



# Marilyn Denise Upchurch

June 4, 1969 - February 25, 2023

## OBITUARY

Marilyn was born on June 4, 1969, in Misawa, Japan to William Upchurch and Dorothy Morgan-Upchurch.

Marilyn was privileged to be born into a military family and have the opportunity to travel to many places around the world. In doing so, she made an

indelible impression on everyone that she met along the way. Marilyn had many

talents. She found her expertise in making others beautiful through her cosmetology skills. Marilyn loved music. She had a lovely voice and could sing the

lyrics to thousands of songs.

Marilyn was a brilliant student. Always receiving high marks and the best grades. She was an outstanding student, and a leader amongst her peers.

Marilyn

was very popular making friends wherever she lived (Spain, Denver, Chicago, and

Minnesota).

Then the miracles were created – Monica, Morgan, and Malcolm. Her beautiful and talented children were brought into this world. Malcolm gave her the

gifts of a beautiful granddaughter, Malaysia and grandson, Makai. Morgan

gave

her the gift of a smart and handsome grandson, Byron. She absolutely doted on

her grandchildren.

Marilyn was bold and went after whatever she wanted. Marilyn had a “crush” on Kim Willis, and she approached him at Famous Daves ...it was an immediate love connection. Marilyn revealed to Kim that she was battling a fight

against cancer on one of their first dates. Kim stepped up to the challenge and cared for Marilyn throughout her valiant fight against Multiple Myeloma, and her

battle with kidney disease. Kim was not only her best friend, he became her primary caregiver. Kim was able to take her on a dream trip to New York City. Marilyn had the time of her life!

In Marilyn’s passing she leaves behind her beloved, everlasting soulmate Kim Willis. Donald Willis (Father in law), Wanda Pok-son Willis (Mother in law) [deceased], Haddie Willie-Lewis (Sister in law) [deceased], Daryl Lewis (Brother in law).

Children – Monica Upchurch, Morgan Upchurch, and Malcolm Upchurch. Grandchildren – Malaysia, Byron and Makai who she adored and showered with affection.

Parents - Pastor William Alton Upchurch (Father), Dorothy Ann Morgan Upchurch (Mother) [deceased], Delores Upchurch (Stepmother).

Siblings – Vincent Edward Upchurch (brother), Deborah Michele Upchurch (sister), Darren Anthony Upchurch (brother) [deceased], William Upchurch Jr (brother), Kanitra Shirley (sister).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR 12. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Estes Funeral Chapel  
2201 Plymouth Ave N  
Minneapolis, MN 55411  
(612) 521-6744  
<https://estesfuneralchapel.com>

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ *Desert Harvest Mission Church lit a candle in memory of Marilyn Denise Upchurch*



Desert Harvest Mission Church - March 10, 2023 at 07:57 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Marilyn Denise Upchurch.*



March 10, 2023 at 07:50 PM

LE

“ *Lamont, Andrea, Taylor & Ellis purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Marilyn Denise Upchurch.*



Lamont, Andrea, Taylor & Ellis - March 10, 2023 at 05:45 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marilyn Denise Upchurch.*



March 09, 2023 at 06:51 PM

CW

“ To the Upchurch family offering my deepest condolence. i got the news of Marilyn's passing from her aunt Cherlyn in Chicago. May God strengthen all of you today and in days to come. Weeping may come at night but joy cometh in the morning. The storm is over now. Marilyn, rest in peace.

Sincerely,  
Carol Witherspoon (cousin)  
Memphis, TN

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**Carol Witherspoon** - March 08, 2023 at 02:18 PM

WF

God bless your thoughtfulness.  
William Upchurch

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**William Upchurch Father** - March 18, 2023 at 03:32 PM

PM

“ Sending deepest condolences to Mariyn's Father, Rev William Upchurch, our cousin, and the rest of the family. We are praying for your strength during this difficult time. Priscilla Montgomery and Eva Montgomery Harris of Lorain, OH.

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**Priscilla Montgomery** - March 08, 2023 at 12:27 PM

WF

BLESSINGS AND MAY GOD CONTINUE TO SHOWER YOU WITH HIS GRACE AND MERCY.

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**William Upchurch Father** - March 18, 2023 at 03:34 PM

DM

“ *Debraj Malkovich purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Marilyn Denise Upchurch.*



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**Debraj Malkovich** - March 08, 2023 at 09:37 AM



“Marilyn was born on June 4, 1969, in Misawa, Japan to William Upchurch and Dorothy Morgan-Upchurch. Marilyn was privileged to be born into a military family and have the opportunity to travel to many places around the world. In doing so, she made an indelible impression on everyone that she met along the way. Marilyn had many talents. She found her expertise in making others beautiful through her cosmetology skills. Marilyn loved music. She had a lovely voice and could sing the lyrics to thousands of songs. Marilyn was a brilliant student. Always receiving high marks and the best grades. She was an outstanding student, and a leader amongst her peers. Marilyn was very popular making friends wherever she lived (Spain, Denver, Chicago, and Minnesota). Then the miracles were created – Monica, Morgan, and Malcolm. Her beautiful and talented children were brought into this world. Malcolm gave her the gift of a beautiful granddaughter, Malaysia. Morgan gave her the gift of a smart and handsome grandson, Byron. She absolutely doted on her grandchildren. Marilyn was bold and went after whatever she wanted. Marilyn had a “crush” on Kim Willis, and she approached him at Famous Daves ... it was an immediate love connection. Marilyn revealed to Kim that she was battling a fight against cancer on one of their first dates. Kim stepped up to the challenge and

*cared for Marilyn throughout her valiant fight against Multiple Myeloma, and her battle with kidney disease. Kim was not only her best friend, he became her primary caregiver. Kim was able to take her on a dream trip to New York City.*

*Marilyn had the time of her life!*

*In Marilyn's passing she leaves behind her beloved, everlasting soulmate*

*Kim Willis. Donald Willis (Father in law), Wanda Pok-son Willis (Mother in law)*

*[deceased], Haddie Willie-Lewis (Sister in law) [deceased], Daryl Lewis (Brother in law).*

*Children – Monica Upchurch, Morgan Upchurch, and Malcolm Upchurch. Grandchildren – Malaysia and Byron who she adored and showered with affection.*

*Parents - Pastor William Alton Upchurch (Father), Dorothy Ann Morgan*

*Upchurch (Mother) [deceased], Delores Upchurch (Stepmother).*

*Siblings – Vincent Edward Upchurch (brother), Deborah Michele Upchurch (sister), Darren Anthony Upchurch (brother) [deceased], William Upchurch (brother), Kanitra Shirley, (sister).*

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**Deborah Upchurch** - March 06, 2023 at 09:15 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Marilyn and Kim



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**Deborah Upchurch** - March 06, 2023 at 08:19 PM

PS

“ My heart broke into tiny pieces upon hearing of the passing of Marilyn. I met Marilyn a couple of times while in the company of her sister Deb. You were such a brave woman Marilyn. You defied all the odds that came against you, you lived life on your own terms, and you did not let your challenges define you. My deepest condolences to Marilyn's children, her partner, and the Upchurch family ( especially Deb). May Marilyn's legacy, her strength, and the beauty that she exuded while was on this earth comfort you. May you find a meaningful way to ensure that her legacy lives on. My prayers are with all of you during this difficult time.

Sincerely  
Prisca Swaray  
Twin Cities , MN

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**Prisca Swaray** - March 06, 2023 at 03:47 PM



I am just learning about Marilyn's passing. We were best friends in 5th grade. She told me she only had two best friends in her whole life and I was honored to be one of them. My heart is broken right now. Marilyn was a beautiful person inside and out.--Crissy Gabriel

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**c** - March 29, 2023 at 07:46 PM