



Tara Suzanne Estep

July 9, 1971 - January 2, 2025

Tara Suzanne Estep was born on July 9, 1971, in Middlesboro, Ky and passed away at her home on January 2, 2025 following a fifteen-year battle with Parkinson's – never losing her faith in God's plan.

Tara was preceded in death by mother Suzanne Cavin Estep, maternal grandparents Onlie and Pauline Neal Cavin, and paternal grandparents Willard and Ruth Gilpin Estep.

Tara is survived by son Dylan Michael Williams and daughter Megan Shae Williams (fiancé Gabriel Fultz), father Terry Estep, and sisters Stacy Estep Munsey (Michael), Torry Estep Taylor (Scott), Sasha Estep Hixson (Andrew), and Teri Estep Dean (Derek) and nieces and nephews Lincoln, Henry, Grant, and Sutton Munsey; Willow Reese and Reed Taylor; Benjamin and Annabel Hixson, and Kieran Dean.

The first of five girls, Tara's giving nature carried into her chosen career. Tara was retired from the Lee County Public Schools where she served as a special education teacher before becoming principal at Elydale Elementary School. If you were lucky enough to be a student of hers, you know she was always your biggest advocate and never forgot you.

Tara was truly an example of Christian love and service. She was known for

her kindness and compassion to others. Although her own health was declining for several years, she frequently took food and transported the sick always focusing on others instead of herself. If you were fortunate to call Tara friend, you know the size of her heart was unmatched.

Her love for the Lord remained steadfast throughout her life. Never allowing her health issues to hinder her, come rain, sunshine, or hail, she weathered the storms to regularly attend church with a determined heart to serve God in Christian fellowship and love.

She always saw the best in people and cared for others far more than herself. Most people with the diagnosis she received would have given up. Not Tara, her faith and determination only grew. Tara's trust in God was only matched by her love and devotion to her children. Dylan and Megan were truly her life and purpose. Her dog, Spooky, became her loving and constant companion.

A special thank you to Tara's Parkinson specialist, Dr. Jay Ferrara. Tara placed such trust in him that he continued her care from the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center in Louisville, Ky to his continuing practices in Roanoke, Va and Columbia, SC. Dr. Ferrara is the epitome of what a caring, compassionate doctor should be. The family is so grateful to her Special care givers and friends Kelley Krause-Kozak and Nicole Lemons. Also, thank you to Lisa Staley and Kathi Massengill.

Her sweet and enduring spirit will live on in the lives of her children and everyone she touched.

Visitation will be Tuesday, January 7, 2025 from 4-6pm, at The Praise and Worship Center, with the funeral to follow officiated by D.J. Wilder and Jody Moore. Burial will be Wednesday January 8, 2025 at Lee Memorial Gardens Park West at 11 am.

Pallbearers will be Gabriel Fultz, Michael Munsey, Scott Taylor, Andrew Hixson, Benjamin Hixson, Lincoln Munsey, Henry Munsey, and Derek Dean. Honorary pall bearers Grant Munsey, Reed Taylor, Kieran Dean, and Sutton Munsey.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Van Huss Grove Cemetery Fund or the Estep Family Cemetery in care of Farmers and Miners Bank 41526 West Morgan Ave., Pennington Gap, VA 24277.

Cemetery Details

Lee Memorial Gardens Park West

Rose Hill, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 7. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Praise and Worship Center
224 Wilders Peak Drive
Rose Hill, VA 24281

Funeral Service

JAN 7. 6:00 PM (ET)

Praise and Worship Center
224 Wilders Peak Drive
Rose Hill, VA 24281

Graveside service

JAN 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lee Memorial Gardens Park West
Rose Hill, VA

Tribute Wall

MM

“ So sorry to hear about Tara, we went to School together.. She was always nice and kind to others..

Mark Minton - January 14, 2025 at 02:17 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Tara Suzanne Estep.



January 09, 2025 at 01:40 PM

LB

“ Tara gave me my first teaching job at Elydale and I will forever be grateful. She treated me with great respect and believed in me.. my sympathies go out to the family.

Loma Brooks - January 08, 2025 at 12:23 PM

MB

“ So sorry for your loss, love and prayers



Melissa Burke - January 07, 2025 at 06:17 PM



“ Richard and Ruby Gilpin purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Tara Suzanne Estep.



Richard and Ruby Gilpin - January 06, 2025 at 09:07 PM



“ 64 files added to the album Life Tributes



Robinette Funeral Homes - January 06, 2025 at 01:53 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Tara Suzanne Estep.

January 05, 2025 at 07:59 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Tara Suzanne Estep.



January 05, 2025 at 07:59 PM

MB

“ *Mary Brown lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep*



Mary Brown - January 05, 2025 at 07:07 PM

PS

“ *Sasha and family - Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. Pam and Billy Seals*

Pam amd Billy Seals - January 05, 2025 at 03:48 PM

HM

“ *Helen Marcum lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep*



Helen Marcum - January 05, 2025 at 02:17 PM



“ *Phyllis Rice lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep*



Phyllis Rice - January 05, 2025 at 01:42 PM

LR

“ Tara was a godsend to my special needs daughter, Tracey. When another school showed no interest in educating her, Tara said to bring her to Elydale, which we did. In the 8 years there, Tara showed care, compassion, and interest in Tracey's education. If I ever asked to speak to her, she always made time and addressed any concerns. I could never thank her enough for what she did. I didn't get to see Tara much once Tracey graduated, but I thought of her often. Needless to say, my family was saddened to hear of her passing. A big thank you to Dylan and Megan for sharing your mom with my daughter. May Tara be at peace, free from the Parkinson's that she fought for many years. Fly with the angels Tara. We will meet again.



Lisa, Teddy and Tracey Ramsey - January 05, 2025 at 12:30 PM

LH

“ Lois Hatfield lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep



Lois Hatfield - January 05, 2025 at 11:14 AM

DG

“ Debbie Garrett lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep



Debbie Garrett - January 05, 2025 at 10:00 AM

VS

“ Vicki R Snodgrass lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep



Vicki R Snodgrass - January 05, 2025 at 09:48 AM

JU

“ Julia lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep



Julia - January 05, 2025 at 09:06 AM

SH

“ Thinking of all the family during this sad time.

sammie R horton - January 04, 2025 at 09:43 PM

CM

“ Tara was a precious soul ! She was a wonderful teacher and just ask any of her students and they will say we loved and she loved us ! You are no longer suffering my friend your in the arms of Jesus!

Carolyn Moles - January 04, 2025 at 09:02 PM

LM

“ *Lucretia Marcum lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep*



Lucretia Marcum - January 04, 2025 at 08:01 PM

DK

“ *A very kind and strong lady who fought a good fight. May she now rest in peace. Prayers of comfort for her family. She will be missed.*

Dianne and Gary Kiser - January 04, 2025 at 07:45 PM

RG

“ *Tara and I met about 8 years ago. She shared so sweetly and told of her battle with PD, I am older than Tara; but her wisdom and contagious kindness made us quick friends. I wish we could have met again. She loved her family deeply. Ruby Gilpin*

Ruby Gilpin - January 04, 2025 at 06:18 PM

RC

“ *Roger, Christina. “Sukie”, Robin Charlie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tara Suzanne Estep.*

Roger, Christina. “Sukie”, Robin Charlie - January 04, 2025 at 03:42 PM

RC

“ Roger, Christina. “Sukie”, Robin Charlie purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Tara Suzanne Estep.



Roger, Christina. “Sukie”, Robin Charlie - January 04, 2025 at 03:42 PM

RG

“ Roger, Christina "Sukie", Robin & Charlie Gilpin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tara Suzanne Estep.

Roger, Christina "Sukie", Robin & Charlie Gilpin - January 04, 2025 at 03:31 PM

RH

“ My heart is broken for her family, she was always so friendly and had a smile on her face, prayers of comfort for the family.



Roberta Hatton Harrell - January 04, 2025 at 11:10 AM

SM

“ We are so sorry for your loss. We are praying for you at this difficult time.
Steve & Regenia Massey

Steven Massey - January 04, 2025 at 09:26 AM

DP

“ *Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of d this long time friend and fellow educator.*

Doris and Larry Presley - January 03, 2025 at 11:05 PM

KW

“ *Prayers for Gods comfort!!!*



Kathy Wolfe - January 03, 2025 at 08:09 PM

WA

“ *Tara was an awesome lady and was always so friendly. I loved working with her in the Lee County Public School System. Prayers for peace and comfort for her family and friends.*

Wandaleen Adams - January 03, 2025 at 07:48 PM

WA

“ *Wandaleen Adams lit a candle in memory of Tara Suzanne Estep*



Wandaleen Adams - January 03, 2025 at 07:45 PM



“ *Tara was a strong and kind women she gave me strength when I was sick because she was so strong I will miss you my friend until we meet again fly hi Thank s for being so good to all kids and especially mine love always Nick , Tabitha, & Mindy Beal-Ray*

Neicy Beal - January 03, 2025 at 06:24 PM

SN

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Tara. Prayers for the family during this time.*

Sandy Johnson Newman

Sandra J Newman - January 03, 2025 at 06:15 PM