



Lila O. Ludwig

May 3, 1951 - June 9, 2020

Lila Oppel Ludwig, 69, of Louisville passed away on June 9, 2020, at home with her family by her side. Born in Louisville on May 3, 1951, to Jim and Eleanor Oppel, she enjoyed summers with her brothers and neighborhood friends playing outside for hours and had special memories of getting to ride horses. She graduated from Westport High School in 1969 where she made lifelong friends, followed by a fun and memorable first year of college in Mississippi at Gulf Park College for Women before transferring to the Louisville School of Art. She then continued her education at the University of Kentucky. While art was her true passion, she became a registered nurse and worked at Kosair Children's Hospital Psych Unit. She spent years providing care for seniors as well, dedicating herself to putting those in need first which always came naturally for her.

Lila is survived by her cherished husband of 38 years, Kurt; her parents, Eleanor and Jim; two brothers Jim (Mary) of France and Steve of Ecuador; three children Sarah (Chris), Daniel (Sarah) and Andrew (Jessie); and four grandchildren, Madeleine, William, Nolan, and Max. Lila was an artist and a night owl who loved nothing more than to be working away on her latest art piece late into the night in her art room. She created many joyful memories with her family in the summers on Longboat Key, Florida. She loved her family and friends immensely, and though she will be dearly missed she will live on in countless ways, including in her grandchildren's smiles, the flowers in her gardens, and in the afternoon sunlight shining through the rain.

Arrangements are being handled by Pearson's Funeral Home and a service for immediate family will be held at Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville.

Lila cared greatly for the homeless and needy. The family asks that those who would like to send contributions to Wayside Christian Mission in lieu of flowers.

Comments



“ Dear Kurt, Karen and I are stunned to see this. Words are inadequate to say all we want to, suffice to say we loved her, and you are in our hearts and prayers.

Frank Meier - June 19, 2020 at 12:02 PM



“ Kurt,
You have lost such a beautiful soul. She was always a special person to me. I know I didn't see her often but she was VERY special. Love and prayers to you and the family.

Mary Harvey - June 19, 2020 at 08:52 AM



“ Jim and Mary,
I am so sorry to read of Lila's passing. My condolences to you and your extended family. Your grief has to be compounded by the strange days we've been living through. May the love of friends and family and happy memories of your sister comfort you.
Margo Coleman Miller

Margo Miller - June 17, 2020 at 02:14 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Lila's passing. Though I only knew her as a student at The Louisville School of Art, she left a lasting impression as a most joyful and talented student and person. The memory of her will persist in my mind as many of the talented students who I had the pleasure of seeing develop as vibrant and talented individuals. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy.
Garry Kaulitz (Former instructor at LSA)

garry kaulitz - June 17, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ Chinese Dogwood Tree was purchased for the family of Lila O. Ludwig.



June 16, 2020 at 10:00 PM



“ I am so incredibly sorry to learn of Lila’s passing. She was always a shining light of hope and compassion, and I looked forward to seeing you both at support group each month, and during office visits.

I send my most sincere love and prayers to you, and know that I think of you both often.

May you be reminded of her love today and always.

Caitlin Cox - June 16, 2020 at 03:05 PM



“ Dear Kurt,

I have always felt that you and Lila were among the kindest, sweetest people I have known and I was so sad to hear that she has passed away. When we quickly saw each other a few years ago at the Orchestra we had hoped to get together but it didn't happen and I regret it.

During our time at the art school, Lila was such a unique presence. Talented of course, but I also remember her as always positive with a ready smile. I do remember when a contradictory thought arose, her face created a particular quizzical and endearing look.

What a wonderful soul!

Years ago, my wife JoAnn and I used to see you two and I can't imagine how we drifted apart. Life certainly has a way of taking over my agendas. I loved your toys and moveable artworks – I hope you are still making them or will return to that so your grandkids will enjoy those special treasures and give them to their own grandkids.

I don't know if you heard, but JoAnn passed away 10 years ago from Alzheimer's. Although we knew the inevitable, it was one of the most traumatic times of my life. During her illness, our love grew more than I could have predicted and we shared many moments of joy and beauty. So I have a deep appreciation for your current state of mind, and if you ever want to get together to talk, I will be happy to see you again and to offer my ears and friendship.

Great love to you and your family, Dave

Dave Caudill 1855 Trevilian Way Louisville KY 40205 457-4769 dave@caudillart.com

Dave Caudill - June 16, 2020 at 08:13 AM



“ Dear Kurt,

There is a special place in my heart for you and Lila. What a sweet and gracious lady! I clearly remember the day the four of us met at support group, how we lingered after the meeting to discuss what this troubling diagnosis meant. Never would we imagine what the future held for Lila as well.

Praying for God's peace and comfort for you and your family.

Sincerely,
Gail Jennings

Gail Jennings - June 15, 2020 at 09:02 PM



“ Dear Kurt,
You and Lila have been in my prayers since learning of your illness. How shocked I was to learn that Lila was diagnosed in Oct with the same illness and needed the double lung transplant ASAP! Unfortunately, Covid-19 claimed another life, when Lila died, b/c transplants were put on hold. I'm so very sorry for you, your 3 kids, their spouses, and your 4 grandkids.

Lila was so artistic, but even more, she was such a sweet, gentle, and dear person. Though I haven't seen her in years, we kept in touch via messenger.

When Sarah, my daughter Bethany, and another neighbor Thomas were little, Lila, who was my next door neighbor, Thomas's mom, and I were together most summer days and whenever I wasn't teaching. Sometimes we would walk over to Triangle Park or the 3 kids would play in our apartments or in the backyard while the 3 moms would chat. I still remember Lila scrubbing, but not peeling, carrots for Sarah's snacks.

Lila will be missed, and prayers of strength and comfort are being sent to all who loved her.

Cheryl Scharf - June 15, 2020 at 05:11 PM



“ I am so heartbroken to hear of the passing of my precious friend, Lila. I will miss you forever. I've lost a soulmate.

Angie Miller

angie miller - June 15, 2020 at 12:54 PM



“ Martha and I were both distressed about Lila's untimely passing. We didn't see her often but remember a nice afternoon at Lakeside and dinners at your place.

We truly hope that all of your children and grandchildren are thriving.

Yours,
David and Martha Rosenberg

The Senior Rosenbergs - June 15, 2020 at 12:29 PM



“ Dearest Kurt,

I only just learned of Lila's passing and it is with great sorrow that I compose this note to you. Both you and Lila have been such wonderful and supportive friends. The kindness and concern that you both showed me during my time of turmoil means so very much to me. Thank you so much for the note that you sent recently. Please stay in touch and I will endeavor to the same. You are in my warmest thoughts and most sincere prayers. Your influence in my life will continue well into the future.

Deepest condolences, dear friend,
Your friend, Steve

Steve Lindsey - June 15, 2020 at 08:14 AM



“ Can only say that I will miss Lila. My love and comfort to her family and all those who love her. Kim Showalter

kim showalter - June 14, 2020 at 11:04 AM



“ Dear Kurt ,

I only knew you and Lila for a few years, but from the first time I met her, her warmth and smile was Felt. When she talked to you, she looked directly in to your eyes to listen intently on what you were saying.

What I remember most though is the love you had for each other. You could see it from across the room. Her concern for you and her love and devotion was unmistakable. The way you looked at each other was like watching a wonderful love story movie. Smiling and hand holding,, laughing... sweet memories of times together at UofL. She will be missed.

Best wishes,

Ruth O'Bryan

Ruth O'Bryan - June 13, 2020 at 04:00 AM



“ Daniel and family. I wrap my arms around you and Sarah at this time. I love hearing stories about your mom, because they reminded me of my mom who was a crafter and artist as well. I'm here for you always and forever

carrie - June 12, 2020 at 04:15 PM



“ Dear Kurt:

Sending my love and condolences to you, my heart is breaking on the passing of Lila.

It was a sincere pleasure and honor to know her. She possessed the voice of confidence and encouragement. Lila always had a beautiful smile that she shared and gave to others generously. Whenever I spoke with Lila, I could feel that she was really, really listening to me. During a conversation she was so intensely concentrated on each word shared, you felt the center of her concern. The art and talent of her listening and being the center of her concern is not a common human trait. It was a beautiful gift of herself to me and others. I feel very blessed to have received this gift from her.

Kurt please know that you are deeply loved by us, your UL family.

With deepest sympathy,

Betty Jo "BJ" Henehan, RN

Betty J. Henehan - June 12, 2020 at 03:58 PM



“ Lila was our strawberry blonde girl, an ageless beauty all flowing in a wave of diaphanous skirts, cozy cardigans, clunky sandals, and subtle pastel colors. In her hands, by some unfathomable alchemy, selvage edges and bits of fluff were transformed into fine tapestries and objects of indescribable delicacy. (Angels secretly envied her skills.)

The same focus on detail she lavished on her creations was generously turned to those she knew and loved, especially important to the children in her life. Asking the right questions, listening with undivided attention, she never let them doubt that they were valued and cherished.

Devoted aunt, dear sister and friend, Lila lovingly graced our world with her countless creations of dazzling beauty and fond memories.

With heartfelt condolences to Kurt, the children and grandchildren, we send our love and prayers.

Aunt Anne Marie and family.

Anne Marie Hatton - June 12, 2020 at 11:20 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Lila O. Ludwig.



June 11, 2020 at 11:59 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lila O. Ludwig.



June 11, 2020 at 09:47 PM



“ So many memories, I'm not sure where to start. But here goes....

Lila and I were lucky to have had Aaron and Andrew in October and December of the same year. So as sisters-in-law we were able to get together frequently for baby to toddler to childhood play dates for the boys. But it was just as fun for us. Will never forget one such occasion. Picked Lila and Andrew up and we headed to the park for some fun. We locked our purses in my van only to find that while we were playing someone had broken into the van and stolen them. I was angry, but Lila was panicked. This was before cell phones, so we had to drive home to report the stolen purses. They had our wallets, our drivers licenses, and Lila's house keys. Since I was the driver my keys were in my pocket. She was convinced they were going to use her license to find her house and use the keys to break in. Fortunately none of that happened. Within 24 hours police found everything but cash and any other valuables strewn in Beargrass Creek. What an adventure.

Adventures aside - Lila could always be counted on to bring a camera and take the best pictures at any family gathering. Thank you Lila for those captured memories.

Lila may have been the the truest artistic talent I have ever known. From painting, to textile arts, to exquisitely unique beads, she never ceased to amaze me.

Kurt, Sarah, Daniel, Andrew, the grand-kids, and the rest of the family, my deepest sympathy. Love and prayers for healing.

Laura Cummins - June 11, 2020 at 09:06 PM