



Marileigh "Holly" Foster

December 10, 1952 - December 7, 2021

Marileigh "Holly" Foster, 68, of Bloomington, passed away on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at her home. She was born on December 10, 1952 in Minneapolis, Minnesota; the daughter of Roger and Laverne (Jacobs) Faherty.

Holly graduated from Indiana University, having obtained her master's degree in Education. She taught special education students for 34 years at Dollens Elementary, in the North Lawrence School System. Holly volunteered and taught with PALS, a horse-riding therapy program. She loved all activities that involved horseback riding, 4H, and exercising; especially step-aerobics. Holly was a social butterfly who enjoyed having coffee or lunch with her friends. Her most treasured times were spent with her children, grandchildren, and her dog Scout.

Holly is survived by her husband of 41 years, James "Jim" Foster; children, Michael (Katherine) Foster and Alicia (Kris) Gjemre; grandchildren, Morgan, Eloise, and Otto; nephews, Matt Mooney, and Mark Mooney; and nieces, Marni Meunier and Meghan Parys.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and sister, Maribeth Mooney.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 18, 2021 at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington.

Family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 18. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Service

DEC 18. 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Tribute Wall

GR

“ I just heard about Holly's passing through Jim's passing as one of his junior & high schiol friends. My condolences to all of you.



Greg Raike - March 31, 2022 at 05:27 AM

JA

“ Condolences to the family. Holly was such an integral part of my son's success in school, both in elementary and continuing into his military and college careers. She was such a positive influence on him and I know without her his life would be much different. We were always grateful for her teaching and encouragement for him. She was a beautiful soul.

Jackie (Wintin) Amick - December 22, 2021 at 06:48 PM

SW

“ Holly was a dear friend during our undergrad years in Bloomington. Such a joyful and happy spirit.

Scott Williams - December 22, 2021 at 01:48 PM

CH

“ The PALS Family wants to extend our deepest sympathy to Holly's family. She was a shining star of our organization and will be greatly missed.

Christine Marie Herring - December 18, 2021 at 08:50 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.*



December 18, 2021 at 08:48 AM



“ *3 files added to the album PALS memories with Holly*



Christine Marie Herring - December 18, 2021 at 08:48 AM



“ *Like many others, Holly helped organize my classes, choose electives, etc to graduate IU. I'll always remember her genuine joyful laughter, her excellent taste in music, her sense of adventure, and her eternal love of animals. Simply one beautiful person, Warmest Wishes for the extended family. Dan Archer*

Dan Archer - December 17, 2021 at 04:56 PM

VM

“ *Jim and Family,
Holly Foster was special. Her upbeat, positive attitude and smile made people want to be around her. I was saddened to hear of her passing. My fondest memories of her were in aerobics classes, we shared an affinity for step aerobics. We also shared laughter whenever I saw her. I will miss her.*
Vicky St. Myers

Vicky St. Myers - December 17, 2021 at 10:55 AM

KS

“ *Condolences and prayers for your family at this time. Holly was a special person and friend to me in our YMCA Cycling class. Often we walked a bit or stretched after class and she was always so kind and fun! She will be missed !*
Kathy Scheid

Kathy Scheid - December 17, 2021 at 09:20 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.*



December 16, 2021 at 09:46 PM

TF

“ Tom, Cindy, Roger, MaryBeth and Families purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



Tom, Cindy, Roger, MaryBeth and Families - December 16, 2021 at 03:21 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 16, 2021 at 02:02 PM

SH

“ So saddened to learn of Holly's passing. I have fond memories of our times together at Up-n-Over and of the horse shows we attended together. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. - Susan Hieftje

Susan Hieftje - December 16, 2021 at 10:26 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 16, 2021 at 10:10 AM

RM

“ Jim, I just wanted to express my sorrow for your loss of Holly. We haven't talked for a while, but I'll never forget the memories that she (and you) created in the crazy 80's. Hope you and your family are doing okay. Ray McConn

Ray L McConn - December 16, 2021 at 08:31 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 16, 2021 at 06:58 AM

KP

“ Jim, Michael and Alicia, Kevin, Griff, Justin and myself are so sad to hear of the passing of Holly. Even though we have lost touch over the years, we have so many fond memories of cook outs and softball games with the BOB's. Holly was such a wonderful person with a great smile and a warm heart. She will be missed!
Kevin and Kim Pope

Kevin and Kim Pope - December 15, 2021 at 07:43 PM



“ Adoring Heart was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 14, 2021 at 02:39 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.*



December 14, 2021 at 09:56 AM



“ *Sunset Hill Neighbors purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.*



Sunset Hill Neighbors - December 14, 2021 at 09:39 AM



“ *Very sorry for your loss Jim...prayers for your family...*

mike stags - December 13, 2021 at 10:11 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.*



December 13, 2021 at 09:31 PM

FW

“Holly Foster changed the course of my son's life. When they met, he was a good athlete, personality plus elementary student. He had a lot going for him, but he could barely read.

Apparently, he was dyslexic. She recognized it. She modified so many things for him. Taught him so many techniques to deal with his issues. Because of that, he made it through high school. He knew he was not ready for college, so he enlisted in the USAF.

He served nine years and moved up as high as an enlisted person could. All of that time he used many of the strategies Holly taught him to overcome his disability.

At that time he transitioned to the Air Guard and enrolled at IVY Tech. After a semester there, he was accepted into the Indiana University Kelly School of Business.

After he graduated, he was called up. He finished his duties overseas, and came home to get a fellowship to get his MBA at Notre Dame. That will happen next year.

Without the skills, tools, and confidence Holly instilled in him, he retires after 20 years as an enlisted man. I have no idea where my son will end up. Without Holly, no chance he graduates from Kelly. Without Holly, no chance he goes to Notre Dame to get his MBA.

She was an angel on earth. Now she is an angel in heaven.

Frank Wintin - December 13, 2021 at 09:30 PM

RN

“ I will remember Holly Foster as a ray of sunshine. She always brought and exuded generosity, love, and joy wherever she went. I send my warmest thoughts to her family.
-Rachel Nichols

Rachel Nichols - December 13, 2021 at 05:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 13, 2021 at 03:27 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 13, 2021 at 01:28 PM

CA

“Holly was the sweetest woman on earth. Smart with an extremely wonderful personality, which accentuated her outer beauty. What a package. We were all lucky to have known Holly. We worked together. She gave me my first nickname. Jimmy and family, your wife/mother was an icon for what all wives, mothers, girlfriends should be. Holly was soooo damn special! God took her away far too early, and I will miss her greatly. But we will all see Holly again.
Love to you all,
CW

CW(Chris) Arford - December 13, 2021 at 11:15 AM



“Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 13, 2021 at 08:41 AM

RS

“I was so sad to read of Holly's passing. I currently live in Washington state but my career as a special education teacher was in Bloomington, Indiana. During these teaching years Holly and I became great friends attending twice a week aerobic dancing classes for many years. It truly was some of the happiest years of my life. She was a warm, wonderful, caring teacher and mother and we shared our common interests in teaching and motherhood. She always had a smile and enthusiasm for life and sorry we lost touch. My sincere condolences for all her family.
Rose Ann Smith

Rose Ann Smith - December 12, 2021 at 06:35 PM

SH

“ Steve and Kathy Headley purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



Steve and Kathy Headley - December 12, 2021 at 02:24 PM

ST

“ Michael and Suzanne Terry
We are so saddened to hear this news. We worked together for many years. Holly was always focused on how she could better serve her students: many educational miracles happened because of her love for her students and unceasing diligence in providing individually designed lessons for each educational need. She was always smiling and willing to help or share a laugh. She will be missed. Our sincere condolences to Holly's family.

Suzanne Terry - December 11, 2021 at 07:49 AM

BF

“ Holly, you were always sweet and kind. You will be deeply missed by all who knew you.
Rest in Peace.

Becky Fischer - December 10, 2021 at 07:18 PM

MJ

“ I was an aide for Holly for six and a half years at Dollens. She honestly is the best person I have ever known. She had a heart of pure gold. She was so inspiring to watch with her kids at school. They all loved her so much. I am so lucky and so honored to have known her and worked along side her and called her my friend. She taught me so much. She made the world a better place. I am so very sad to hear this. Love you Holly

Michelle Johnson - December 10, 2021 at 05:47 PM

SI

“ I have many happy memories of Holly during her riding days, when we would all pal around the barn and horse shows together. My condolences to her many loved ones.

Sara Ivie - December 10, 2021 at 03:46 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 09, 2021 at 11:11 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.

December 09, 2021 at 10:06 PM

JH

“Welcome to our porch” is the first greeting on Jim and Holly's home, and I think it is the essence of who Holly was. I was drawn to her by her warmth, her kindness, and our mutual interests. We shared a love for horseback riding, dog obedience training which morphed into dog agility, which challenged the abilities of both our dogs and ourselves. We loved the 4th street arts fair, and were weekly regulars at the Uptown Cafe and Lennies. Holly helped me celebrate my 60th birthday on a beach. I will always remember her positive attitude, her beautiful laugh, and our cherished friendship. I am forever blessed to have these memories of her. I am really going to miss her!

Judy Headley - December 09, 2021 at 04:39 PM

HD

“Eyes which radiated joy. A smile which infected anyone who saw it. An intellect, which brought calm to chaos. A glowing positive force in the universe, who lives on through us. Rest well Holly, you have taken good care of us...and leave us, better than you found us.

Hank Dragoo - December 09, 2021 at 11:40 AM

CC

“C. Dan Carpenter purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



C. Dan Carpenter - December 09, 2021 at 10:20 AM

CC

“ I never heard an unkind word said by, or about, Holly. She was an exceptional person whom I had the pleasure of knowing. She was a wealth of information, a confidante, and a friend. I have never known anyone more universally loved, admired, and respected. If you had the good fortune of knowing Holly, your life was enriched. I know mine was. I am very sad.

C. Dan Carpenter - December 09, 2021 at 10:00 AM

CS

“ Beautiful in every way. Sweet Holly...My deepest condolences to Jim, Michael, Alicia and all those that lost this dear soul, wife, mother, family member , teacher, friend...

Caren Stoll - December 08, 2021 at 06:16 PM

JM

“ Holly was a friend I met a long time ago through work. We rekindled that friendship years later through horses. My best memory of Holly was seeing her up on a hillside with one of her horses, cantering around and having so much fun. She loved horses so much and always seemed so at home with them. She cantered around like it was nothing while many of the rest of us could barely manage a trot :). Holly was also one of the nicest people I think I have ever met if not the nicest. And by nice I mean one of the most genuine, kind, and generous hearted people. She was always smiling, always laughing at some thing, and I honestly don't think I ever heard her say a bad word about anybody ever during the times I was around her. She was the type of woman people gravitated toward because of that quality and that will make everyone who knew her miss her even more.

Julie Morton - December 08, 2021 at 04:59 PM

SS

“ Holly was one of the very best special Ed teachers that I’ve ever had the privilege of working with. I had a practicum with her and then worked with her for many years at Dollens until she retired. She was a wealth of knowledge and was always advocating for her students. She will be sorely missed. Prayers to her family.

Susie Swango - December 08, 2021 at 02:09 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 08, 2021 at 08:06 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Marileigh "Holly" Foster.



December 07, 2021 at 07:12 PM



“ My beautiful aunt loved her family more than anyone I know. She loved being with her people and had decade long friendships that meant the world to her. These days people don’t value their people as Holly always did. That is a beautiful legacy of love. ❤️ Marni

Marni Meunier - December 07, 2021 at 05:58 PM