



Charlene Elizabeth Lupke

January 31, 1954 - August 28, 2023

Charlene Elizabeth Lupke, 69, of Naples passed away on August 28, 2023 at Naples Community Hospital surrounded by her loving family.

She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to the late Stanley W. and Hazel D. (Maxstadt) Krueger. She attended Bowling Green State University, where she was a proud and lifelong member of Delta Gamma, recently sitting on the board of the local alumni chapter here in Florida. She was a fluent Spanish speaker and lived in Spain for a semester while at college.

After graduating with her Masters degree, she worked for Lincoln Life Insurance Company in Fort Wayne where she raised her sons. Upon moving to Florida, Char worked as the Director of the Florida Lions Eye Clinic in Bonita Springs until her retirement.

Char had many interests, but her true passion was preparing food for her friends and family. All would describe her as an excellent cook. While living in Florida, she enjoyed traveling the world and visited many places. Her favorites were Hawai'i, Spain, Singapore, and London. She also spent time volunteering at Florida Cancer Services helping those with the same disease she was battling.

Along with her parents she was preceded in death by her husband Walter

Lupke, brothers David and Steve Krueger.

Char is survived by her devoted sons, Stephen Michael “Mick” Stewart (Brooke) and Christopher Stewart (Eydie), her loving grandsons, Tyler and Wyatt Stewart, sister Chris (Michael) Krueger and brother Dennis Krueger, sister-in-law’s Mary Ellen (David Krueger) and Hiromi (Steve Krueger). She also leaves behind her best friend, companion and partner, Barry Silver, whom she was introduced to by a Delta Gamma sister while having dinner one night at Pelican’s Nest Community in Naples.

Char will be remembered by those who knew her as a vibrant, caring, courageous woman that lived her life to the fullest and inspired them to do the same. She will be forever missed, but more importantly forever loved.

Family and friends will honor Char’s life on Saturday, September 23, 2023. A visitation from 10AM – 12 PM and a Memorial Service beginning at 12 Noon at Shikany’s Bonita Funeral Home, 28300 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs, FL 34134. Interment Private.

In Lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to The American Cancer Society (https://donate.cancer.org/?campaign=honormemorialmedia&msclkid=a2a1631564d018c41fb407e2fccdada6&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=%5BB%5D%20-%20American%20Cancer%20Society&utm_term=american%20cancer%20society%20donation&utm_content=Brand%20-%20EM) and Lighthouse of Collier, Center for Blindness and Vision Loss. (<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E350819&id=1>)

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany Bonita Funeral Home Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

SEP **23**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home
28300 Tamiami Trail So.
Bonita Springs, FL 34134
(239) 992-4982
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

Memorial Service

SEP **23**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home
28300 Tamiami Trail So.
Bonita Springs, FL 34134
(239) 992-4982
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

Tribute Wall



“ *Charlene Elizabeth Lupke*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM

ES

“ I got to know Char through the Lions Eye Clinic. She was my first boss and one of the first strong influences into my adulthood. She set the standard for being a leader. She was kind and patient yet assertive and determined when it came to making decisions for the clinic and in life.



She was one of the first to see potential in me. She was always telling me what a great nurse I would become. Char was always putting our needs before the clinic which I will always admire her for. When it came to school she did not hesitate to rearrange our work schedules to fit in our classes. She would sometimes encourage me to leave work early so I can get some school work done or have more time to study for an upcoming exam. She was truly one in a million.

My goal was always to work in pediatric oncology and I remember she would tell me that she had great connections at her infusion center and could try to get me in as a way to get my foot in the door.

At the time that sounded terrifying, and I would always think “Why does she think I’m good enough to work there?” But her belief in me sprouted self confidence. Her encouragement meant more than words can describe. After I left the clinic, Char and the friends I made there followed me throughout life. I feel like Char was a big part in the foundation of my career. For that I will always be thankful.

I would not be where I am today without her. May she rest in peace.

Esmeralda - September 23, 2023 at 07:52 PM



“ 55 files added to the album *Our Char*



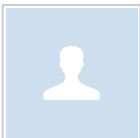
Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home - September 23, 2023 at 01:19 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charlene Elizabeth Lupke.



September 20, 2023 at 02:54 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Charlene Elizabeth Lupke.



September 17, 2023 at 04:52 PM

AS

“ Anita and I share many good memories of Char. We were mostly acquainted through the Florida Lions Club. As executive director Char did an amazingly good job of juggling many tasks especially during those days when her cancer was really affecting her. She was a fighter and kept going forward. Outside of the clinic we had a lot of fun together even when she was not 100% We will miss her and send our condolences to her family and to Barry.
Anita and Dick Shapiro

Anita and Dick Shapiro - September 04, 2023 at 10:00 AM

TM

Char was a wonderful and gracious lady with her time and energy helping others. Her support at Lighthouse of Collier will always be remembered. Thank you for all you did. Todd and Marcia Muller

todd Muller - September 11, 2023 at 02:45 PM