



## Cheryl Ann Olson

April 7, 1971 - May 1, 2025

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“When you see a flower bloom, or a gentle sign from nature, know that I am near-never far, always in your heart.” Those who knew Cheryl will carry this sentiment with them, finding her presence in the quiet, beautiful moments of life.

Cheryl Ann Olson, 54, of Normalville, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully after a short but courageous battle with lung cancer. Surrounded by love, Cheryl left this world with the same quiet strength and grace that touched everyone who knew her.

Born on April 7, 1971, to Gerald and Marlene Kern, Cheryl was a kind-hearted, humble woman who always put others before herself. She wasn't afraid to get her hands dirty and have fun just like the rest of them. Cheryl had a natural gift for making others feel seen and cared for. She was a friend to all, a stranger to none-offering kindness and gentle grace to everyone she met. Her selfless nature and thoughtful presence left a lasting impression on everyone she encountered.

A talented cosmetologist by trade, Cheryl owned and operated her own salon in Normalville, Pa., before following her heart into education. Since 2006, she has served as the Cosmetology Instructor at Fayette County Career and Technical Institute. Through her dedication and passion, she elevated the program and inspired hundreds of students. Her perseverance to help each

one succeed was unwavering, but her love for them all was even more profound. Cheryl cared deeply and was fully invested in her students. She always believed in the value of technical education and was a passionate advocate for the entire school, both in the classroom and beyond. She was constantly thinking of ways to make things better and was steadfast in her support of the school, its staff, and students. Her heart was always in the right place, and her presence in the classroom will be deeply missed.

Outside of work, Cheryl found joy in life's simple pleasures and quiet moments. She cherished time with her husband, Kevin-whether riding side-by-sides, traveling to Montana, or spending peaceful evenings talking around a campfire or by the pool. Their 16-year love story was deep and enduring; they complemented each other effortlessly and were truly a perfect match.

Together, they enjoyed camping and embraced the serenity of the outdoors, forming lasting friendships with others along the way.

Summers were especially meaningful, as Kevin and Cheryl loved Montana and looked forward to spending weeks there each year. When at home, Cheryl could often be found outdoors-enjoying the sunshine by her pool, tending to her flowers, or spending time with her faithful dog, Wyatt. She enjoyed sewing, caring for their home, and loved being surrounded by family and friends. Cheryl always made space in her heart for others. She had a generous spirit and was the kind of person who would give the shirt off her back to someone in need-and often did. Cheryl was a master at finding deals-always thinking of others and picking up thoughtful items for her family, friends, and home to make their lives a little brighter. She truly had a gift for spotting the best bargains.

She is survived by her loving and devoted husband, Kevin Olson, who deeply misses her and will forever hold her in his heart; her beautiful daughters, Brittney Shaffer (Matthew) and Carrigan Shaulis; and her caring stepchildren, whom she cherished as her own, Travis Olson (Jordan King) and Marshall Olson (Lindsay Olson). Cheryl was a proud grandmother to Jaydin, Joshua, Finley, Ellie, Eli, Hunter, Hayden, and Addison-her grandchildren, who brought

immense joy and love into her life.

She will also be greatly missed by her parents, Gerald and Marlene Kern; her siblings, Kelly Miner (Ross), Melissa 'Doodle' Kern-Anderson (Ryan), and Brian Kern (Laura); and her many nieces and nephews, each of whom held a special place in her heart. Cheryl's friends, colleagues, and all who had the pleasure of knowing her will feel the deep absence of her kindness, laughter, and generous spirit.

In keeping with Cheryl's wishes, there will be no formal services. A Celebration of Life will be held later this summer at Goodwin's Bar in Mill Run, a place filled with fond memories and the warmth of good friends. The family extends heartfelt thanks to Karen and Joey Goodwin, owners and dear companions, for their support and generosity.

Kevin and the family extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Forbes Hospital - AHN for their compassion, care, and heart-felt dignity shown to Cheryl and the entire family during this difficult time. They are also profoundly thankful for the overwhelming support from the community, family, and friends-both near and far. To their extended family across the country, and to the cherished Montana family Cheryl and Kevin built over the years, your love has been deeply felt. Every call, text, prayer, and thoughtful gesture has brought comfort and strength, and the family is truly grateful to each and every one of you . Arrangements are under the direction of the Mark C. Brooks Funeral Home Inc., 146 Municipal Building Rd., Melcroft(724-455-2310). To leave a message or send condolences please visit our website at [www.brooksfhmelcroft.com](http://www.brooksfhmelcroft.com)

# Tribute Wall

BB

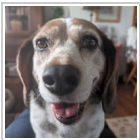
“ I'm so so sorry for your loss. My deepest sympathy to Kevin her husband and her loving parents Gerald and Marlene. May God give you the peace and comfort you need at this time. Barbie Bly

Barbara Bly - May 05, 2025 at 09:57 AM

LP

“ Cheryl was a special person. I've worked with her since 2006. She was a devoted instructor not only to the students in her own program but to the whole school. She was the student council advisor for many years and always put her heart into any event that they sponsored. Floats in the Uniontown Halloween Parade, Senior Ceremony, Mother's Day Luncheon, the end of year student picnic, and more. She always participated in the Summer Camp Program with fun and interesting projects for grade school students. Recently, she successfully co-coordinated the review of the Fayette County CTI by the Middle States Association for the school's re-accreditation. Her love for the students and school was apparent in everything that she did. She was always ready with a smile to give help and support to her co-workers as well. Her absence will be felt for a very long time to come. Sending prayers for her family and for all. Cheryl Olson, love for you will live on forever.

Lisa Patterson - May 04, 2025 at 06:30 PM



“ So sad to learn of her passing. Prayers for all of her family and friends!! Keri Sherwood Woolard

Keri Woolard - May 03, 2025 at 04:20 PM

CB

“ I met Cheryl about 13 years ago. Going to Normalville with my husband for work gave me the opportunity to meet her. We became friends instantly. It was so easy. We had so much in common. From our carriers to age and children. Our distance friendship wasn't hard. Talking and texting was on the regular. Seeing each other 2-3 times a year was like not missing a beat. Cheryl and Kevin helped me overcome a few fears. Riding side by side in the woods was one of them. One of my favorite things now. It won't be the same anymore without her. She was the kindest hearted person I've ever met. I'll miss you my friend. You'll be in my heart until we meet again. Love from Louisiana 📍💔

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**Casmarie Baudoin** - May 03, 2025 at 12:51 PM

SB

“ Prayers, and deepest sympathy for Kevin and all the family. Cheryl did my hair for a number of years when I lived in Mill Run, and she was always so sweet and kind and thoughtful. Blessings and peace to you all.

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**sheelagh bonomo** - May 03, 2025 at 12:50 PM

SP

“ To a very dear friend who I didn't know long but who left a big impact on me. U will always b in our hearts. RIP

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**Susan peck** - May 03, 2025 at 11:53 AM

TC

“ Mrs Olson is one of the most important people in my life. 16 years ago I'm was introduced to her as a new student in the cosmetology program. When I first met her we butt heads pretty badly. Mrs Olson never gave up on me. She taught me not only to do hair but also taught me to always believe in myself. I moved to NC and always stayed in touch and made it a point when I was home to visit to also see her. She will forever hold a special place in my heart. Fly high beautiful and always know you strongly impacted so many of us. Love always, Tia Campbell Class of 2011.

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**Tia Campbell** - May 03, 2025 at 11:52 AM