



## Colleen Forsythe

October 6, 2019

It is with deep sadness that the family of Colleen Janice Forsythe announces her sudden death on Sunday, October 6, 2019 in Petrolia. Colleen was in her 55th year.

Colleen was the daughter of the late Rev. James (2007) and Ellen (1987) Forsythe.

Dearly missed by her brother James, his partner Jacqueline, and James' son Navan, as well as by her brother Shaun and his wife Kathy and their children Aidan and Nolan and her stepmother Kerry Forsythe.

Her nephews were her pride and joy and she spent many hours with them doing crafts, baking and helping with homework.

Colleen is also remembered with fondness by her Aunt Muriel and her cousins Jennifer, Alison and Pauline.

Colleen spent 29 years working as an educational assistant at Queen Elizabeth II, Hillcrest, and Centennial schools in Petrolia and was invaluable in the classroom, where she was a source of love and care for "her kids."

Colleen also previously worked with Lambton County Developmental Services.

Children gravitated to her due to her warmth, smile and giggles. Her true gift was her ability to reach all children.

She had a wry sense of humour and a quick laugh and everyone who encountered her came away with a smile. For those who wish to donate in Colleen's memory, her family will be purchasing educational material for the students at Queen Elizabeth II school, which she loved.

# Events

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**OCT**   **Service**                      04:30PM  
**18**

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Needham-Jay Funeral Home  
4059 Petrolia Line, Petrolia, ON, CA, N0N 1R0

# Comments

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“ I’m very sorry for your loss of Colleen she was a very wonderful woman she had a great sense of humour likes to joke around And we all are going to miss her

**Brian Core** - October 18, 2019 at 09:00 AM

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“ Barb Robinson lit a candle in memory of Colleen Forsythe



**Barb Robinson** - October 17, 2019 at 07:48 PM

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“ Such sad news for all of us who knew and loved Colleen. Colleen loved her job and in return was loved by her students. She loved her Irish heritage and like her Dad was always ready for a good laugh and a “wee” bit of Irish chocolate.

Rest In Peace with your Mom and Dad and in the arms of your Heavenly Father.  
Will meet again.  
Your Stepmom

**Kerry Forsythe** - October 17, 2019 at 07:45 PM

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“ We were so sorry to hear of Colleen's passing. Terry worked with her at LCDS and she was a great colleague. I had the opportunity to share a Sunday School class with her and she was such fun. She is going to be missed by many. If the world were filled with more like Colleen, it would be a better place.

You have our condolences.

**Terry and Anne Warwick** - October 17, 2019 at 11:38 AM

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“ I was so saddened to hear of Colleen’s passing. I will always remember bringing to and picking up my kids from QE - she was always out in the yard on duty. She would always greet me with a smile and tell me how much she loves my kids and how awesome they are, and I would always say that she certainly plays a big part in that because of her genuine love and care for them. That was a number of years ago, but it has never left me and never will. She was a treasure. Her legacy will live on. Godspeed Colleen.

**Grant Purdy** - October 14, 2019 at 01:56 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to Colleen's family.  
Our daily talks centered around her love of family (her nephews brought so much joy to her life-music, studies, dance, basketball, soccer to name just a few) books, all things Irish, Petrolia events, and the pride she felt from working with children. She was always kind, positive and encouraging.  
Her commitment to inclusion, and acceptance, were unforgettable traits.  
I miss her deeply.

Stacey Smith

**Stacey Smith** - October 12, 2019 at 04:54 PM

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“ Deborah McLean lit a candle in memory of Colleen Forsythe



**Deborah McLean** - October 12, 2019 at 02:27 PM

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“ I have not seen Colleen in many years, but no matter how much time has passed, her laugh, her smile and her caring personality was always something that stuck with me. Truly an amazing woman to have had the pleasure of knowing. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this very difficult time.



**Kayla Morningstar** - October 11, 2019 at 09:03 PM

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“ I am very sorry to read of Colleen’s passing. Colleen was a great joy and pleasure to work with in my classroom at Hillcrest. She readily did anything that was asked of her and did it with a smile and joy as she truly loved all children. Lynne Palmer

**Lynne Palmer** - October 11, 2019 at 07:55 PM

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“ I have worked with Colleen for many years. She was an amazing person, teacher and a great friend. She adored her nephews and always talked of their accomplishments. She was truly adored by our kiddos, and a huge hole has been left in the hearts of all the students and staff at Queen E. She will be greatly missed. My deepest condolences to the family.

**Allison Thompson** - October 11, 2019 at 05:23 PM

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“ Bonnie Elliott lit a candle in memory of Colleen Forsythe



**Bonnie Elliott** - October 11, 2019 at 01:23 PM

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“ Colleen was a kind and gentle soul. I have worked with her for many years in different job settings. Her caring compassionate soul was evident. One would never hear her say anything poorly about anyone. There were a huge set of angel wings waiting for this sweet lady. There is definitely a hole in the universe that could never be filled by another. Rest in peace beautiful lady

Shari young - October 11, 2019 at 12:16 PM

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“ Connie Berdan lit a candle in memory of Colleen Forsythe



Connie Berdan - October 11, 2019 at 09:49 AM

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“ Colleen has such a big impact on so many kids. She was so great at noticing the kids that were struggling and was quick to reach out to them. Her legacy will live on in the lives of all she touched. She will be deeply missed!

Laurie Wiens - October 11, 2019 at 09:24 AM

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“ My deepest sympathy to the Forsythe family. Colleen was a joy to work with at LCDS. Her happiness and kindness was given freely to all, and she will be remembered fondly.

Louise Ogilvie - October 11, 2019 at 08:19 AM

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“ Colleen provided comfort to so many students. Her ability to make those around her feel special will leave a huge hole in the Queen Elizabeth School community. Her infectious smile and laugh will be missed.

Queen Elizabeth II Staff - October 11, 2019 at 08:04 AM



“ It was always such a joy to bump into Colleen in town and spend time catching up and sharing stories....she truly loved what she did and was such a genuine and kind person....she will be missed...our thoughts and prayers go out to her family.  
Sarah and Joe Syer

**Sarah Syer** - October 11, 2019 at 08:03 AM

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“ To Colleen's family,  
  
Colleen wore a smile when I saw her at Centennial School. Her smile was contagious!  
  
My thoughts go out to her family at this difficult time.

**Judy Krall** - October 11, 2019 at 07:42 AM

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“ Rest in Peace Colleen <3



**Kelly Billings** - October 11, 2019 at 12:59 AM

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“ Our deepest sympathy. Miss Forsythe loved to engage kids with books and was genuinely interested in what they liked. She was very special and loved her job and her kids. Praying someone will give her a rose today in heaven to remind her how she blessed and touched lives on earth.

**Krista Mueller** - October 10, 2019 at 10:38 PM

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“ Mrs. Forsythe was always a joy to see at Queen E. She would often pop her head into our daycare room to say hi to our many little friends and they would always happily greet her. My heart goes out to her family, many amazing coworkers at Queen E, and her friends.

**Kyrie Freer** - October 10, 2019 at 10:22 PM

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“ Molley Hendra lit a candle in memory of Colleen Forsythe



**Molley Hendra** - October 10, 2019 at 10:11 PM

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“ I truly loved Colleen. They don't come any better than her. I had the privilege of working with her and it was one of the best years of my teaching career. She will be missed. I will keep the family in my thoughts and prayers as you grieve the loss of this great woman.

**Janice McGuire** - October 10, 2019 at 10:04 PM

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“ Forsythe Family,

So sad to hear the news of Colleen's passing. We remember Colleen's dedication and passion for the people she supported. Even though it was many years ago that she worked at LCDS her caring nature and sense of humour was never forgotten.

Please accept our sincere condolences at this most difficult time. Colleen will be missed.

All your friends at Lambton County Developmental Services (LCDS)



Nick Salaris - October 10, 2019 at 10:03 PM

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“ Colleen taught my nephew. He thought the world of her. She will be missed very much by my family. She always had a smile on her face and was nice and sweet to everyone she met. My condolences go out to her family

debbie anderson - October 10, 2019 at 09:43 PM

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“ I worked with Colleen for almost 20 years and I was so blessed to have her as a friend. When Colleen was your friend, she truly cared about you. I often couldn't wait to get to work to share some funny story with her or something I was worried about. I knew she would always be understanding and compassionate. I miss her so much and my classroom is not the same without her. Everywhere I look I am reminded of her and how much she cared about her kids. God bless.

Brenda Toner - October 10, 2019 at 09:20 PM

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“ Our family will forever be grateful to Colleen for all of her love, support and most of all friendship. My kids were so lucky to have had her in their lives. She will be deeply missed.

Tiffany Smale - October 10, 2019 at 07:34 PM



“ I am so very sorry to hear of the loss of your sister. Colleen had the sweetest heart, the best laugh. One of her favorite things was being an Aunt. She would share many stories. I visited with Colleen on a regular basis when she lived above my business on Wingfield. She was a good soul and I'm very sorry her life was cut so very short.

**Leza Wallis** - October 10, 2019 at 07:15 PM

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“ To Colleen's Family,

Miss Forsythe was a 1 in 100 million. Loved by all the lives she touched, always so very kind and in impeccable sense of humour.

She deserves the best. Rest in Peace dear friend.

Kevin, Paula Hoskin & Family



**Kevin & Paula Hoskin** - October 10, 2019 at 07:13 PM

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“ So sorry to hear of Colleens passing. Condolences to her family. She will truly be missed by the children and Parents that had the privilege of knowing and interacting with her. She always had a smile on her face and was a inspiration to all.

Randy and Barb Core and family

**Randy and Barb Core** - October 10, 2019 at 07:02 PM

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“ To all of Colleen’s Family,  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Colleen. I worked with Colleen at LCDS many years ago, and our friendship continued on over the years, she was always keeping up on my life happenings, such a warm and caring person. I will miss our catch up dinners at Munchies, but most of all, I will miss her and her bubbly personality. Rest in piece my friend.  
Norma Hills

**Norma Hills** - October 10, 2019 at 06:58 PM



“ Sorry for not proof reading before I shared. Rest In Peace my Friend.  
**Norma** - October 10, 2019 at 07:49 PM



“ I was on staff with Colleen at both Hillcrest and Queen Elizabeth, having her as an EA in my classroom several times.  
She was always so positive with everyone she met and very supportive of the students she worked with.  
Colleen spoke often of her family and how proud she was of her nephews.  
She will be deeply missed. Sympathies to her family.

**Carol Dunham** - October 10, 2019 at 06:48 PM



“ So sorry to learn of the passing of Colleen . She was an exceptional EA in our son's classroom at Hillcrest Public School and has always asked about our boys as they have grown and moved on in life . She was a truly kind , genuine person and always had time for a chat and an update . She will be sadly missed !

Mark and Carol Drope and family

**Mark and Carol Drope and family** - October 10, 2019 at 06:46 PM



“ Shawn, Kathy and family my deepest sympathies. May Colleen by at peace.  
Wendy Tremblay

**Wendy Tremblay** - October 10, 2019 at 06:28 PM



“ Colleen was my son's Educational assistant for the first two years of school. She will always hold a special place in our hearts. She will be missed by everyone whose life she touched

Meg Deanne - October 10, 2019 at 05:41 PM

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“ Colleen was such a beautiful soul. Both of my daughters loved her so much. She's already incredibly missed so much at our school. We're so grateful to have had the chance to know her.

Jessica Hext - October 10, 2019 at 05:02 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Corrie Lloyd-McEachern - October 10, 2019 at 04:27 PM



“ Colleen and Jack had beautiful bond that continued long past her being “his EA”. She was so proud of the man you were becoming Jack.

Laura (Dezort) Van Bunderen - October 10, 2019 at 06:14 PM



“ xoxo

Allison Thompson - October 11, 2019 at 05:25 PM

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“ Colleen was a wonderful person. She loved all who she came in contact with her. She worked for over six years with my son, Marty, and always met his every need. They had a special relationship, and that transferred to me and his class mates. Thank you Colleen, we loved you and will miss you. Heaven gained an angel too soon. Brenda Flatley

Brenda Eagleson Flatley - October 10, 2019 at 03:34 PM