



In the summer of 1964, Jack & Carolyn Newkirk welcomed their first little girl into a growing family. Victoria Louise was born in Ithaca, New York on June 19, just as Congress was voting on a landmark Civil Rights Act (it passed 73-27). Several days later, the album “A Hard Day’s Night” was released by The Beatles, and the National Broadcasting Company approved Gene Roddenberry’s first script for an upcoming television series called “Star Trek.”

Victoria Louise Newkirk Lierheimer was born into a world of change — but those around her had no idea how her life would soon change the world.

Victoria developed into a precocious toddler, happily playing with her two older brothers while exploring everything within reach. At age three, however, Victoria began to complain of chronic headaches. Her parents promptly sought help from the medical community, & the diagnosis was the stuff of every parent’s nightmare: hydrocephalus, a dreadful condition where excess cerebrospinal fluid compresses the brain and causes all sorts of harmful side effects.

A Denver neurosurgeon implanted a state-of-the-art shunt to relieve the pressure, but its metal valve soon clogged, raising the possibility of another traumatic operation. Jack and Carol (neither of whom had medical training) asked the question “What if a shunt could be made out of soft material instead of metal? Could obstructions be crushed and flushed from the outside?” While some were skeptical about this novel idea, Jack and Carol forged ahead, and within ten years The Denver Shunt® had become a household name in neurosurgery, with an estimated 10,000 lives saved worldwide.

But this unplanned contribution to humanity was just the beginning of Victoria’s impact. She went on to earn a degree at the University of Denver & become a teacher, which began a lifelong passion for education. In 1987, she married the love of her life, Chris Lierheimer, and together they founded Evergreen Academy, a K-8 school that educated hundreds of young students. When Chris tragically passed from cancer in 2010, Victoria faced the future with her signature boldness and strong Christian faith, once again setting an example for the world to see.

Of all her adventures in life, nothing pleased Victoria more than raising up four fine children alongside her husband, and she considered these years to be the best of her life. Once the children were on their way, Victoria returned to school and earned a Master’s Degree in Criminology. Using her real estate savvy, she developed affordable first homes for young couples, reformed felons, & others trying to establish a new lease on life.

While Victoria’s years may have been cut short, the impact of those years extends beyond what can be measured with an earthly calendar. She will be sorely missed, but Victoria remains with us in spirit, and would no doubt urge us all to have faith, to be kind, and — as she most surely did — to leave the place a little better than how we found it.

*-John J. Newkirk, Loving brother*

## **In Loving Memory**

### **Victoria Louise Newkirk Lierheimer**

June 19, 1964 – December 11, 2023

#### **Survivors**

Son – Christopher (Katie) Lierheimer

Daughters – Victoria Faith (Mark), Abigail, Rachael Lierheimer

Brother – John (Melissa) Newkirk

Sister – Christina (Gary) Newkirk Seldomridge

#### **Preceded in Death**

Husband – Christopher George Lierheimer

Father – John B. Newkirk

Mother – Carolyn Newkirk

Brother – Jeffrey Burt Newkirk

#### **Celebration of Life**

6:30pm, Thursday, December 21, 2023

Aspen Ridge Church

Evergreen, Colorado

Reverend Chris VanInwagen – Officiant

#### **Internment**

Private Family

Friday, December 22, 2023

Evergreen Memorial Park

Evergreen, Colorado

Reverend Chris VanInwagen – Officiant

## **1 Thessalonians 4:13-14**

Our friends, we want you to know the truth about those who have died, so that you will not be sad, as are those who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and Rose again, and so we believe that God will take back with Jesus those who have died believing in him.

## **Isaiah 40:31**

But those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

## **Honorary Pallbearers**

John J. Newkirk	Christina Seldomridge
Christopher Lierheimer	Victoria Faith Lierheimer
Abigail Lierheimer	Rachael Lierheimer

Memorials may be sent in memory of  
**Victoria Louise Newkirk Lierheimer**  
to the following:

### **The Women's Bean Project**

WBP provides job training and employment to women facing significant barriers to work, selling high quality food products made by these women to support their mission.

[womensbeanproject.com/donate](http://womensbeanproject.com/donate)

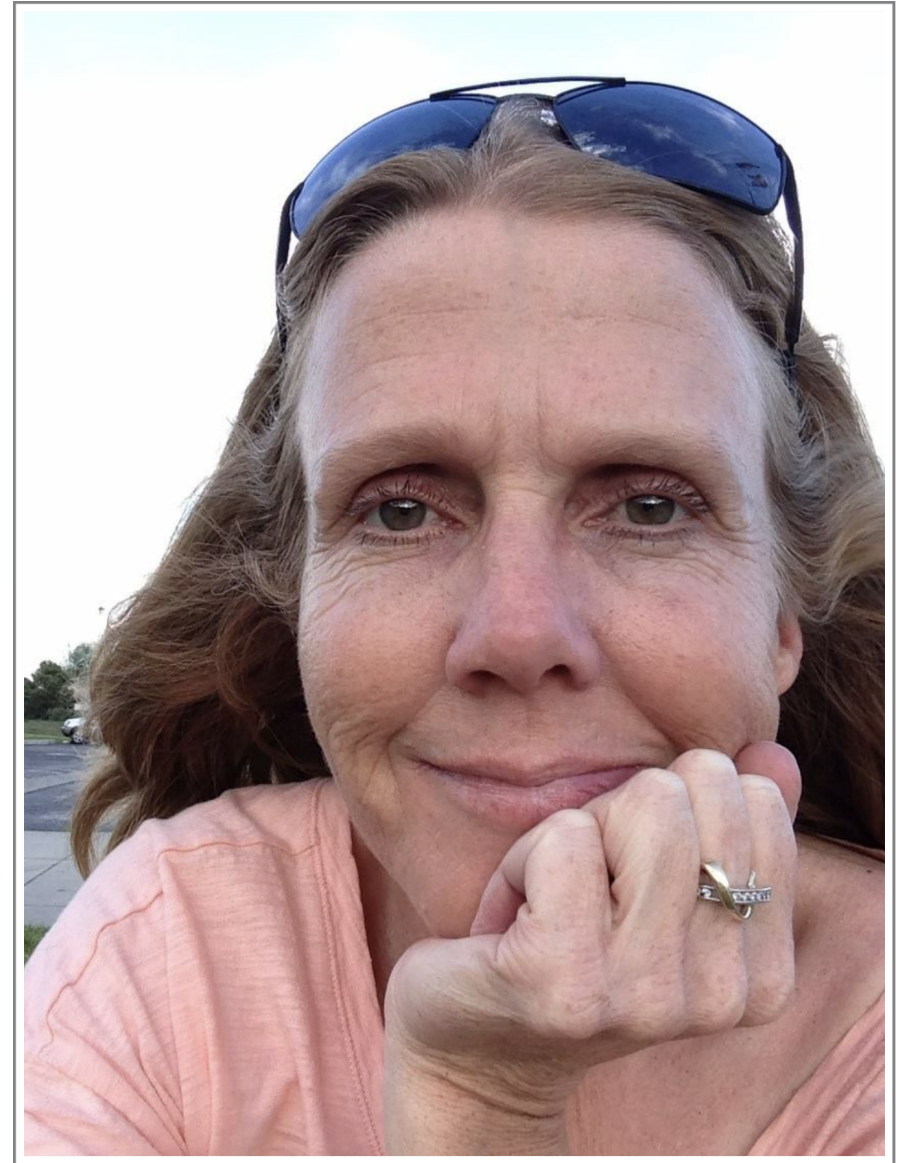
### **The Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.)**

PEO, long supported by the Newkirks, has a mission to further the education of women. Victoria, along with her mother and sister, were all members. Victoria dedicated her life to education. Donors to PEO can choose the Project for Continuing Education or the PEO Star Award, in Victoria's memory.

[Donations.peointernational.org](http://Donations.peointernational.org)

To write a message of condolence, to the family, please visit:

[EvergreenMemorialPark.com](http://EvergreenMemorialPark.com)



In Loving Memory  
**Victoria Louise Newkirk Lierheimer**

# Victoria Louise Newkirk Lierheimer

Order of Service

**Processional Pianist:** Bonnie Rose

**Welcome:** Reverend Chris VanInwagen

**Special Music:** “In The Garden” Mandy Newkirk (Victoria’s niece)

**Biography:** read by Katie Bacon (Victoria’s daughter-in-law)

**Sibling Memories:** John Newkirk (Victoria’s brother) &  
Christina Newkirk Seldomridge (Victoria’s sister)

**Celebration of Life Video:** created by Abigail & Faith Lierheimer

## **Victoria’s Children:**

**Poem:** Victoria Faith Lierheimer (read by Chris VanInwagen)

**Special Video:** Christopher Lierheimer

**Reflection:** Abigail Lierheimer

**Message:** Reverend Chris VanInwagen

**Special Music:** “If You Could See Me Now” Melissa Newkirk  
(Victoria’s sister-in-law)

**Closing Prayer:** Reverend Chris VanInwagen

**Recessional Pianist:** Bonnie Rose

**Reception:** The Lierheimer family invites you to a dessert reception downstairs

