



Monya "Trudy" Ann Hirschfeld

November 20, 1944 - January 4, 2023

Monya "Trudy" Ann Hirschfeld passed away peacefully at her home on the evening of January 4, 2023.

She was born November 20, 1944 in Seminole, Texas, to Mary Letitia (Martin) Byars and Glenn Holmes Byars. Soon after her birth, the family moved to Kearney, Nebraska, where Trudy would live for the rest of her life.

On November 15, 1963, Trudy married Daniel Joseph Hirschfeld in an intimate ceremony at her parents' home. Their life together was full of love, poodles, tennis, biking, family, and joy. Every year they celebrated Trudy's favorite holiday, Halloween, together by transforming their driveway into a haunted spectacular.

Trudy was a lifelong member of the Kearney Church of Christ, where she was active as an elder's wife, a teacher, and a lovely alto. She loved to teach the kids' classes, always coming up with creative crafts as she shared with them the love of Jesus that she knew so well. Her favorite verse was Matthew 28:20, "Lo, I am with you always."

'Peep' as everyone knew her, had a heart of gold and she had what she called a "prize" for everyone she met. A flashing frog, a funky pair of socks, a little bug that says love. You needed it and she had it. The true prize Peep had for

everyone she met was her giant heart ready to help anyone she could.

Trudy was preceded in death by her parents, Glenn and Mary Byars and her sister-in-law, Vivian Byars.

She is survived by her husband, Dan of Kearney; her brother, William Byars and his wife Suzanne of Lubbock, Texas; her children, David Hirschfeld and his wife Tami of Choteau, Montana, Tish Spencer and her husband David, of Gibbon, Neb., and Ben Hirschfeld and his wife Christie of Kearney; her niece Michelle “Maggie” Porter and her husband Herman of Kiawah Island, SC, Tim Byars and his wife Jonna of Lubbock, Texas, and Matt Byars and his wife Heather of Lubbock, Texas; her grandchildren Hannah and Ryan Lewis, Mary and Nathan Rackley, Isaac Hirschfeld, Margaret and Brandt Florell, Edward and Sarah Spencer, Lillian Hirschfeld, Ben Spencer, and Ada Hirschfeld; her great-grandchildren Gabe Hirschfeld and Daniel Lewis; and all those whose lives she touched.

In lieu of flowers and memorials, the family asks that you honor Peep’s memory by carrying her kindness and love with you, that you pause to admire the beautiful leaf or unique rock, and that you remember what Peep told her family: “Always do what you know is right.”

Trudy’s family plans a private memorial service at a later date.

Tribute Wall



“ *Monya "Trudy" Ann Hirschfeld*

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



“ *Dan and family
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Trudy!
We are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers!!❤️🙏 the family
of Mike Niehues(Carol Niehues*

Carol Niehues (family of Mike Niehues) - January 28, 2023 at 05:29 PM



“ *Dan and family,
So sorry to hear of the passing of Trudy! Our family will keep you all
in our thoughts and prayers!❤️🙏*

Carol Niehues (family of Mike Niehues) - January 28, 2023 at 05:21 PM

CM

“Trudy was an encourager much like the Biblical character Barnabus, whose name meant "Son of Encouragement". If he was the son of encouragement, Trudy was the daughter. Every time I saw her, she had kind and edifying words that brightened my life, starting with the first time we met.

She constantly praised the works of others who sought to better the lives of those less fortunate. She had a great appreciation for those who saw needs in the lives of others and were willing to do what they could to meet those needs. She was able to do this in a special way because she was a needs meeter herself.

Trudy had a great love for children and for those who worked to make the lives of young people from hard places better.

I will miss seeing Trudy on my future trips to Kearney. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and I ask that God's mercy and strength be with them in this time of passing.

-Chip Moore

Chip Moore - January 16, 2023 at 10:33 AM

DL

“Trudy was a special soul. So many memories of youth group with our family and the kids adored her. Anyday, anytime you might just catch Andy Griffith on the TV at their home. She always wanted to know how you were doing and she would do anything for you without a second thought. Trudy was so much like her parents, Glen and Mary Byars. Hearts of gold. Heaven is rejoicing. May the Lord comfort you, Dan, David, Tish, Ben and the blessed ones whom she touched. Her life memory will live on.

Delaine and Timothy Loewenstein

Delaine Loewenstein - January 14, 2023 at 06:11 PM

SB

“ *Trudy was always the most thoughtful kind person I have ever known! So Blessed by her example of a LIFE WELL LIVED...sweet, kind, thoughtful, generous and FUN!!!! Blessings to the family! She will be missed by everyone her knew her...but never forgotten! Sue Bigg*

Susan C Bigg - January 12, 2023 at 03:28 PM

RF

“ *Dan, David, Tish and Ben,*

There are no words to describe how saddened we were to read of Trudy's passing. Trudy was one of a kind and always had a big hug, warm smile and a story to tell. She always knew how to make you feel special and was genuinely excited to see you. We will miss seeing her on her bike rides, running into her at Target or seeing her on one of her walks. Our family is forever grateful that tennis led our paths to cross so many, many years ago. It was truly a blessing to know Trudy and she will be forever missed. Our hearts and prayers are with you all.

Joe, Herman and Leslie Rios

Rios Family - January 11, 2023 at 11:27 PM

CF

“ *Mrs. Hirschfeld was greatly respected and kind anytime I or someone from my team interacted with her. So gracious, always looking at things from a positive perspective. She will be missed.*

Consuela Fagan

Consuela Fagan - January 10, 2023 at 12:43 PM

 Sonja
Jacobson

“ *Trudy was an Angel on Earth! She paid special attention to my Aunt Naty. She bought her a lift recliner, a TV, and set up cable in her home so that she could watch her politics back in the 80s. When Aunt Naty moved to a nursing home, Trudy would check on her every week, and bring a doggie to visit, which was the ultimate JOY for Aunt Naty who loved every animal! My family has known Dan & Trudy since before I was born, and we are truly grateful for them. Trudy is busy in Heaven serving others, or playing with the pets, and we are comforted knowing she is there! Hugs and peace to your hearts Dan, David, Tish & Ben and your families.*

Sonja Jacobson - January 09, 2023 at 06:15 PM

AL

“ *Trudy was one of a kind! Her friendship with my mother was so special. We'll miss seeing her when we're in town ~ much love and prayers from Oklahoma to Dan, David, Tish and Ben.*

Angela Leonard-Stafford - January 09, 2023 at 10:49 AM

EJ

“ *I remember staying at the Hirschfeld residence back in the 80's for a youth rally that the Kearney church of Christ was hosting. I felt welcomed and like one of Trudy's own. Her passing is our loss, but her gain as she gets to enjoy her eternal reward. Praise to our faithful God in Heaven!*

To Dan and the rest of the family, may you find comfort and peace in our God. My condolences to you and your family.

*With His love,
Eric Jacobson*

Eric Jacobson - January 09, 2023 at 10:22 AM

KP

“ Trudy was the most precious spirit I ever met. She always treated me with love and kindness. I will miss her beautiful smile and ever open heart. I will so miss seeing her walking here and there...ablaze in glorious tye dye! All who were fortunate enough to know her will forever carry her brightness in their hearts. I know her wonderful family will miss her terribly but also know her love will always be within them. I am forever grateful to be able to call her my friend. Rest well Trudy.

Keffenie Pollard - January 08, 2023 at 03:47 PM

JC

“ It was a pleasure to have met you Trudy! You had such a kind soul. Your CH family will miss your hugs and dancing with us.



Jennifer Corrales - January 08, 2023 at 03:38 PM

JM

“ Thoughts and prayers. She was a wonderful lady. She will be greatly missed.
Judi Martin

Judi Martin - January 08, 2023 at 03:09 PM

JF

“ We didn't know Trudy for very long, but could tell she was so full of life and love. She showed what a caring person she was when she smiled.. Your family is in our prayers. John and Phyllis Foster

John and Phyllis Foster - January 08, 2023 at 01:34 PM

MK

“ Mom and I were sorry to hear about Trudy. What a wonderful person! We trust her spirit will continue to inspire all that she touched.---Mary (McKinney) Kommers and Virginia McKinney

Mary S Kommers - January 07, 2023 at 04:32 PM

LH

“ Dan, Tish, and family: We are so sorry for your loss. I always remember Trudy with her bright smile and warm personality and lived her life through her faith in God. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Lori Wiles Hasty

Lori Wiles Hasty - January 07, 2023 at 02:05 PM

RF

“ Trudy is, and will always be, a luminous presence in our family. With your help, she taught Lily to bicycle. I have wonderful pictures from that trip. She slept with Lily as a baby, in Charleston, because she loved her smell, and always had a kind word, and a warm smile for all of us. She made us instantly comfortable. I like to think of her at the Malt Shoppe, cracking jokes and cheerfully encouraging everybody. The aptly named "Energizer Bunny" always made us feel so special, if tired from trying to keep up with her. Her stories of her childhood were enchanting and punctuated with a smile and a little giggle. I know she is at the right hand of the Lord. May she rest in peace. Our Family is praying for You ,Trudy and your wonderful Family. God Bless You.

Richard Daum MD



Richard M Daum MD MSc FACC FCCP - January 07, 2023 at 02:03 PM

BS

“ To our neighbor Dan and his family, We are so saddened at the loss of your Trudy. One will always remember her bright tie-died shirts and walking the dogs. And we can't forget to mention the Halloween celebrations and the lines of parked cars all over the neighborhood as so many enjoyed your celebration and giving to the community. I'm also so thankful for the times I got to visit with Trudy as she stopped by my flower stand. We are so deeply sorry for your great loss of your wife, friend, mother, grandmother. Prayers for you all.
Mike and Brenda Shinn

Brenda Shinn - January 07, 2023 at 12:01 PM

DB

“ Trudy was a caring person who never met a stranger. She will be missed by family and many others. God be with her.

Dick Beechner - January 07, 2023 at 11:14 AM

RJ

“ How many people across the United States wear Trudy socks? There must be hundreds and hundreds if not, thousands! What a ministry of showing God's love by passing on a warm pair of socks! Trudy will be missed by many of us. Trudy and Dan have been such dear friends of my parents - they will feel like a part of their heart is gone. Love to all the family- Robin , Eddie and Dee's daughter.

Robin Johnson - January 06, 2023 at 10:39 PM

MO

“ Dan and family, My thoughts and prayers are with you. It was such a privilege to know Trudy. She never knew a stranger!! I loved running into her and talking! God bless you.
Mary O'Rourke



Mary O'Rourke - January 06, 2023 at 10:33 PM

TL

“ I loved that girl! She always made me smile/laugh! She always had kind words! Tish, I'll always remember the fun and laughs we had when the two of you came to Hillcrest for the garage sale! Dan, and family..... May God always hold you in His precious, everlasting arms of love as you remember this dear one in your lives! 🙏💕
🙏

Terri Lind - January 06, 2023 at 08:40 PM

LH

“ Dear Dan and the entire Hirschfeld family ❤️
I have vivid memories of 37 years ago when Trudy would come into the Buckle and let me help her! I was young and new at Buckle and her heart of gold always made me feel like a champ. She would fill the store with laughter as she would pick out some fashions, all the while Dan would say to me “the prices are to high in this joint(buckle)” and then he would wink and smile. 🙌Trudy had a gift and she spread it with everyone, smiles, laughter and hugs. The Hirschfeld family has always been special to me. ❤️Heaven gained a special angel 🙏
God Bless. Linda Humpal (Loschen)

linda humpal - January 06, 2023 at 05:45 PM

JM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Trudy's passing. She was a delight every time I saw her, and had such a giving heart. She was a very special lady! My sincere sympathy to all the family and prayers to all for comfort. Joan E Mickelsen

joan Mickelsen - January 06, 2023 at 04:38 PM

JG

“ There are not enough words to describe the warmth and compassion Trudy displayed. Such a wonderful human being in every sense of the word. Following my dad's (Sam Joslin) passing, Trudy was one of the first to reach out to my mom (Jennie) providing kindness and a helping hand. May you rest in peace. Fly high! Judy (Joslin) Gibbons

Judy Gibbons - January 06, 2023 at 04:13 PM

CH

“ Trudy was one amazing woman and friend to all. Always a sweet smile on her face. I always enjoyed our visits when I would see her around town.

Cathie Hohnholt - January 06, 2023 at 01:06 PM

VK

“ Dan and Trudy always were so thoughtful and kind to my mother, Jennie Joslin. Truly showed Gods love thru their actions. Rest In Peace Trudy. ❤️

vickie kizer - January 06, 2023 at 10:59 AM

RL

“ Trudy, was a friend of our family for over 30 years, my brothers played with their family, and she was always a joy. You would see her out around town and she always would stop and tell you how fantastic it was to see you. I can't remember anytime through out our families time together that she didn't make someone smile or always reaching out to help. She was a true blessing to the world, and now God has a true blessing, I hope everyone understand what a great person she was to the world. I will be praying for the family.

Robert Luke - January 06, 2023 at 10:47 AM

DC

True millionaire in simple kindness

Diana Clausen - January 06, 2023 at 01:33 PM

AA

“ *Trudy was always a joy to run into. We’ve even considered bother her and her husband a family friend. She helped my dad and I out in 2006 one random day when we ran into her at target as we both have had injuries within months of each other. I remember running into her at a gas station a couple years ago when I moved back to kearney and I was so proud to show off pictures of my son to her and she couldn’t wait to meet him. I love her with my whole heart, she’ll always leave a mark with everyone she meets.*

Andrea Anderson - January 06, 2023 at 05:21 AM

TC

“ *One of the sweetest souls I have ever had the privilege to have known. Friday lunches in high school with Trudy and her family were the best. Thank you for opening your home to so many and for being a friend to all. Dan and family I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. God be with you all.*

Tera Cumpston - January 06, 2023 at 01:28 AM

JA

“ *Jackie lit a candle in memory of Monya
“Trudy” Hirschfeld*



Jackie - January 06, 2023 at 12:26 AM

CA

“ Trudy was the most generous and kindest person we know. We won't forget the “prizes” she shared (her way of spreading joy), her and Dave's mutual love of tie-dye, her sense of humor, always there to help with a need. She did all from a sincere love for others. She truly let her light shine. We miss her. Our hearts are with her family.
Dave and Carmen Aufrecht

Carmen Aufrecht - January 05, 2023 at 11:13 PM

JJ

I met Trudy on the tennis court 38 years ago and she became our 'neighbor around the corner' 31 years ago.. what an incredible blessing and encouragement she always was. Watching her own beautiful family grow through the years was a testament to Dan and Trudy's faith-based guidance and tremendous love. They have been supportive of our family for decades as well. Our boys would deliver cranberry bread to their door at Christmas (hoping the dogs didn't find it first) and within the next week, we would have funky socks in our mailbox. (I have an amazingly colorful sock drawer!) Of course the boys would return at Halloween and took the next generation of Trick or Treaters with them. When I would go for a walk in the neighborhood, or across town for that matter, the minute I saw that bright tie-dye shirt in the distance I would run up to continue the walks with Trudy... I learned and experienced the concept of positivity from that precious, smiling soul... in her gentle spirited way she shared such a strong message. Or I'd run into her at Target and she would stuff my sack with stickers, colored pens, or whatever she just found in the \$1 bargain bin for my students to use in the classroom. Even our grand daughter has experienced her smile as she visited her second grade classroom with Trish and Margaret to read stories and for that we're so grateful. Jesus just flowed from that gracious woman's heart. You will be so missed, but we're so grateful to know you are in Jesus' sweet arms now. Until we meet again, Trudy. Thank you for crossing our path. The Joneses on 5th

Jan Jones - January 06, 2023 at 01:08 PM

MM

“ Trudy always had such a kind heart. Our daughter Tatum was blessed to have known Trudy's kindness. Tatum would come home, after seeing Trudy at the gym, with a special trinket Trudy had given her. She will truly be missed but not forgotten. Rest in Peace, God Bless you Trish and Family. The Meads

Mickey Meads - January 05, 2023 at 11:02 PM

JA

“ Trudy welcomed me into her fold and always had a smile, a kind word, and a Love Ya. I was privileged to help with Halloween festivities and enjoyed seeing her interacting with everyone, young and old. I don't believe she ever met a stranger. The world is a smaller place without her and her light in it. Rest in Peace, kind lady.

Jimmi Ann Anderson - January 05, 2023 at 09:12 PM

MM

“ We are so sorry to hear about Trudy. When we first moved here 13 years ago, a package came in the mail from her. "Here are the purple dog socks you've been wanting." Huh? I was totally confused. Later as we filled many bags for Christmas and I saw many, many socks go into the bags I came to understand what a loving, cheerful giver she was. She will be greatly missed. Love and prayers, Jerry and Mary Munsell

Mary J Munsell - January 05, 2023 at 08:23 PM

SB

“ She was the kindest and most loving person I have ever known. I know you will hear that a million times but for those of us who have experienced her love we cannot help but say it. Your wife, mother, grandma, and friend was the absolute best and only one of a kind. I am so privileged to have known and been befriended by her. My heart goes out to all. Thank you Trudy for being you and blessing us with your love. The heavens are blessed to have you adore the Lord now so closely. May your family find peace always having the greatest memories in their hearts.

Syndie Beavers - January 05, 2023 at 08:17 PM

BK

“ Trudy was a dear. She always had a smile and was always happy to see people at the Wellness Fitness Center at Good Sam. God Bless Trudy and Dan and their family. 🙏

Brad Kernick - January 05, 2023 at 07:48 PM

KM

“ She was so nice to me and to my girls I deliver papers to her and him she would give us little gifts we are going to miss her we will feel so lost not seeing her with that said sending prayers and Very Big Hugs to everyone



Ken marienau - January 05, 2023 at 06:39 PM

KW

“ Our heart goes out to all of the family. She was such a blessing to all that met her and she will be greatly missed.....until we see her again! Kirby, Amy, and Skyler Wilson

Kirby Wilson - January 05, 2023 at 05:06 PM