Bruce Vanderver

May 18, 1965 - July 7, 2022

Christopher “Bruce” Vanderver, 57, of Nashville, TN, passed away on July 7, 2022, after a yearlong battle with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Bruce was born on May 18, 1965, to the late Edsel Bruce and Gloria Gail (Southard) Vanderver. In addition to his parents, Bruce was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Clark and Alice (Vickers) Vanderver; maternal grandparents, Robert Southard and Mavis (Jenkins) Southard Mayes; and paternal aunts, Ina Austin and Wanda Welch.

Bruce grew-up in Sacramento, KY, and was a graduate of McLean County High School. He attended Western Kentucky University and earned a bachelor’s degree in biology and spent the majority of his career working in the financial and health services industries. Bruce was a creative and prolific photographer and cherished his 80’s vinyl albums and Waterford Crystal. He was passionate about flowers and decorating for the holidays. Bruce also loved campy comedies and thrillers and could recite, in detail, the funniest lines from all his favorites. Most of all, Bruce will be missed for his intelligent, witty banter and dry humor.

Surviving Bruce is his caring and loving sister, Kimberly McGehee of Greenville, KY; nephew, Joshua McGehee; niece, Kaylee McGehee; aunt, Joan Payne of Morgantown, KY; great-aunt, Thelma “Tot” Escue; and cousins, Cheryl Bushong and Brent Clark.

Bruce will be lovingly remembered by his longtime friends and caregivers, Dr. Steve Moats and Todd McEachern of Nashville, TN, as well as special friend Jackie Eachus of Granby, MO. He will also be forever remembered by a far-reaching circle of dear friends who provided light, laughter, and love during his best days and, especially, during the toughest.

We hold heartfelt gratitude and admiration for the personal care, concern, and warmth extended to Bruce by Dr. Jonathan Abbas and his amazing medical team at TN Oncology. Additionally, we recognize the team of nurses, medical assistants, and physicians in the Outpatient Infusion Center and Blood Cancer Unit on the 5th floor of St. Thomas Midtown Hospital. All were incredible and went above and beyond to support and show genuine affection to Bruce throughout his illness and during his final days under hospice care.

Arrangements for cremation were entrusted to Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home. A memorial service for the interment of ashes will be conducted at 10:00 am on October 8, 2022, at St. Ann's Episcopal Church, 419 Woodland Street, Nashville, TN. A private celebration of life is planned for early fall at Cheekwood Estate & Gardens. Memorial donations in Bruce’s name may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **8**. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Episcopal Church
419 Woodland St
Nashville, TN 37206

Tribute Wall

Bruce Vanderver

October 14, 2022 at 08:02 PM

EW

Bruce, Leland and I were inseparable in grade and middle school. We played in band together and were roommates our freshman year in college. I thought you would outlive us all. Rest easy my friend.

Edward West - October 07, 2022 at 01:50 AM

VD

I am so sorry to hear about Bruce. I worked at Red Lobster with Bruce back in the day and what a wonderful, witty friend he was!! I have great memories of him and the fun times we had at work. God Bless his family in this time of sorrow.

Veronica Hareris Drak - August 19, 2022 at 04:32 PM

BF

Rest in peace sweet friend and co worker. We are heartbroken 💔 you were taken too soon.

Bryan Keith Faulkner - July 21, 2022 at 04:38 AM

DH

Diana Hammers lit a candle in memory of Bruce Vanderver

Diana Hammers - July 16, 2022 at 06:16 PM

DH

Deepest Sympathy to Gail and family! Prayers, Diana Givens (Rochester Elementary graduate)

Diana Hammers - July 16, 2022 at 06:18 PM

LP

So so sorry for your loss.. He was We we're close in high school. We had so much fun . Band trips Summer Vacation. We will all miss him .

Let's Partlow - July 14, 2022 at 09:17 AM

LD

Always enjoyed seeing Bruce and talking to him in the halls of MCHS back in the 80's when we were young and invincible. Prayers for his friends and family because I know they will miss him dearly 💙

Linda Ward Dempsey - July 13, 2022 at 09:42 PM

OR

I am greatly saddened to hear Bruce has passed. He was a dear friend for many years. We had great times together. You will be missed - Orvella

Orvella - July 13, 2022 at 08:57 PM

MA

Kim so sorry for your lost. I have fond memories of us at school. Love and Prayers ❤️❤️

Moni Arnett - July 13, 2022 at 05:52 PM

KG

To Kim. I am so very sorry to hear about the passing of your brother I remember him from days at the skating rink you are in my prayers

Kelly Turley Glass - July 13, 2022 at 05:07 PM

WY

I love you, Bruce.

Wesley Young - July 13, 2022 at 04:24 PM

MA

I am so sorry to hear of this. Bruce and I were friends in high school and I have always remembered going to the skating rink with him and his sister in Sacramento. Fly high Bruce!

Martika - July 13, 2022 at 03:47 PM

ST

This breaks my ❤️...Bruce and I were classmates at MCHS. He was comical, smart and such a wonderful friend. Although many years have passed since, I will always remember him. His mom Gail and sister Kim were so sweet. Fly high my friend 😔

Stephanie - July 13, 2022 at 02:36 PM

ST

6 files added to the album Bruce

Steve - July 13, 2022 at 11:54 AM