



Forever In Our Hearts

*“Kat”  
Rachel Kathryn Wilkes Kaushagen*

March 14, 1979 - November 22, 2023



# Rachel Kathryn “Kat” Wilkes Kaushagen

March 14, 1979 - November 22, 2023



## Memorial Service

4 p.m., Saturday, December 2, 2023  
Munden Funeral Home, Morehead City, NC  
Officiated by Rev. Jim Daub

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Opening Psalm – Psalm 23

Friends and Family Remembrances

Special Music – “I’ll Fly Away” by Johnny Cash

Invocation

Remembrance of Baptism

Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 43:1, 4, 5a, 18-19a, 25

Epistle Lesson – Revelation 7:9-17

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 11:25-30

Special Music – “Wild Flowers” – Tom Petty

Sermon

Prayers & Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

Special Music – “Amazing Grace” by Celtic Women

*The family invites you to join them for a  
time of food & fellowship following the service.*

Rachel Kathryn "Kat" Wilkes Kaushagen, 44, of Beaufort, North Carolina, passed away on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, at her home.

A memorial service to honor Kat's life will be held at 4 p.m., Saturday, December 2nd at Munden Funeral Home in Morehead City, officiated by Rev. Jim Daub.

Kat was born on March 14, 1979, in Morehead City, North Carolina, to Richard and Linda Wilkes. Growing up in Havelock, she attended and graduated from Havelock High School. Her passion for helping others led her to pursue a bachelor's degree from Appalachian State University, where she honed her skills and deepened her understanding of criminal justice.

With kindness and dedication, Kat embarked on a career as a social worker for the State of North Carolina. Her expertise and empathy made her a valuable asset to the community, particularly as a juvenile court counselor. Her commitment to advocating for the well-being of others made a significant impact on the lives of numerous individuals and families.

Kat's warm and loving presence extended beyond her professional life. She was a devoted wife to her husband Matthew, with whom she built a life filled with love, joy, and companionship. Kat's unconditional love and support were the foundation of their relationship, creating a lasting bond that will forever be cherished. Together, they loved to fish and travel. Kat was also passionate about surfing, shelling, animals, and photography.

Kat was a compassionate and dedicated individual who touched the lives of many through her work and kindness.

Kat will be deeply missed by her devoted husband, Matthew Kaushagen; mother, Linda R. Wilkes of New Bern, NC; brother, Ryan Wilkes and wife LeighAnn of LaCrosse, Wisconsin; father-in-law, Luke Kaushagen of Thief River Falls, MN; nephews, Clayton Wilkes and Lucas Moen; niece Emily Wilkes.

Kat was preceded in death by her father, Richard B. Wilkes; grandparents, Bo and Rachel Abernethy; grandmother, Ruth Wilkes Hagle; grandfather, Russell Wilkes; mother-in-law, Larae Kaushagen; and sister-in-law, Lona Moen.

As an expression of sympathy, flowers are welcome or memorial contributions may be made to AIM at Melanoma Foundation, 5729 Lebanon Road, Suite 144-305, Frisco, TX 75034.

Arrangements by  
Munden Funeral Home  
Morehead City, NC  
[www.mundenfuneralhome.net](http://www.mundenfuneralhome.net)





# Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

Do not stand at my grave and weep

I am not there. I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow.

I am the diamond glints on snow.

I am the sunlight on ripened grain.

I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush

I am the swift uplifting rush

Of quiet birds in circled flight.

I am the soft stars that shine at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry;

I am not there. I did not die.

By Mary Elizabeth Frye