



Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy

August 28, 1964 - February 19, 2025

Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy, 60, of Peoria, IL, passed away on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 7:45 PM at OSF St. Francis Medical Center. She was born on August 28, 1964, to Nathaniel and Joyce (Elston) Kennedy in Peoria, IL.

Shawn dedicated over 20 years of service as a Peoria Public Schools Bus Monitor, rarely missing a day of work. She cherished spending time with her family, especially enjoying nail appointments with her mother and aunt. Shawn was known as the "family runner," always someone we could count on for anything. She was baptized at an early age at New Morning Star M.B. Church where she had been a member of the Echoes Choir.

Shawn is survived by her loving mother, Joyce Kennedy-Howard; two brothers, Rodney and Randy Kennedy of Peoria, IL; three sisters, Bridget Gaines, Valerie Walker of Peoria, IL, and Joricka (Kenneth) Toolles of Normal, IL; two special aunts, Ada Gaines and Katie Sturdivant of Peoria, IL; three nieces, eight nephews, one great-niece; one special cousin, Chad Dunlop; her godson, Bryson Leonard; and special friends of over 30 years, Patricia Bush, Lisa Leonard, and Monica Webster; and host of other relatives and friends also survive her.

Shawn was preceded in death by her father, Nathaniel Kennedy; her

stepfather, Walter Howard; her grandparents, Luella and Herman Elston Sr.; one aunt, Luevena Green; and two uncles, Willie Elston Sr. and Herman Elston Jr.

Funeral services will be held at 10 AM on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Prince of Peace M.B. Church, with visitation beginning one hour prior at 9 AM. Pastor Simon J. Holly, Jr. will officiate. Shawn will be laid to rest at Parkview Cemetery.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at SimonsMortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Parkview Cemetery

2001 N University St
Peoria, IL 61604
(309) 688-0733

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 1. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Prince of Peace Missionary Baptist Church
711 East Arcadia Avenue
Peoria, IL 61603

Funeral Service

MAR 1. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Prince of Peace Missionary Baptist Church
711 East Arcadia Avenue
Peoria, IL 61603

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy*



Simons Mortuary - February 28, 2025 at 03:44 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy*



Simons Mortuary - February 25, 2025 at 08:10 PM

JH

Shawn I'm Going to miss you baby girl You always check on your mom Baby you just slip away from us Not knowing you was leaving us way to soon But you know what God got you now I wish I could bring you home your mom just love you to pieces we can still sit on the porch and enjoy each other apart of my heart is so broken. Rest in peace my oldest daughter 60 years in my heart love you mom your siblings.

joyce Howard - February 25, 2025 at 08:47 PM

TD

RIH Shawn you were such a beautiful friend you are truly going to be missed ❤️🙏

Twila Davis - March 01, 2025 at 11:26 AM

TE

Prayers to the FAMILY!

Tammi Evans - March 01, 2025 at 12:19 PM

MC

RIP.... SHAWN YOU WERE AN AMAZING PERSON & FRIEND INSIDE & OUT UR TRULY GOING TO BE MISSED MY FRIEND ESPECIALLY OUR TALKS WE USE TO HAVE NOW U DONT HAVE TO BE IN PAIN ANYMORE REST ON BABYGIRL.... ❤️

Melissa Childs - March 01, 2025 at 02:51 PM



U will truly be missed i miss seeing yo beautiful smile everyday at work

Cello Carr - March 01, 2025 at 03:36 PM

KC

“ Kathy collins lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Kathy collins - March 12, 2025 at 05:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Burial at Parkview Cemetery



Simons Mortuary - March 07, 2025 at 01:57 PM

KO

“ *Cousin Shawn, knowing that you are gone is very heart breaking but I know you are in a better place with the Lord God! I will always remember your beautiful smile and how you always lifted our spirit with your laughter! I cherish our family get togethers filled with love, laughter and good times and I know that God will take care of us and give us strength and comfort to love and live on! I am sending my love, hugs, and prayers to you Aunties Joyce, Ada, Kate & Cousins Randy, Bridget, Rodney, JoJo, Chad and our many family members and friends! May God help us to handle losing you, Shawn!*



Katrina Harper O'Haire - March 01, 2025 at 12:25 PM

SF

“ *Satonya Harris, and family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.*



Satonya Harris, and family - February 28, 2025 at 02:39 PM

DF

“ *Dewanna Mangruem & family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.*



Dewanna Mangruem & family - February 28, 2025 at 12:46 PM

TH

“ *Tanya Hutt lit a candle in memory of Damarie Kennedy*



Tanya Hutt - February 28, 2025 at 10:56 AM

RB

“ *Sending my deepest condolences and prayers 🙏*



Rhonda Brown - February 27, 2025 at 10:26 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms. Damarie Shawn Kennedy.*



February 27, 2025 at 10:13 PM

NH

“ *Praying for the family, sending my condolences. I just seen my friend a couple weeks ago and we talked about everything . I'm gonna miss that smile and that crazy laugh. Nikki Hamer*

nikki hamer - February 27, 2025 at 08:03 PM

EF

“ Elston Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.



Elston Family - February 27, 2025 at 08:55 AM

RW

“ Rena Webster-Horton lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Rena Webster-Horton - February 27, 2025 at 07:44 AM

LJ

“ LEOLA RANDLE JEFFERSON lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



LEOLA RANDLE JEFFERSON - February 26, 2025 at 08:34 PM

PJ

“ Shawn was such a beautiful person inside and outside. She always had a smile on her face. I remember she use to always invite me to Prince of Peace for family and friends day. Shawn will be truly missed. Still can't believe she is gone. We all loved Shawn from the bus barn but God loved her most. R.I.P. Shawn.

Pamela Johnson - February 26, 2025 at 03:25 PM

Jl

“ Jennifer Ivory lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Jennifer Ivory - February 26, 2025 at 02:33 PM

KW

“ Kat Wallace purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.



Kat Wallace - February 26, 2025 at 11:34 AM

KI

“ Bridget, Ada and family. I'm so sorry for your loss.



Kirsten - February 26, 2025 at 10:36 AM

EF

“ Elder Micheal Williams and Family lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Elder Micheal Williams and Family - February 26, 2025 at 09:00 AM

JN

“*Jacque Ken Valerie charlotte NC purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.*



Jacque Ken Valerie charlotte NC - February 26, 2025 at 08:53 AM

JN

“*Jacque Ken Valerie charlotte NC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.*

Jacque Ken Valerie charlotte NC - February 26, 2025 at 08:53 AM



“*Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.*



February 26, 2025 at 07:59 AM

LD

“*Lisa Duncan lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy*



Lisa Duncan - February 25, 2025 at 11:03 PM

TM

“ Sending Prayers to the family so sorry for your loss



Tammy McChristian - February 25, 2025 at 07:22 PM

DB

“ Dorothea Banks-Burse sent a virtual gift in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Dorothea Banks-Burse - February 25, 2025 at 05:14 PM

AH

“ Aliesha Hosea lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Aliesha Hosea - February 25, 2025 at 03:06 PM

JG

Aunt Joyce and family, may God comfort and give you strength at this time, my sincere condolences, ❤️🙏 always Fruitty and family in Georgia

johnnie mcdaniel(aka Fruitty) in Georgia - February 26, 2025 at 05:33 AM

JG

❤️🙏❤️🙏❤️🙏🌸🌸🌸 Fruitty

johnnie mcdaniel(aka Fruitty) in Georgia - February 26, 2025 at 05:37 AM

VH

“ Val Petty Haynes lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Val Petty Haynes - February 25, 2025 at 01:00 PM

CK

“ Shawn became my bus monitor in 2002-2006 she was a great friend so loving and caring, always enjoyed a good laugh whenever we were together, She is the reason why I buy gain air wicks lol, everytime I would go to Shawn's house the aroma was always delightful (Hawaiian exotic papaya) was her favorite, her whole house always smelled good, she is the reason why I buy them to this day, i can't believe she is gone such a true friend this hurts, Rest Peacefully Shawn we will see each other again love you girl you were definitely a good friend, praying for her family and friends 🙏🙏🙏❤️



Charla King-Jackson - February 25, 2025 at 10:28 AM

TH

“ Tonya Harris lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Tonya Harris - February 25, 2025 at 10:20 AM

SM

“ *Joyce and Family*
I am keeping you in my prayers during this difficult time. I am so sorry for your loss.



Sue Marks - February 25, 2025 at 09:41 AM

TJ

“ *Teania Johnson lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy*



Teania Johnson - February 24, 2025 at 10:05 PM

MP

“ *Mancy Pittman lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy*



Mancy Pittman - February 24, 2025 at 09:52 PM

WF

“ *Williams Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Ms. Diamarie Shawn Kennedy.*



Williams Family - February 24, 2025 at 08:47 PM

RM

“ I’m going to miss our morning talks, the beautiful smile and that special laugh! I’m so glad every morning before starting our day, we ended our talk with a hug and a I Love ❤️ you!! Fair well my friend!! 🙏🙏😊😊



Regina Murray - February 24, 2025 at 08:08 PM

MC

“ I’m sorry heartbroken right now we going to miss you so much we played together, laughed and had good times when we were all small it’s a trip down memory lane...going to miss you love you Ms. Joyce take your rest Angel...Sending my condolences to the entire family

Maxine Clash - February 24, 2025 at 07:51 PM



“ Sincerest condolences to Shawn's love one's, family, & friends...may her soul rest in eternal peace 🕊️
Rita Vinson Burns



Rita Vinson Burns - February 24, 2025 at 07:34 PM

EA

“ Edna Adams lit a candle in memory of Diamarie Kennedy



Edna Adams - February 24, 2025 at 07:11 PM

DP

“ *Deepest sympathy to the whole Kennedy family. Love you all!!!*

Darryl Pegues - February 24, 2025 at 05:59 PM



“ *My heartfelt condolences.. Sending prayers your way..*



Pamela Farmer - February 24, 2025 at 05:38 PM