



## Mary Catherine Gardner

July 25, 1986 - May 15, 2021

Mary Catherine Gardner, age 34, a Baltimore native currently residing in Albia, IA, passed away on Saturday, May 15, 2021, at MercyOne in Des Moines, IA.

Mary was born July 25, 1986 to Eric “Ric” Gardner and Theresa Marie Plum in Baltimore, MD. She grew up in Crownsville, Md attending school and graduated in 2004 from Old Mill High School in Millersville, Maryland.

Mary worked as a caregiver and a Vet assistant, but most importantly she loved her two daughters more than all of the dolphins in the ocean. She loved music and was a fierce Beth Hart fan. As a child she danced. She danced alone, with her little brother Hunter, on the wood stove, or with all of her cousins at Aunt Katy’s house. She had many friends. No one that ever touched her heart was forgotten by her. She was a lover of nature and the outdoors. She enjoyed fishing, hiking, collecting rocks, campfires, rope swinging, swimming and climbing trees. Mary also loved animals and rescued many of them. She cherished her family and loved to spend time at the family reunions.

Mary is survived by 2 daughters, Ava Rose and Mira Jane; her father Ric Gardner; her mother, Theresa Plum; her other mother, Marsha Gardner whom she loved dearly; 5 brothers, Jerry (Amanda) Smoot, Jeff (Jennifer) Smoot, John (Cara) Gardner, Hunter Gardner, and Eric Lau; her grandfather, John

Hoffman; and her grandmother, Carolyn Plum. Mary is also survived by her loving partner Justin Pettyjohn, her best friend since childhood, Jessica Lynn, several aunts, uncles, cousins, and good friends.

She is preceded in death by her grandmother, Mary Hoffman; her grandfather, James Plum Sr. and sister-in-law, Carrie Wright Smoot.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, IA, with Bob Mort officiating. Burial will follow services at Oak View cemetery in Albia.

A memorial has been established to the Animal Rescue League of Iowa.

Mary's family wishes to express sincere appreciation to the hospital staff at MercyOne in Des Moines, IA.

## Cemetery Details

### Oak View Cemetery

Albia, IA 52531

## Previous Events

### Memorial Service

MAY 18. 10:30 AM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home

116 Benton Ave.

Albia, IA 52531

(641) 932-3129

<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Catherine Gardner*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Mary Catherine Gardner*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.*



May 18, 2021 at 08:51 AM



“ *Dalton Harris lit a candle in memory of Mary Catherine Gardner*



**Dalton Harris** - May 17, 2021 at 07:47 PM

KM

“ Where to start. We worked together and then became very close. We rode around, ate food together, our kids played together, you were a shoulder to lean on. Our walks, sleep overs. You will be missed dearly. We even had a relationship. Lol we did it to keep the boys away!! Lol I will miss you Mary. One of my best friends.

KERRY MOORE - May 17, 2021 at 06:01 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.



May 17, 2021 at 03:44 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.



May 17, 2021 at 03:40 PM

JF

“ Mary was a beautiful person inside & out. She was a good friend & mother. A beautiful soul gone too soon. Rest in peace Mary. You will be missed



Jennifer ford - May 17, 2021 at 03:38 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.



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May 17, 2021 at 03:18 PM



“ *Enduring Grace* was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.



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May 17, 2021 at 02:14 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.



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May 17, 2021 at 01:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.



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May 17, 2021 at 01:24 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.*



May 17, 2021 at 01:13 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.*



May 17, 2021 at 12:41 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.*



May 17, 2021 at 12:11 PM



“ *I always loved spending time and walking around with Mary and the girls, you will be severely missed. <3*

**Gracie Shelquist** - May 17, 2021 at 11:48 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Catherine Gardner.*



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May 17, 2021 at 10:26 AM