



Paula J. Bates

January 6, 1953 - August 12, 2018

Paula J. Bates, 65, died August 12. She was born in Indianapolis in 1953 to Betty and Gene Sauer. She is survived by her husband of 32 years, Jack, their children, Amanda and Chris, and Amanda's fiancé, Mike Vitousek. She is also survived by her siblings, Diane Brow (Rick), Jeff Sauer (Lisa), and Larry Sauer (Alice), her brother-in-law Bob Bates (Vicki), and her nieces and nephews. Paula also leaves behind many dear friends.

Paula's career was multifaceted, balancing, art, professional counseling, and motherhood. She was a painter who studied with a number of well-known Hoosier artists, co-founded a cooperative gallery in Bloomington (Gallery North on the Square), and exhibited her work in various places and shows in Bloomington, Nashville, Indianapolis, and Louisville. She maintained a private practice as licensed counselor in Bloomington. She published two novels. She was also a lifelong spiritual explorer. Her role as mother was the most important to her, and as part of that, she regularly volunteered in her children's schools. Paula lived largely in Bloomington, Indiana, but also lived for extended periods in San Francisco, Minneapolis, Eugene, OR, and New York City. She received her Bachelor's degree in psychology and Master's in counseling at Indiana University, Bloomington.

For those who would like to remember her with a charitable contribution, Paula was a regular contributor to Hoosier Hills Food Bank, Nature Conservancy, National Museum of Women in the Arts, and the Monroe County Community Schools Foundation. Her family also greatly appreciated

the care given her by IU Health Hospice.

A Memorial Reception will be held Thursday, August 16, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington.

Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

AUG **16**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 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



“ *European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



August 16, 2018 at 10:59 PM



“ *To Jack and family: Thank you for arranging the memorial reception. It was lovely to see you and other friends. And it was lovely to see the photo of your family from years ago. And, in particular, it was lovely to see Paula's paintings up close, at arms length, so visceral and tangible, to know her hand and mind hovered over those canvases, in the same space we stood to view them.*

To other readers of this message: In Paula's last blog entry she asks, "Do you choose love or fear? Those are the only two things that need to be dealt with." You can read about it here: <https://paula.bates.com/its-the-fear-factor/>

And, if you'd like to make a donation to Hoosier Hills Food bank (as we did in Paula's memory), your can do it online here: <http://hhfoodbank.org/donate.php#donateonline>

John Kruschke & Rima Hanania - August 16, 2018 at 05:42 PM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



August 16, 2018 at 01:58 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



August 16, 2018 at 01:32 PM



“ *Julie Joy purchased the Shades of Purple for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



Julie Joy - August 16, 2018 at 10:25 AM

JJ

“ I have so many memories of Paula over so many years, they are flooding my mind and heart. From our early wild years as fiery feminists, to trips to Bloomington when I stayed with Paula, Jack, Amanda, and Chris, to our walks and talks, looking at the full moon together and sharing our thoughts about what life and the universe are about. Gratitude for all she gave me and shared with me over the years. Her talent for offering the exact book at the exact right time when I needed the information it contained. Sharing adventures together in Indy, Bloomington, Chattanooga, and other places. Her kindness in caring for me after my surgery; and for helping me move from my first disastrous home in Bloomington. Meals, movies, dancing, sharing our problems and joys as roommates and later as friends. Paula was truly my sister, even after we parted ways. She will live in my heart forever. My thoughts, prayers, and wishes for healing go out to Jack, Amanda, Chris, family members and all her other friends who will be missing her. She leaves so much wisdom, insight, and love for us to cherish. Although it seems she left too soon, her life was incredibly full. I am sure she completed her life's work before she left. Such an impact she has had, such a legacy she has left us.

Julie Joy - August 16, 2018 at 09:52 AM

AM

“ My deepest sympathy to Jack, Amanda, Chris, and all of Paula’s family and friends. I was fortunate to live next to the Bates family when I adopted an infant daughter. Delighted Paula was soon at my door with an enormous box. In it were the most classic toys of Amanda and Chris’s childhood, including what became my daughters favorite, the push – popper. Paula claimed I was doing a favor by taking them, because she never had the heart to get rid of those great toys but now she could watch another toddler enjoying them. From that day on, Paula was a cheerful, sensitive, informative supporter of my mothering. Her radiant smile was a breath of sunshine and one of my daughter’s first welcomes into community. So saddened by the loss of a remarkable woman who was such a good friend and neighbor to so many. With sympathy, Ann Mongoven

Ann Mongoven - August 15, 2018 at 11:42 PM

JO

“ Sending our deepest sympathy's for the loss of Paula. Joan (Bates) & Larry Cronk



Joan - August 15, 2018 at 06:49 PM

CH

“ The Helm Family sends prayers for your family at this time of loss. I so enjoyed our short walks and chats in the park with the dogs. She will be missed.

Cyrilla Helm - August 15, 2018 at 02:42 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



August 15, 2018 at 02:28 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



August 15, 2018 at 11:17 AM



“ *I was sadden to hear of the passing of Paula. She was truly a special soul in this universe. My sincere condolences to her entire family. Peace be with you—Sue Ellen Morgan*

Sue Ellen Morgan - August 15, 2018 at 10:32 AM



“ *The Orr Family purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



The Orr Family - August 14, 2018 at 10:39 PM

JH

“ *Our sincere condolences to your family. Our thoughts are with you.
Dave and Jan Hagemeyer*

Jan Hagemeyer - August 14, 2018 at 04:45 PM

PH

“ *I am shocked and saddened to read of Paula's passing. She was one of the most multi-faceted people I've ever had the privilege of knowing. I was operator of Top Gallery at the time it was Gallery on the Square. Paula was always working on learning some new form to explore her creativity. She was warm and welcoming. My sincerest sympathy to all of you.*

Patricia Houser - August 14, 2018 at 04:21 PM

OS

“ *Our deepest sympathy, Susan, Debbie, Susie purchased the Cherished Memories - All White for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



Our deepest sympathy, Susan, Debbie, Susie - August 14, 2018 at 01:42 PM

RC

“ *Ramona Capellaro lit a candle in memory of Paula J. Bates*



Ramona Capellaro - August 14, 2018 at 01:34 PM

MM

“ My condolences, Maureen McQuillan purchased the Fields of Europe for Spring for the family of Paula J. Bates.



My condolences, Maureen McQuillan - August 14, 2018 at 12:56 PM

AN

“ Ayesha, Amber, & Natalie purchased the Healing Tears - Blue and White for the family of Paula J. Bates.



Ayesha, Amber, & Natalie - August 14, 2018 at 12:49 PM

KD

“ To Jack and your whole family and circle of friends, our sincerest condolences and heartfelt wishes for peace -- Kirby and Keirsten Deater-Deckard, South Hadley, MA

Kirby Deater-Deckard - August 14, 2018 at 10:52 AM

LB

“ Love, Sharon Kusnerz and Carol Benedyk purchased the Springtime Wishes for the family of Paula J. Bates.



Love, Sharon Kusnerz and Carol Benedyk - August 14, 2018 at 10:36 AM



“ *Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



August 14, 2018 at 10:31 AM



“ *The Bates Lab purchased the Multicolor Bright Large Sympathy Vase Arrangement for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



The Bates Lab - August 14, 2018 at 10:19 AM



“ *In the 1980's I was in counseling classes with Paula. Since we both stayed in Bloomington, I would see her at events at the Buskirk or at the Lotus Festival. She always showed her warm smile and engaging spirits. May your memories of her sustain you as you celebrate her life. I am on my way to Minnesota so am sad I will miss the gathering this Thursday.*

Kathleen Boggess - August 14, 2018 at 09:51 AM



“ *Ray & Eloise (Sauer) Gormally family, purchased the Fields of Europe for the family of Paula J. Bates.*



Ray & Eloise (Sauer) Gormally family, - August 13, 2018 at 09:12 PM