



Ann Marie Morgret

October 13, 1972 - July 25, 2019

Ann Marie Morgret, 46, of Memphis, Tennessee, passed away on the morning of Thursday, July 25, 2019 at Regional One Medical Center.

Ann Marie was born with a heart defect in addition to Down Syndrome. She had open heart surgery at nine months, where she was given her first pacemaker. When she was born, her life expectancy was 20 years. Ann Marie had 46 years of life and during that time she often exceeded everyone's expectations.

Ann Marie was educated in the Memphis City School system and mainstreamed in eighth grade. She graduated from Craigmont High School in 1992 with a special education diploma. In 1994, she passed the Tennessee Proficiency Test and was awarded a regular diploma, becoming the first person with Down Syndrome to receive a regular diploma from the Memphis City School system. She also received an award for special achievement from Gerry House, the superintendent at the time.

Ann Marie was very active in the church. She grew up at Calvary Episcopal Church where she was a member of the choir, the EYC, and an acolyte. She began attending St. Elisabeth's Episcopal in 1995 where she was an acolyte and member of the altar guild. Ann Marie also assisted with Vacation Bible School at St. Elisabeth's and Christ United Methodist Church.

Over the years Ann Marie volunteered with a number of different organizations that advocate for people with Down Syndrome and other people with disabilities including the Down Syndrome Association of Memphis and the Mid-South and Special Kids and Families. She was a poster child for the March of Dimes and a member of the Special Olympics Fitness club, the PALs group, and The Memphis Center for Independent Living. Ann Marie was a huge fan of Chris Burke, the star of Life Goes On and she was very proud to have her own acting career. She started in a high school production of Macbeth, as one of the three apparitions. She participated in the PALs Theater Group and their production of Waiting for MATA. She was most known for her work at Theatre Memphis in

their annual production of A Christmas Carol. She performed in their truncated production for school groups for nine years in various roles. She was thankful for the opportunity to teach both her fellow actors and the students in the audience about inclusivity and acceptance. Ann Marie and her family are forever grateful to Ed Tatum, the director who first trusted her with the soup cart after witnessing her impeccable fainting ability during her audition.

Ann Marie is survived by her parents, Andrew J. and Jane H. Morgret, and her two younger siblings, Mimi Gay Morgret and John Andrew Morgret.

Services are scheduled for Tuesday, July 30, 2019, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3245 Central Avenue, in Memphis. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m. followed by the funeral service at 11 a.m. The burial will take place at Memorial Park immediately following the service. Those attending the service are encouraged to wear pink, Ann Marie's favorite color.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Down Syndrome Association of Memphis and the Mid-South (dsamemphis.org), the Firefighters Burn Center at Regional One (regionalonehealth.org), or to the charity of your choice.

"It's all right children. Life is made up of meetings and partings. That is the way of it. I am sure that we shall never forget Tiny Tim, or this first parting that there was among us." –
The Muppet Christmas Carol

Cemetery

Memorial Park Cemetery

5668 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN, 38120

Events

JUL **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

30

St. John's Episcopal Church
3245 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN, US, 38111

JUL **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

30

St. John's Episcopal Church
3245 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN, US, 38111

Comments



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Ann Marie Morgret.



July 28, 2019 at 07:23 PM



“ Her smile was always present and contagious. Ann Marie brought joy to all who knew her. Ann Bugbee

Ann Bugbee - July 27, 2019 at 08:37 PM



“ A dear friend, Anne Marie always had the invitation at the end of our Nativity plays at St. E's and she always delivered. Best of all she introduced me to Bon Jovi 3 or so years ago ! Love you forever Anne Marie !!!

Dawn Currica - July 27, 2019 at 07:43 PM



“ I am so broken hearted for this loss to you and the whole family. I will always remember Ann Marie and how sweet and polite she was whenever I saw her. She always had a “Hi Jacque, it's nice to see you” and a smile. But her personality was like no other, and I am so glad you shared some of her Ann Marie-isms. Some are priceless and so well put! We love you Ann Marie .

Jacque Hood - July 27, 2019 at 02:33 PM



“ Ann Marie has been a part of my life longer than most of my blood-related family. My favorite memories of her are from high school, when I felt awkward and out of place, Ann Marie, who was different from every other kid was bold and unafraid to express herself. Any time she heard a song on the radio was an opportunity to sing proudly and share her voice. She never worried of what other people would think or that her voice didn't matter. We should all be that proud and joyful. And nobody ever looked as fabulous wearing pink.

Jonathan Devin-Sanders - July 27, 2019 at 11:50 AM



“ Mimi, I am broken-hearted for you and your family. I know how much you love her. I have always loved talking to her and to your mom. There was a bond there that I felt - maybe because of James- and some things we understand as family. I will keep all of you in my prayers.

Iorraine cotten - July 27, 2019 at 02:14 PM



“ So very sorry to hear of Ann Marie's passing. She will always have a very special place in my heart and I loved spoiling her on her birthdays and at Christmas. I'll never forget how surprised and excited she was to show off her new outfit and her make up on her 40th birthday . She is now resting in the arms of her Savior God Bless You All .

Anne Taylor - July 27, 2019 at 05:44 PM



“ A valued member of our altar guild team. No one at St. E's ever had a dull pencil when Ann Marie was on the job. Always a smile and a good morning.

Dorothy Meeks - July 28, 2019 at 03:01 PM



“ I loved being in the cast with Ann Marie for several years in A Christmas Carol. She was such a great soup vendor and could fall like no other! She always was so happy to come be on stage each day. She had a wonderful smile and I am so glad I got to know her. You are missed by so many!

Jennifer S Hurley - July 27, 2019 at 11:21 AM



“ When Ann Marie was in A Christmas Carol after the show she would come up and hang out in Mimi's office until her mom came to pick her up. She would work on word search puzzles and she went through a lot of pencils because she would sharpen them in the electric pencil sharpener for a good 2 minutes without taking it out. I sure miss those days. I love you Ann Marie you were so special to so many.



Lisa Hall-Hayes - July 26, 2019 at 10:42 AM