



## Mariah LeighAnne Murrell

July 29, 1994 - April 5, 2021

Mariah LeighAnne Murrell came bouncing into the world on July 29, 1994, in Clinton, Missouri, much to the delight of her mother, Twila (McCown) Barnes, who had always dreamed of having a daughter.

From the moment Mariah crawled at six months old, she was always on the go. From gymnastics and softball in her childhood to playing football in middle school; wrestling on the boys' team in high school; and running cross country in both middle and high school; Mariah was always involved in sports.

Mariah attended school in Fulton, Missouri most of her life and graduated early through a homeschool program. After high school, Mariah relocated to the Fort Leonard Wood area with her family and became an employee of Starbucks where she first became a barista and eventually a shift leader.

Mariah loved spending time with her four children: Noah, Penny, Ricky, and Gabriel. She especially enjoyed creating group Halloween costumes for them and dressing them in matching pajamas for Christmas. In her spare time, Mariah enjoyed crocheting, drawing, painting, and working out.

Mariah was a citizen of the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma and descended from the Carey, Fisher, Tadpole, Boots, Christie, Woodward, Scott, Vann, and Downing Cherokee families.

Mariah passed away Monday, April 5, 2021 in a drowning accident. She was 26 years old. Though deeply missed, she will be affectionately remembered for her passion, energy, and love of life by everyone who knew her.

Mariah is survived by her parents: Twila and Donald Barnes of Waynesville, MO; four children: Noah, Penny, Ricky, and Gabriel, all of Waynesville, MO; four brothers: Timothy Martin of Waynesville, MO, Joshua Curtis of Springfield, MO, Tristan Gary of St. Robert, MO, and Luke Gary of Windsor, MO; grandparents: Ben and Marie McCown of Chouteau, OK, Paul and Judy Gary of Lowery City, MO, Vickie Gary of Windsor, MO, and Kenneth and Imogene Barnes of Thayer, MO; several other relatives and friends.

Donadagohvi. (“Until we meet again” in Cherokee.)

Private funeral services were held under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert. Burial will be held in the Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery of Waynesville.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Mariah Murrell and may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Memorial Estates Cemetery

Highway 17 South  
Waynesville, MO 65583  
(573) 774-6111  
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **12**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

Memorial Chapels And Crematory Of Waynesville / St. Robert

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Mariah LeighAnne Murrell*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - April 14, 2021 at 12:51 PM

AH

*Such a beautiful lady! Sorry for your loss. May she rest in peace until reunited with her family. Sending prayers of comfort and strength. 💋💔*  
🙏

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**Ariadne Howell** - May 11, 2021 at 10:38 AM



“ *Mariah LeighAnne Murrell*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM

SC

“ *Sue Covert sent a virtual gift in memory of Mariah LeighAnne Murrell*



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**Sue Covert** - April 21, 2021 at 05:06 PM

VC

“ Vicki And Jake Creighton lit a candle in memory of Mariah LeighAnne Murrell



Vicki and Jake Creighton - April 14, 2021 at 12:54 PM

BR

“ So very sorry about Mariah!! You all are in my thoughts and prayers!!



Betty Rupard - April 12, 2021 at 10:44 PM

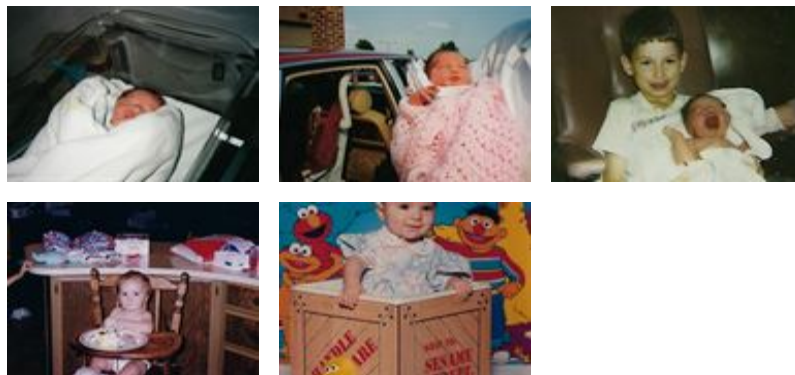
VH

“ So heartbreaking! We are so sorry. You're in our thoughts and prayers. Bret and Valerie Hartwig

Valerie Hartwig - April 12, 2021 at 02:23 PM



“ 74 files added to the album LifeTributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - April 12, 2021 at 08:59 AM

Andrea  
Rogers

“ *She will always live on in her children and in your hearts. I am so sorry this happened. You lost her much too early.*



Andrea Rogers - April 11, 2021 at 11:04 PM

BG

“ *Dear Twila and Don, we are so very sorry to hear of the sad loss of Mariah. We are keeping you and your family in our thoughts, hearts, and prayers. Love Bill and Gladys.*

B G - April 09, 2021 at 08:16 PM

TK

“ *TKeith lit a candle in memory of Mariah LeighAnne Murrell*



TKeith - April 09, 2021 at 07:54 PM

MA

“ *I will never forget how she took me under her wing the short time I was at Starbucks. We would sit and talk for hours after our shifts about life and our kiddos. She was such a beautiful person inside and out. You will forever be missed sweet girl!*



Maegan - April 08, 2021 at 09:15 PM

MS

“ Marge Scott lit a candle in memory of Mariah LeighAnne Murrell



Marge Scott - April 08, 2021 at 01:32 PM

SS

“ Mariah was one of my only friends in Waynesville. We had known each other for a while, but when I started to work at Starbucks she undeniably took me under her wing, and from there a beautiful friendship sparked. Mariah and I always were attached at the hip when together, and each and everyday our friendship blossomed into something more beautiful than I would have ever imagined. We used to reflect on how we “never woulda imagined” how close we would have gotten, but I sure am thankful that I got to meet such a bright, hard working, and empathetic person. From working together, dinner dates, dancing nights, car shopping, and hours shopping, I'll never forget the amount of strength Mariah had. She carried anyone through a storm while going through one herself, and she will never be forgotten because of it.



Shelly Swink - April 08, 2021 at 01:13 PM

DP

“ just want to say I'm so sorry for your loss she was a wonderful person and I'm so glad that I got to meet her



Debbie phillips - April 08, 2021 at 10:23 AM

DP

“ Well when I first met Mariah she was so bashful and the more she came around the less bashful she was I enjoyed seeing her and my son laugh and smile and we would talk and laugh she will be missed dearly and I know the impact she made on my son life will never be forgotten .rest in peace fly high with the angels and im so glad I got to meet you and you will never be forgotten...

Debbie phillips - April 08, 2021 at 10:18 AM

PG

“ Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of Mariah LeighAnne Murrell



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - April 08, 2021 at 09:25 AM

BS

*This is Steve and Betty Simmons  
Twila we have been praying for you and your family.  
So sorry for your loss.  
We will continue to pray for you.  
Love you sweet girl  
If you can help any way please let us know*

Betty Simmons - April 08, 2021 at 06:42 PM