



Kris Lopresti

February 25, 1956 - October 7, 2020

RICHMOND, Ind. – Kris Lopresti, whose kind heart only cancer could still, passed away at home Wednesday morning, October 7, 2020, surrounded by the family she loved so deeply.

Born, Kristine Ann Mitchell, 64 years ago in Gary, Indiana, she spent most of her childhood in Fort Wayne, Indiana, graduating from Heritage High School. Kris earned an associate's degree at Ball State University and while there, went on a blind date with a senior named, Mike Lopresti. They would marry two years later and stay together for 44 years.

Marriage brought Kris to Richmond, where she earned another degree at IU East and then found her life's calling – attending to the needs of children. Kris worked at Kiddie Kollege and later co-founded Noah's Ark Daycare and the Diplomas' program at Richmond High School. She spent several years as the Communities In Schools officer at RHS and was also a class and student council advisor. Kris later was the office manager for the Excel Center and through the years, volunteered anywhere and anytime there was a need. But always, her first priority was her own children. With a husband who often traveled, Kris was called upon to carry a heavy parental burden. The courage of her cancer fight was clear in the final weeks of her life. Kris completed a 100-mile walk challenge, putting in her laps while refusing to be stopped by chemotherapy, only a month before entering hospice care.

Survivors include her husband, Mike; daughters, Abby Brown and Karen Rice, both of Indianapolis, Indiana; son, John Lopresti of Williamsburg, Virginia; grandson, Michael Brown; brother, Kent Mitchell of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; and various uncles, aunts, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Thelma Mitchell.

One of her happiest moments while working at RHS was the idea of hosting a prom at the Starr Gennett Building in the Whitewater Valley Gorge Park, its success opening the way for the facility to be used for many events to this day. This is where calling for Kris Lopresti will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 13, 2020. The memorial visitation will be in an open-air facility, and the family kindly requests that masks be worn and social distancing strictly maintained.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Kris Lopresti Family Scholarship fund at the Wayne County Foundation, which will be used as an annual scholarship for a local student. Please make gifts payable to the Wayne County Foundation, 33 South 7th Street, Richmond, IN 47374 and indicate "in memory of Kris Lopresti" on your gift. You may also contribute online at www.waynecountyfoundation.org.

Condolences may be sent to the family via the guest book at www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com.

Events

OCT **Memorial Visitation** 04:00PM - 06:00PM

13
Starr Gennett Building
in the Whitewater Valley Gorge Park, Richmond, IN, US, 47374

Comments



“ Hello Mike.

Sorry Kris is no longer with us but you can bet your last Richmond Red Devils shirt she is in a better place. You and she have brought more personal help and joy to the community than any other couple I know. Wish I could be there to say this in person.
Jess Price

Jess Price - October 13 at 08:00 PM



“ Karen,

We know that you will miss your mother, but please know that she is without pain and in a much better place - now that she is with our heavenly Father. Her light and the way she effected people's lives will continue through the light she helped grow in you. Every sacrifice she made for you - can be seen in the woman you have become. Every sacrifice you made for her; we know she greatly appreciated. Our thoughts and prayers continue for you and your family during this difficult time. Know that you are loved!!!
Todd, Cindy, and Jess Shelton

Cynthia Shelton - October 13 at 12:10 PM



“ Mike - I want to offer a prayer of thanks for the way Kris shared you with so much of America for over 40 years. Though I didn't come to know her till a few years ago, it was always evident to me how much she enjoyed watching you be happy in your work. Her Spirit will be with you always.
Cal

Cal - October 12 at 10:27 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Kris Mitchell Lopresti



Tim Raper - October 11 at 11:28 AM



“ Oh Mike we are so sorry. We just learned and our hearts go out to you and the kids. Kris was a special person and a wonderful neighbor. She always spoke or gave us a wave while we walked the dog or worked in the yard. Her kindness was evident the first time we spoke and she always had a kind word. You were blessed when you first met her and you are blessed to have all the wonderful memories you and your kids will keep of her. She was a special person and the world is lessened by her passing.

Michele and Neal Curry

neal curry - October 11 at 08:03 AM



“ Kris was the sparkplug at Richmond High School and the Excel Center who continually cared for and supported students in so many, many ways. She helped students create memories, miracles, and milestones in their lives that will last forever. How can any one ever forget her beautiful smile, her kindness, her enthusiasm for her many projects, her dedication to young people, and most of all, her eternal, bubbling energy in all things she tackled. She is irreplaceable, a true gift to us all and will be sorely missed by so many.

Dixie Robinson

Dixie Robinson - October 10 at 03:54 PM



“ Carol Clemmer Rhue lit a candle in memory of Kris Lopresti



Carol Clemmer Rhue - October 10 at 10:32 AM



“ I have great memories of 20 years ago when Kris and Mike helped run the GBA basketball league. Their daughter played that year, and my daughter was on the team I coached. Several of their friends were on the respective teams we coached. As I recall there were some excellent games that year, and the kids all seemed to be having a great time. It was a really positive experience, and Kris ran the league well and put a friendly, welcoming countenance on the league.
Ghlee Jewison

Ghlee Jewison - October 10 at 09:48 AM



“ Kris Lopresti was one of the nicest, kindest people the good Lord ever placed on the planet. She was a wonderful wife to Michael J. and mother to Abby, John, and my shortstop Karen. She was a friend to all who knew her. Her husband, children, grandchildren, and family will miss her beyond words. Those of us who also knew her will also miss her very much. God bless the Lopresti family. J. Michael, Nancy, and Kelsey Perez

J Michael and Nancy Perez - October 09 at 11:04 PM



“ My name is Gloria Alvarado and I am the MOA at the Excel Center in Clarksville, IN. I had the pleasure to know Kris through the Excel Center. She always had a smile on her face, such a kind lady and it was always a pleasure to see her. May the good Lord above ease your mind in letting you know that Kris was a beautiful person and all those who were able to know her were fortunate.

Sincerely,
Gloria Alvarado



Gloria Alvarado - October 09 at 01:49 PM



“ Kimberly Moore

My Aunt Kris and I shared a love for Early Childhood Education. I will always remember her laugh, kindness and humility. Her strength will carry as inspiration. Love to you Uncle Mike, Abbey, John and Karen.

Kimberly Moore

Kimberly Moore - October 09 at 05:12 PM



“ I had the privilege of knowing Kris through Goodwill and the Excel Center. She was a strong partner of a program I manage that helps older adults get back to employment. She was kind beyond measure and was an excellent trainer for our program participants. I personally enjoyed working with her. I'm so sorry that her earthly journey has ended. May she rest in peace and may her family and friends be comforted as they grieve.

Kris Green - October 09 at 11:09 AM



“ My niece Kris was such a kind and loving person, who cared for her parents with such dedication during their last days (my brother Bill was her father). Her parents were so proud of her, not only for her work with children and her community involvement, but also for her strong commitment to and support of her family. (You might find interesting this old clipping of the local story of her daughter Abby's birth: <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/24600655/abbys-birth/>) Blessings to all of you who are left with an empty place in your heart that she had filled.

Jim Mitchell - October 09 at 11:02 AM



“ I met Kris, when I worked as a Early childhood / First Steps Teacher for Special needs children. Prayers for her family!



Susan Swanson - October 09 at 09:18 AM



“ We are so saddened for your tremendous loss. Kris was such a kind woman, always smiling and a kind word for all. I was fortunate to work with her on several occasions and just being around her was a blessing. We will hold all of you in our thoughts and prayers



Susie Ecker - October 09 at 08:04 AM



“ I will always miss your kind heart that made me feel safe in school your we're family.



Deona Comiso - October 08 at 10:35 PM



“ Kris was the missing piece to fully build The Excel Center; she was the heartbeat of our school. Every member of our community was better - stronger of heart, more generous of spirit - because of her. I personally and forever grateful for her belief in me every time I stumbled, and her encouragement on my hardest days. I wouldn't be who I am without her. She will always be loved and your memory cherished by many. Kris lifted up individuals and families across generations, she listened and loved across lines of difference, and her example will continue to guide all of us as educators and in finding our way towards being better humans.



Erika Haskins - October 08 at 06:06 PM



“ Sympathy goes out Mike and his families in Kris's passing. may all the great memories of the past help ease the pain in her loss. God Bless you All Mona Jean Brown Newkirk Dawson!



Mona "Jean" Brown Newkirk Dawson - October 08 at 04:30 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Kris's passing. Sending my thoughts and prayers for all.
Maryanne Lopresti



Maryanne Lopresti - October 08 at 03:41 PM



“ This was truly a shock to see. I met Kris many, many years ago when my children attended Noah's Ark. She was one of the most kind-hearted people I have ever meet. So sorry for your family's loss.

Christie Larsen - October 08 at 02:16 PM



“ It was an honor getting to know you through our work family here at The Excel Center. I'm so terribly sorry for your family's loss. I will keep you all in our prayers.



Tami Clothier - October 08 at 12:31 PM



“ I recall her from early days ie Kiddie Kollege and Crestadale school kind and a supporter of all children
Thoughts and prayers to all for this loss
From
Cavecreek AZ

Ellen Kemper - October 08 at 12:08 PM



“ she meant so much to me and my family cant imagine what i'm going to do tuesday

Jonathon Jennings - October 08 at 11:52 AM



“ Kris was an amazing woman. She gave so much to the youth of Richmond. She will be sorely missed. Praying for her family.

Jean Cates - October 08 at 09:09 AM



“ Kris was a tireless champion for all children. A gifted organizer and an energetic enthusiastic volunteer for any worthy cause. The world was a better place with her in it. Everyone lucky enough to know her will miss her. My heart goes out to her family.



Sarah Erbse Hellrung - October 08 at 08:09 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Kris Mitchell Lopresti



Susan Jenkins - October 08 at 12:14 AM



“ So sorry Abby. Mom told me tonight about your mom. She was always a sweet, caring lady.
(The Riddle-Clemens Family)



Allison - October 07 at 11:48 PM



“ Kris was a wonderful person who always cared about kids. I met Kris 20 years ago when I first started at Noah's Ark. My condolences go out to her family. She touched many lives.

Tara VanWinkle - October 07 at 11:14 PM



“ Oh wow... this is such a shock. Kris's smile, her heart... bigger than any around. It was always a joy to work with and to be around her. A light in this world. Always lifting up those around her. One who loved and served well. I am so grateful to have known Kris. Love to her precious family - I know how much you meant to her and what she has meant to you.

Liz Ferris - October 07 at 11:00 PM



“ So very sorry. She was a wonderfully kind and caring woman. I worked for her at Noah's Ark. She had a great love and compassion for children and their families.

Laura - October 07 at 09:27 PM



“ I am so very sorry to hear of Kris's passing. She truly was an amazing woman who really lead me to live out the best job I ever had at Noah's Ark. My deepest sympathies

Dana Sinclair - October 07 at 08:08 PM



“ It was a blessing to have had Kris as a neighbor for over thirty years. She certainly has touched the lives of many people, many of which will likely be sharing their thoughts and fond memories of her in the days to come. She will truly be missed.

Dana and Elaine Mollenkopf - October 07 at 08:03 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Kris' passing. Praying for the family. I have fond memories of working with Kris at Noah's Ark Day Care and then helping her get Diplomas at the high school up and running its first year.

Jennifer Sanford-Sanderfer - October 07 at 06:18 PM



“ Kris was such an incredible woman, and a true gift to Richmond. It's hard to quantify the amount of love and support she brought to so many people. I send so much love to the Loprestis, hugs to Kerber, and hope we all can lift you now as well as Kris lifted so many of us.

Colleen Werle - October 07 at 06:06 PM



“ I hope the overwhelming amount of love and respect Kris acquired throughout her life is a reminder of the good times she shared and of her amazing accomplishments and impact on everyone she met. This is a sad day for families, friends, schools and the community, but if folks give back even a tenth of what she did each day, we're all better for trying. Much love to everyone who grieves for Kris. She changed our lives and will always be remembered.

Ryan Coby - October 07 at 05:18 PM



“ So sad to Here of the passing of a great friend. I met Mrs Kris Mitchell Lopresti when I Went back to pursue my Highschool Diploma at 37 years old. She always had a smile and hug to give. She encouraged us all and was a part team of people who helped change lives. She believed in us all and was the mama bear of the excel center. I will forever be grateful to have met such a caring soul. Your Excel center family will miss you dearly. My prayers go out to the family and friends. Please know she made a BIG impact on MANY lives.

RIP



Chrissy Tate - October 07 at 05:06 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Mrs Kris always had a smile on her face. She always knew how to make me believe in myself .

vanda mcfarland - October 07 at 04:53 PM



“ **Mike and Family**
We are so sorry for your loss. Kris was such a kind, sweet lady. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
Jeff, Becky & Becca Doerflein

becky doerflein - October 07 at 04:48 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Bob Clark and the Staff of Doan & Mills - October 07 at 03:48 PM



“ One of the strongest most compassionate women I know. Seems unreal. May you retire to rest peacefully. Thanks for all of your hard work.

Jama - October 07 at 05:21 PM



“ A wonderful lady with a heart of gold who truly cared about people. She will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers to Mike and her children.

Ken and Pat Jordan

ken jordan - October 07 at 09:01 PM



“ Our Thoughts and prayers. May you find peace in a life well lived. Dennis Lydick and Family - Nokesville Virginia

Dennis Lydick - October 08 at 06:36 AM



“ Wishing you peace and comfort during this difficult time. Kris was such a kind and caring person to everyone. She has touched so many lives and will be missed by so many. She leaves big shoes to fill at the Richmond Excel Center, we will miss her dearly. Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs.

Cindy Sum

Cindy Sum - October 12 at 09:07 AM



“ Dan and I would like to share how sorry we are to hear about Kris. She was always so kind to our son, Ben, who spent a lot of time at your house. Kris also reached out to me when I moved into the neighborhood and needed a friend. She has had such a positive impact on the Richmond Community.

Pat and Dan Risk, and Ben Yost

Patti Risk - October 13 at 03:05 PM