Kids”! Always ❤️

Joe Warren - February 19 at 06:24 PM

JB

We had the best childhood ever!☐

Jane Banks - February 20 at 12:02 PM

TC

“Theresa Courter lit a candle in memory of Lauri L. Washburn



Theresa Courter - February 19 at 12:46 PM

TC

Lauri was light herself! I will always be grateful I had the opportunity to call her a friend. Meeting along her cancer journey, we shared some great conversations and grew to truly love and appreciate one another. She inspired so many and always wore her smile. Ill miss her greatly, but will carry her with me the rest of this journey. Prayers to her husband Craig and daughter Haley, for healing and comfort in the beautiful memories shared. Forever in our hearts Lauri!! Love you dearly!

Theresa Courter - February 19 at 12:51 PM

VH

“ May you rest in peace, Mark still has fond memories of the sack race he lost for you. We planted a tree in your honor. Mark & Vicki Higgins

Vicki K Higgins - February 19 at 12:02 PM

MH

“ Mark & Vicki Higgins planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lauri L. Washburn.

Mark & Vicki Higgins - February 19 at 11:50 AM

SM

“ Sandra M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lauri L. Washburn.

Sandra M. - February 19 at 11:17 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



February 18 at 08:25 PM



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

February 18 at 08:25 PM

MR

“ Mike and Justine Randick purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



Mike and Justine Randick - February 18 at 07:23 PM

YY

“ Your Neighbors, Steve and Jamie Yaros purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



Your Neighbors, Steve and Jamie Yaros - February 17 at 11:09 PM

BC

“ Bob&Linda Coutts purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



Bob&Linda Coutts - February 17 at 10:20 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



February 17 at 10:08 AM



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

February 17 at 10:08 AM



“ Earl and Linda Sue Hummel purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



Earl and Linda Sue Hummel - February 16 at 11:09 PM



“ Earl and Linda Sue Hummel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lauri L. Washburn.

Earl and Linda Sue Hummel - February 16 at 11:09 PM



“ Lauri was one of the best neighbors we have. She was always smiling, caring and spends genuine time catching up and sharing laughs. Her smile will be missed, but always remembered by the Bashir family.



Saamih Bashir - February 16 at 03:39 PM



I'm very sorry for your loss Rooster!

Jim Shepard - February 17 at 08:57 AM

LA

“ LOVE YOU ,GREG AND KIMBERLY ATTWOOD purchased the *Treasured Lilies Spray* for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



LOVE YOU ,GREG AND KIMBERLY ATTWOOD - February 16 at 11:39 AM

LA

“ LOVE YOU ,GREG AND KIMBERLY ATTWOOD planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lauri L. Washburn.

LOVE YOU ,GREG AND KIMBERLY ATTWOOD - February 16 at 11:39 AM

TF

“ The White Family purchased the *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



The White Family - February 15 at 07:24 PM

TL

“ Terry And Lorrie Leright purchased the *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet* for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.



Terry And Lorrie Leright - February 15 at 04:05 PM

TL

“ Terry And Lorrie Leright planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lauri L. Washburn.

Terry And Lorrie Leright - February 15 at 04:05 PM

TL

“ It's strange how growing up makes everyone drift apart. Our little gang was so tight back then — some of the best years of my life. Lauri was a big part of those memories.

I hadn't seen her in years, but I'm really missing her now. I'll always be grateful for the times we shared. Rest easy, Lauri
Terry Leright

Terry J Leright - February 15 at 04:01 PM

RL

“ I was so blessed to have spent some time with her last summer at our reunion gathering in west Michigan , I was able to go sit and get to know her a little better on the beach while she was getting some sun. She thoroughly looked very happy to be on the beach in front of the lighthouse on Lake Michigan. We were placed right in front of the lighthouse of Lake Michigan I will never forget it I looked over and seen her and her lounge chair, enjoying the sun and took advantage of sitting with her for a while. It was such a blessing. It was moments in time. I will never forget such a beautiful person gone to soon Prayers and condolences to Craig and Haley. Always remember the good times in the special moments you all had together. I know I will never forget mine with her love always
Rhonda Butler Lemke

Rhonda Lemke - February 15 at 03:18 PM

HF

“ *Hutcherson & Banks Families purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Lauri L. Washburn.*



Hutcherson & Banks Families - February 13 at 07:52 PM

HF

“ *Hutcherson & Banks Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lauri L. Washburn.*

Hutcherson & Banks Families - February 13 at 07:52 PM