



Melanie Dawn Cousins

May 27, 1976 - April 19, 2024

Melanie Dawn Cousins 1976-2024

Mother, wife, sister, daughter, teacher and friend, Melanie Cousins grew up in Bay Saint Lawrence, in Northern Cape Breton. She moved around a lot during her life and made friends everywhere she lived. She was known for her hearty hugs and bright smile.

She graduated from Saint Francis Xavier University in 1997 and did her Education degree at Fort Kent University in Maine in 2002/03. She became a teacher and found her passion.

She finally settled down in East Chester, Nova Scotia, where she married Anthony Cousins and had two beautiful boys, Will and Jack Cousins. Melanie loved to celebrate, teach Grade One, fly kites, dance, camp, chase waterfalls and play on the beach with her boys.

At the end of her first battle with Cancer, Melanie fought to stand up and keep moving forward so that she could continue to teach and be with her family and friends. Her last battle was a little different. She stayed strong and fought hard, but time was fleeting. She did her best to get into the ocean as much as possible, eat all the foods that would keep her strong, love, passionately, everyone around her, and pushed hard to stay in the life that she loved so that she could celebrate each day with the people around her and seek the joy.

Melanie loved teaching. She loved the joy of little kids. She lived a full life from lighthouse living as a child to building community everywhere she went and

most of all she loved doing things with her family. She will be missed by many for her sunshiny ways and dress up clothes and birthday celebrating and hula hoop parties.

She leaves behind, her strong willed Mother, Debbie Burton, her brother Matthew Burton, her hardworking loving husband, Anthony Cousins, her beautiful, caring, kind hearted boys, Will and Jack Cousins. And so many beautiful friends and cousins that filled her up and kept her going through her life.

When you think of her, she will be around in spirit, so think of her often because she was chosen too soon to leave this world. When you see her boys out in the community give them a tender word, too soon to lose their mother. And live your own life seeking out the joy and living in the moment, because the moment is all we have in the end. So much love and gratitude to all that shared in Melanie's life. She will be missed.

Quote:

He said, "Write it on your heart that everyday is the best day of the year. He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded by fret and anxiety. Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This new day is too dear, with it's hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesterdays. – Ralph Waldo Emerson

In lieu of flowers, donations will be gratefully accepted by e-transfer to either of these 2 funds:

A trust fund for Will and Jacks education. willjackcousins@gmail.com

A granite bench in honour of Melanie to be at Graves Island.

cousinsmemorialbench@gmail.com

A Celebration of Life will take place

Saturday May 25, 2024 at 11:00 am in Tuck Hall 60 Regent St. , Chester NS

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY **25**. 11:00 AM (AST)

Tuck Hall
60 Regent St.
Chester, NS B0J 1J0 (CA)

Tribute Wall

FT

“ From Joseph Paul and Troy purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Melanie Dawn Cousins.



From Joseph Paul and Troy - May 07, 2024 at 08:19 AM

KD

“ Melanie was a wonderful teacher and a kind soul - so tragic that we have lost her. She was always a pleasure to work with at CDS. My sincere condolences...

- Kody Dagley, fellow teacher

Kody Dagley - May 02, 2024 at 10:43 AM

CS

“ My deepest condolences to Tony Cousins and family. I really liked Melanie. She was so kind and friendly. So Sad she left us so too soon. My family really liked her. I am a cousin To Tony Cousins.

Carol and Bill Smith. - May 01, 2024 at 09:27 AM

GA

“ I had the pleasure of working with Melanie at CDS. She was so kind and considerate of others. Even through her battle she kept smiling and remained upbeat. One of the kindest should I ever met. Condolences to her family.

Gail - April 30, 2024 at 07:46 PM

DM

“ *Melanie was a true light in a dark world. I will miss her and her smiley face for the rest of my days. My deepest condolences to her entire family and to any and all who knew her. RIP*

David MacDonald - April 28, 2024 at 07:30 AM



“ *We met the Burtons in 2001. And visited several times over the next few years. They became our Canadian Family. She was indeed a force to be reckon with. Hugs to the family from Scott and Beki Morgan.*

Michelle Ferguson - April 26, 2024 at 09:07 AM

TC

“ *To Melanie's family, Sorry for your loss. Please accept our condolences. From, Theresa, Mervin Criss and family.*

Theresa & Mervin Criss - April 24, 2024 at 05:51 PM

MF

Dear Debbie and Mathew, I wish I was writing this message while Mel was still with us. I know our memories of Mell always be with us although not physically. She was petite in stature but 'certainly huge in personality. Keep watch over us Mel.

Merne Ann Fitzgerald - April 26, 2024 at 09:37 AM

LF

“ *My sincere condolences to all the family. All of your wonderful memories will help in getting through this difficult time.*

Louise Fitzgerald - April 24, 2024 at 03:55 PM

TB

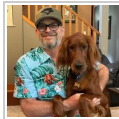
“ I had the honour of working alongside Mel. Watching her teach was beautiful. She loved each and every child she taught. She filled her classroom with love, kindness, empathy and her passion for teaching was easy to see. I loved her positive attitude, her smile and laugh were contagious. I always told her she was a sushi machine because she would often whip some up on her lunch. My heart breaks for her family, friends and students. I will always fondly remember the beautiful kind hearted woman that she was. I'll miss you Mel ❤️

Tracy Baker - April 23, 2024 at 08:31 PM

KL

It was a great honour working with Melanie for many years at CHESTER DISTRICT SCHOOL. Her smile, overall personality and determination for life, her family and everyone who knew this bubbly person. Rest-In-Peace Dear Mel. ❤️ From your friend always Kevin

Kevin Lohnes - April 24, 2024 at 05:00 PM



Melanie was a special person that always had time for everyone. Our time at UMFK was short, but her impressions ran deep with each of us. My wife Julli and I send our deepest condolences and may she rest in peace knowing she meant so much, to so many. ~ Tim Murphy

Tim Murphy - April 25, 2024 at 09:14 AM

KA

“ Melanie was such a kind soul. My son, Liam, had the pleasure of having her for a teacher the first half of this year. We are so thankful for her and her kindness with him. She made the world a better place and I am lucky to have gotten to see that even for a very short time. My heart is heavy for her family and her young boys. 💕

Katelyn - April 23, 2024 at 04:18 PM

RM

To Debbie and all of Melanie's Family. Please accept our most sincere condolences. Did not know Melanie personally but we have certainly followed her courageous journey through her Mom and later Dad! She was certainly a very strong person, May you all find comfort in all the great memories that you all hold close to your heart.

Sincerely

Ralph and Judy (MacDonald) Murphy

Ralph & Judy Murphy - April 24, 2024 at 04:30 PM