



Wendy Marie Hector

May 2, 1967 - December 31, 2016

Wendy Marie Hector, age 49, passed away December 31, 2016 when her heart stopped. Her loved ones believe that she stepped through a door to another room, so to speak, and continues Life eternal with joy and freedom. Wendy joined her parents, Mark and Judy Hector, at age 9 by adoption along with her younger sister, Shannon. She attended New Market Elementary and Jefferson Middle School where she played basketball. She participated in band while in middle school and continued through her high school years at Jefferson County HS. She experienced a year abroad with the family in Ile-Ife, Nigeria in 1980-81 and graduated from JCHS in 1986. Wendy worked for 25 years in New Jersey, California, Washington State, Indiana, Texas, Wisconsin and Tennessee as a caregiver to the elderly and mentally handicapped, as an assistant dietary clerk at two hospitals, and as a cook at several different institutions. She helped out with kitchen and housekeeping duties at Cedars Camps in Missouri several summers. After the amputation of her right leg in 2011, she learned to walk again with a prosthesis and went on to graduate from the Tennessee Technology Center at Knoxville with a certificate in Office Administration in 2012. Wendy became a charter member of the Amputee Support Group of Knoxville (ASK), soared like an eagle on a zip line at Cedars Camps, and tried out scuba with Patricia Neal Innovative Recreation Cooperative (IRC) after her amputation. She was appointed to the Council on Disability Issues (CODI) for the City of Knoxville in July of 2014 and continued to serve until her illness and hospitalization in September until her passing.

Her father, Mark, passed away a year ago and she is survived by her mother, Judy, sister, Shannon Stafford, brother-in-law, Chris Stafford and her beloved niece and nephews, Sage, Seth, and Aaron Stafford as well as numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Family and friends celebrated her life by visiting her when she was in hospital and rehab. Online obituary may be viewed and condolences made at <http://www.fieldenfuneralhome.com/> In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Knoxville where Wendy was a member and was in charge of the nursery, or to the Patricia Neal IRC (Fort Sanders Foundation), 280 Ft. Sanders West Blvd., Knoxville 37922. Interment will be private. Arrangements by Fielden Funeral Home in New Market.

Tribute Wall

TB

“ Tony Berry lit a candle in memory of Wendy Marie Hector



Tony Berry - February 10, 2021 at 02:18 PM

NS

“ Judy and family, Don and I send our love. We know you miss Wendy, and hope that God will comfort you in your time of sorrow. I remember meeting Wendy and Shannon for the first time when I visited the summer they arrived in New Market to live with Judy and Mark. Wendy had the prettiest smile, and beautiful blond hair, Shannon was a pretty cute little redhead too. We played together together, and I loved hearing their sweet southern accents. I was so thankful that Don and I were able to visit last summer, and connect back up with Wendy, Shannon and Chris and see Wendy one last time. At that time we had no idea what the months ahead held for her. We pray for you daily. Love, Nancy and Don

Nancy Stutzman - January 26, 2017 at 11:03 AM

RO

“ JUDY, I AM SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR DAUGHTER WENDY. I AM THINKING OF YOU DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. PLEASE, LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED ANY HELP.

ROMANA AND BRAD

ROMANA - January 24, 2017 at 06:51 PM



“ In the memory below, a correction: *"above the knee amputation."* :-)

Judy Hector - January 24, 2017 at 02:47 PM



“ Wendy learned to walk again with an artificial leg after her above the knee amputation in 2011. Her physical therapist at Patricial Neal in Knoxville was Anissa Davis. Anissa sent me this note:

"I was so saddened to hear the news about Wendy. She is always in my heart and I think of her as I am teaching students about amputation--she has helped me teach over 200 students via videos we made--quite a legacy. Thinking of you and sending hugs and love,"



Judy Hector - January 24, 2017 at 02:44 PM



“ Dear friends in Germany, Angelika and Bernd, sent a poem in German with these words: “This is for Wendy and you, Judy, for your beloved husband looking down on you all, and for your family.” The poem is a verse from a song by Herbert Grönemeyer, a German musician and author. His 11th album (2002) entitled “Mensch” (Human) became the best-selling record in Germany. In it he reflects on his own humanity after the deaths of his wife and brother.

MENSCH

*Und der Mensch
heißt Mensch
weil er irrt
und weil er kämpft,
und weil er hofft,
und weil er liebt,
und weil er mitfühlt
und vergibt,
und weil er lacht,
und weil er lebt -----
Du fehlst.*

Herbert Grönemeyer

Translation by Kech at LyricsTranslate.com

HUMAN

*And the human
is called human
because he errs
and because he fights,
and because he hopes,
and because he loves,
because he sympathizes
and forgives,
and because he laughs,
and because he lives-----*

You are missing.

Judy Hector - January 24, 2017 at 02:37 PM

JH

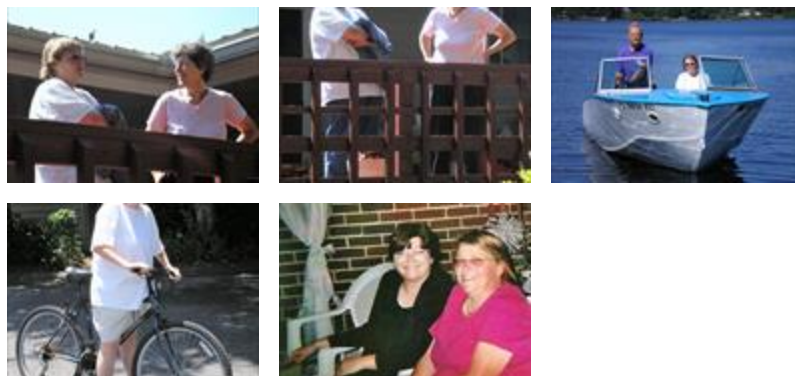
“ 25 files added to the album Wendy across the years



Judy Hector - January 24, 2017 at 02:18 PM

CP

“ I was saddened to hear of Wendy's passing, and I send my prayers for God to comfort all of Wendy's family members who loved her and miss her. Wendy helped a lot of people in her lifetime and made a positive difference in their lives. Here's some photos of Wendy that I have taken and that others have taken during her lifetime.



Cheryl Phillips - January 12, 2017 at 09:29 AM



Thank you for these photos of Wendy, Cheryl. I had not seen of them before.

Judy Hector - January 24, 2017 at 02:25 PM

BB

Wonderful to see these memories.

Betty Briggs - January 24, 2017 at 02:33 PM

SS

“ *Here's a picture of Wendy and me shortly after we were adopted... 1976. She was 9 and I was 6. I've always thought that she had a pretty smile.*



Shannon Stafford - January 03, 2017 at 06:15 PM

SC

“ *I have had the great pleasure of getting to know Wendy after being appointed to the Mayor's Council on Disability Issues (CODI) in 2014. Wendy always had a quick sense of humor and a deep desire to make sure that life, particularly public transit, was good for people with disabilities. Her smile and willingness to help in any way possible will be missed!! Such a tragic loss, all too soon. My thoughts and prayers are with her family. Knowing Wendy is a blessing!*

Stephanie Cook - January 03, 2017 at 09:39 AM

MR

“ At the City of Knoxville, we are all so sad to hear of the passing of Wendy. In 2014, I appointed her to the Mayor's Council on Disability Issues. Wendy was an active member and served as co-chair of the Transportation Committee. She was a shining example of living life to the fullest and giving back to others - despite whatever obstacles one faces personally. We send our thoughts and prayers to the family, and we celebrate a life well-lived.

*Madeline Rogero
Mayor of Knoxville*

Madeline Rogero - January 03, 2017 at 09:24 AM

ME

“ Wendy and I served on the Council on Disability Issues together. I always enjoyed her smile, quick wit and candor. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Meaghan - January 03, 2017 at 09:19 AM

JM

“ Jerry and my husband mcmillan lawn service just wanted to say how sorry we are at the family's loss. We will be praying for all the ones left behind. May God grant you all the grace you need to walk through this time.

jerry mcmillan. - January 03, 2017 at 08:19 AM

SS

“ Pictures for my previous post.



Shannon Stafford - January 02, 2017 at 05:50 PM

SS

“ Here are a few photos that I know she loved. Can you tell that she was a proud of her Aunt status? 💕



Shannon Stafford - January 02, 2017 at 05:20 PM



“ Here are a few photos from the past 5 years of Wendy interacting with her family and friends. A highlight of May 2016 was a family trip to see her niece, Sage Stafford, graduate from Principia College in Elsah, IL. There are also a number of photos of her with her friends in the Amputee Support Group of Knoxville, ASK.



Judy Hector - January 02, 2017 at 03:54 PM

SB

Remember Wendy from old New Market School Sorry to hear of her passing She was a joy at New Market

Steve Burns - January 02, 2017 at 09:01 PM

LS

It was a pleasure to know Wendy as one of my students at JCHS. Shannon and Judy, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Linda Sellers - January 04, 2017 at 06:18 AM