



Leslie Cassis-Withun

November 4, 1952 - July 4, 2020

Mrs. Leslie Cassis-Withun, age 67, of Grand Haven passed away Saturday, July 4, 2020 at home. She was born November 4, 1952 in Grand Rapids to Ferris and Dorothy “Dot” (Ellis) Cassis. On May 3, 1980 she married Paul Withun in Grand Haven.

Leslie worked for WGHN for over 30 years and was looking forward to her retirement at the end of this year. She had just joined the board of directors for The Tri-Cities Family YMCA, a former president of the Grand Haven Schools Foundation and a Rotarian of the Year with the Grand Haven Rotary. Leslie enjoyed snow skiing, traveling and our Grand Haven beaches. She will be greatly missed by all who had an opportunity to know her.

She is survived by her husband Paul; son, RJ Withun (Jess Barker) of Grand Haven; sister, Stacey (Dr Arianna Morales) Cassis; and mother-in-law, Bonnie Withun. She was preceded in death by her parents, Ferris and Dot; her aunt Jean Ellis and father-in-law, Robert Withun.

A private family funeral service will be held. Interment will take place in Lake Forest Cemetery. Memorial contributions in memory of Leslie may be given to Grand Haven Schools Foundation (ghsf.org) or the Tri-Cities Family YMCA (tcfymca.org/about-us/support/). Please sign the family’s online guestbook at www.sytsemafh.com.

Cemetery

Lake Forest Cemetery

1304 Lake Ave.

Grand Haven, MI, 49417

Comments



“ I will miss seeing Leslie around town and talking to her about anything and everything, she was such a great listener and always had a great smile on her face . Sending Peace and Love to you all.
Amey Rothman

Amey Wipperfurth Rothman - July 11 at 06:39 PM



“ Paul and family, we were so sorry to hear of Leslie's passing. We always enjoyed seeing you two around town and at all the WGHN functions, auctions and especially the summer WGHN concerts. She was always involved in Grand Haven events and she will be greatly missed.
Cindy & Tim Oegema

Cindy Oegema - July 09 at 02:14 PM



“ Very sorry for your loss. I grew up on the same street as Leslie and Stacey. The last time I saw Leslie was a couple of years ago. We were laughing about being in line at the farmer's market at 7:45 a.m. on a Saturday waiting for a load of our favorite sweet corn to arrive. What a great smile and laugh she had!

Nancy Dornbos Hansen - July 08 at 11:40 AM



“ Leslie had a big smile and a kind heart. RIP my friend.

Mary Ann (Wester) Neary - July 08 at 09:09 AM



“ Dear Paul and RJ,

So deeply sorry for your loss. From being a fellow GHHS ski team parent to fellow GHSF board member; Leslie always went above and beyond for whatever the need was with love, professionalism and pride. She will be truly missed.



Susan Jorgensen Blauvelt - July 08 at 08:16 AM



“ So sorry for your loss



Mary Ickes - July 07 at 09:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paul Withun - July 07 at 09:04 PM



“ my love for ever Leslie, hope you are enjoying a sandy beach and watching the waves

Paul Withun - July 07 at 09:06 PM



“ Dear Stacey, Arianna, Paul, RJ, and family...

I am so sorry for your loss. Leslie was such a wonderful person in our town and her friendly smile and hello will be greatly missed. Thinking of you with love.

Carey D.K.

Carey DeWitt Korpi - July 08 at 08:40 AM



“ Always smiling.....Leslie we will miss that smile and your positive attitude. Our deepest sympathies to Paul, RJ, Stacey, Arianna and family.....

Nancy Reame - July 15 at 12:13 PM



“ Dear Paul, RJ, Stacey, and Arianna,

It's taken me this long to stop being so sad about losing our wonderful Leslie or "Lester" as my mom often called her. There are so many memories that include times at Wayne & Co that not only include Leslie but her mom and aunt. It's been a long wonderful, delightful friendship in general as well as years together in Rotary. Over these last years, she always had her best smile on even though she was valiantly fighting her cancer. The last time I saw her she replied to my query "that day was a good day!" I'm so glad that I got to see her on one of her good days and with her BIG smile!

My love and deepest sympathy to you all,

Bari

Bari S Johnson - July 19 at 03:33 PM



“ Paul, so sorry to hear of Leslie's passing, you have our deepest sympathy. Dennis & Teresa Cuti

Dennis Cuti - July 07 at 08:45 PM



“ Dear Paul,
We are so sorry to hear of Leslie's passing. We remember very fun times with you both. Our condolences, Rich & Linda Welch

Linda Welch - July 07 at 03:44 PM



“ Paul, RJ, and family we are devastated at the loss of Leslie. She was a dear friend and business associate. She all made us better. So glad we had last New Years Eve together. She will be missed not just by us personally but by the community. She loved Grand Haven. Sid and Kathie Disbrow

Dr. Sid Disbrow - July 07 at 12:14 PM



“ Paul and family. So sorry for your loss, our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this time. we had good times when we were neighbors on Ohio Ave. God's Grace to your family.

Denny Van Hall - July 07 at 10:27 AM



“ So sad to hear this about Leslie.

We met in the fall of 1970 at MCC in a Psychology class. We were both shy at first but when she found out I played for a football rival (RPHS) we became fast friends. I was home from MSU in the summer of 1972 when she invited me to the Coast Guard Festival for an evening. What a fun evening we had. I still remember it after all these years. Later on we visited a nearby club where she knew many of the people there---her high school friends came up to us that evening to say hi to her and to meet me. What a genuinely friendly group of friends she had.

I am glad to see she had such a successful career in Grand Haven.....my sympathies to the family. She was a good friend and even better person.

Tom Selander - July 07 at 08:14 AM



“ Paul and RJ~ Our deepest sympathy to you in the passing of Leslie. Our friendship goes from being GH classmates, talking about attending our 50th class reunion, to our sons playing sports in high school. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Barb and Jim, Jessica and David Andrus

Barbara Andrus - July 07 at 07:10 AM



“ I can't even remember how long I had the pleasure of working with Leslie during her time at WGHN, but it was probably since the mid 1990's. She was always a genuine pleasure to see, smiling and ready to chat about what was going on with me at the YMCA and the United Way. Thank you Leslie for always making me feel welcome, and my thoughts and prayers to her family.

Patrick Moran

Patrick Moran - July 06 at 11:17 PM



“ Leslie was the breath of fresh air and the smile that arrived when you needed it most. Even in light of her battle she'd get that grin on and smile with “one day at a time” to my inquiries of her health. Some people pass through your life like a breeze , but Leslie entered with smile a hug and a heart that was open and simply put she made the world a better happier place to live in especially here in Grand Haven.

commander m j smith - July 06 at 05:34 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all ! Shd was a sweet person ! God bless



Wanda Essebaggers - July 06 at 03:41 PM



“ Since I first opened 26 years ago this lady has all ways been in our corner. Leslie you will be deeply missed! To the family, you will all be in our prayers.

Karl & Sara- Earth's Edge

karl tucker - July 06 at 02:34 PM



“ Paul, Ryan, and Bonnie, I was so saddened to hear about Leslie. We are all thinking of you now, and we will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. I hope all the wonderful memories you hold of Leslie will give you peace at this difficult time and you n the future. With Sympathy, Laurie Sobolik Caputo & Dirk Hunter

Laurie Caputo - July 06 at 01:28 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Leslie Cassis-Withun.



July 06 at 01:13 PM



“ So very sad to hear this. She was a super person!
Our sympathies to all the family.

Pete and Gordeen Sherwood

Gordeen Sherwood - July 06 at 11:27 AM



“ I can't remember the first time I met Leslie while we both worked at WGHN, but her presence there was always a reassuring one, because of her dedication to her work. Although we sometimes did not see eye to eye, we did respect each other's opinions. Leslie was a person you will never forget. I was always impressed with her love for her family and her second family as well, WGHN. I remember the times we compared notes with how we were dealing with our boys who were about a year apart. I was so impressed with how much she loved the great outdoors and the times she and family spent at the Homestead. Her presence will be missed by many.

Ron Mass - July 06 at 11:18 AM



“ Class of 1970 sends its SYMPATHY

linda brock - July 06 at 10:37 AM



“ Paul, I'm so sorry to hear of Leslie's passing. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Helena - July 06 at 10:36 AM



“ I was sorry to hear about Leslie's passing. I know WGHN was a HUGE part of her life. I am sure she will be missed by many. Linda Start Brock - Class of 70

Linda Brock - July 06 at 10:35 AM



“ Friend, Mentor, Sister. People come in and out of your life but there are few who become not only a part of it but help you to become who you are. Leslie was beautiful, tenacious, wise, and my calm throughout many a storm. Working alongside Leslie for 20 years at WGHN - was my privilege. Her commitment and care for the job she did was clear in everything she did. She didn't have "Clients" she had friends and her roots ran deep. She gave of herself in so many ways to the community she lived in and loved. She taught me so very much. How to be tough, diplomatic, not take myself too serious, when to take the high road, and to always be true to who you are. We shared laughter, tears, joys and sorrows. We watched one another's kid's growup, she introduced me to Espresso Martinis, we laughed our way through countless station events, and was always up for some coffee talk. She helped me get through my Mother's death. I always said Leslie was made of steel...she was, but that sheild was made of love, understanding, compassion, wisdom, and laughter. She was a Warrior, Wife, Mother, Business Woman, Friend, Mentor and My Adopted Sister...and I will miss her dearly, but I will continue to honor her in action, armed with all she gave and taught me.



Rose Dunlap - July 06 at 10:19 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers to Paul, RJ, and your families. We always enjoyed our get togethers after the home football games at Applebee's. May she Rest In Peace.

Tony Green - July 06 at 10:13 AM



“ Paul and Family, So very sorry to learn of your loss. Leslie was a talented, spirited driving force in the community...truly a one-of-a-kind original. We will miss her.

Bill and Marcia Struyk

Bill Struyk - July 06 at 09:30 AM



“ Paul, I am so sorry to hear about Leslie. I have not had much contact with her since she left Mercy many, many, years ago but I had the pleasure of working with her for lots of years. It is so sad to see of her passing. I thought of her often. I had the pleasure of seeing and talking with her we ran into each other and we talked for a while. She sounded like she was doing great, showed me a picture of you grown son, and she shared some of what she was doing. She sounded like she was a busy girl. Again I am so sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you and your son during this difficult time.

Cathy Schmidt-(Brown)

cathy schmidt - July 06 at 07:43 AM



“ I had the honor of working with Leslie with several different organizations over the years including Special Olympics and the Ottawa County Fair. She was an incredible person to know and I considered her a friend. She will be missed.

Mark Dalman - July 06 at 07:12 AM



“ Paul and family we are so sorry to hear of Leslie's passing she was truly one in a million and will be missed. I always enjoyed her friendship and our talks. Blessing to you.

Howard and Sharon Behm

Sharon Behm - July 05 at 09:51 PM



“ "For 21 years, I had the honor of working with Leslie. Without her, there would be no me or WGHN. She asked me in March if my daughter was on track to graduate high school. I said yes. The next week she mailed her a graduation card to make sure Hannah received it. She was class, tenacity and caring. If a business had successful promotion in the last 30 years in this town, you can bet she had a part in it. You were loved and you will be missed."

Jesse Bruce - July 05 at 09:08 PM



“ Leslie was simply a joy to know. She was kind and thoughtful, but also strong and courageous. I wish God's peace and comfort to all of us she leaves behind.

Ron Bultje - July 07 at 05:08 AM



“ I had the pleasure of working with Leslie for over 13 years and the even bigger pleasure of calling her my friend for the past 17 years. She will be missed.

Vicki Coulson - July 05 at 07:15 PM