



Darlene Midgley Isaacson

July 5, 1954 - January 20, 2021

Darlene Midgley Isaacson, 66, graduated from this life on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. She was a beloved wife, mother, grandma, sister, aunt, and friend to all who knew her.

She was born in Ogden, Utah on July 5, 1954, to loving parents, and grew up in Utah, Indiana, California, and Washington. After graduating high school in Cheney, Washington, Darlene attended Brigham Young University where she met her husband, Jeff, and graduated with a degree in Elementary Education. After a short stint as an Elementary school teacher, she was blessed with twins and thereafter made her life's work her family and motherhood. She loved her husband, 3 children, and 10 grandchildren and cherished every moment with them. She devoted her life to nurturing and lifting others with warm hugs, laughter, and Christian love and service. Darlene was a devoted member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Newport Ward, Bellevue South Stake.

She is predeceased by her parents, Thomas Keith and Elaine Midgley, her sister Dianne, and her son-in-law, Tyler Bailey. Darlene is survived by her husband of 43 years, Jeff, her 3 three children, Jason (Jennifer), Rachel (Justyn Chris) and Heidi (Michael Grio), her "adopted" son, Adam (Becky) Lathrop, her brother, Daniel (Merryn) Midgley, and her 10 grandchildren, Ashlyn, Isabella, Paige, Trent, Emma, Joshua, Jake, Lincoln, Harper, and

Jaxon. She is also survived by countless other loved ones and friends who Darlene would surely want us to include if we had room!

Services for Darlene will be held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 11 a.m. Pacific Time at Cheney Funeral Chapel in Cheney, Washington with Bishop Ron Schiel (Newport Ward) conducting. It will be live-streamed for all family and friends who are not able to attend at <https://www.facebook.com/Cheney-Funeral-Chapel-Crematory-573517282804326>. A private burial will follow at the Fairview Cemetery in Cheney, Washington.

In lieu of flowers, please share your thoughts and memories at cheneyfuneral.com or <https://www.cheneyfuneral.com/obituaries/Darlene-Isaacson/#!/Obituary>. These memories will be compiled to bless the lives of her husband and her children and grandchildren for generations to come.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

1530 Salnave Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 26. 11:00 AM (PT)

Cheney Funeral Chapel
1632 W 1st St.
Cheney, WA 99004
(509) 235-2992
<https://www.cheneyfuneral.com/>

Tribute Wall

PB

“ Jeff and family.... Very sorry to hear the news of Darlene's passing. cousin Arline called me today and gave us the news, We offer our prayers and sincerest wishes that you have peace at this time. Our love to you all..Phil and Mary Brown, Murray Utah

Phil & Mary Brown - February 28, 2021 at 12:22 AM

EN

“ I don't know where to start thinking of all the memories Darlene blessed my family with. When you first moved here Kristi hung out at your home every chance she got. She loved babysitting your children. I always knew she could be in no better place while I had to work. You were so generous to have Todd come and mow your lawn. You had a lasting influence on their lives. Darlene threw many wedding and baby showers in your home. She threw one for my Desteni and Emily. What fun we had at all the white elephant parties in your home. Darlene's laugh and giggle are forever etched in my heart. She loves her family fiercely. She loves her Heavenly Father and her Church. I can just picture the tears and hugs and love as she greeted her mom, dad, sister, and Ty. I can just picture the Heavenly Father's arms around her saying, "Well done thou good and faithful servant." Darlene is a pure person without any guile who loved and hugged everyone. I know she is watching over and loving your family. I know we will see her again. I pray you feel the Heavenly Father's arms around you with comfort and love. President Russell M Nelson said, "the only way to take sorrow out of death is to take love out of life."

Emily Nelsen - January 29, 2021 at 05:44 PM

AF

“ *What a beautiful soul Darlene was on this earth and still is in heaven! She truly loved and cared as a follower of Jesus Christ. I can feel her love as I think of her because she loved so much! As I moved from Bellevue after living there for nearly 30 years she gave me a gift of her favorite fragrance and told me that it is light and refreshing and will make you feel happy as you adjust to your new surroundings. How fitting to come from her! She always made me feel happy. She would address me as "sweets". A real sweetheart. I was truly blessed to know her and have her influence and love in my life. Such a peaceful, angel spreading happiness and kindness everywhere she went. Love you, Darlene! Looking forward to the next time we see each other.*

~ Abbie Fink

Abbie Fink - January 27, 2021 at 12:01 PM

GS

“ I recently reconnected with who I knew as my “Darling Darlene”! We had plans to meet again in Utah when she was coming down again to see Rachel and family.

I met Darlene at BYU when my friend Cheryl and I found this fabulous penthouse apartment and needed to find four more “very responsible” roommates, said the landlady. We did, and Darlene was one of the very best! In fact, four of us stayed together the next two years. Cheryl and I were from Canada. I remember going home one weekend for a family wedding. I drove overnight to get home for school and had a 7:00 am class. I maybe had an hour of sleep and was leaving for class when Darlene met me in the hallway. She overwhelmed me with my first huge Darlene HUG (which I would need many times the next three years!) She expressed how concerned she was about my trip driving that far and made me feel so loved! I won't forget that! I later served a mission to Chile and had a Chilean companion that was the Latina version of Darlene! I thought of Darlene's unconditional love for people as I served. She taught me so much about acceptance, tolerance, patience and LOVE that has served me well in my life. Jeff, Darlene and the six week old twins met me at the Spokane airport after my mission waiting for my own sweetheart to fly in.

I loved her as a sister. My heart goes out to Jeff and family. She is watching over you and loving you just the same as always.

One more memory...I remember that day in the library when she met Jeff. I have her side and the roommate's side of that story. Rachel, I'd be happy to share it with you! ❤️❤️❤️

Gerri Sattree - January 27, 2021 at 11:47 AM

TR

“ *What a sweet Lady! Our family had the special blessing and privilege of knowing Darlene for 24 years. She was always kind and generous with a great sense of humor. Truly a special person with a wonderful heart. Many years ago we made a tongue and cheek calendar where we photoshopped Darlene’s face on a model. She just cracked up and we laughed about it for years. We will truly miss her and pray for comfort and peace for her great family. Love the Days (Tracy, Michele, Jordin, Hunter, Mackenzie and Kennedy).*

Tracy - January 27, 2021 at 11:47 AM

SK

“ *Sis. Isaacson had a full of love and compassion to every one. She hug for me and my wife, Julie whenever we met her even we grown up at different culture. We miss her and love her even she passed the other side of veil.*

Shioon kim - January 27, 2021 at 11:13 AM

JP

“ Dear Isaacson family,

We are so saddened to hear of Darlene's passing. She was a great lady and showed her love of the Savior as she served all she met.

My memories of her are from Girls Camp many years ago. She was always looking for ways to connect with the girls and make sure they knew she loved them. I can still see the costumes in my mind for one of the unit skits. She knew how to have fun.

Two of our kids (Darci and Will) were privileged to be in your home many times and be included in your family activities. Thank you for sharing your love with them.

We have loved reading the other tributes to see how many lives she has touched for good. What an amazing example of love and inclusion. She will be missed.

*Our love to the family!
Joanne and Dave Perry*

Joanne Perry - January 27, 2021 at 04:58 AM

JC

“ *I can't remember a time being around Darlene, when she didn't emanate something positive. Something we all need more of today. When you talked to her, you knew she was genuinely 100% focused on you, and your family. A great friend to us and our extended family. Fortunate to have lived in the same zip code as her and her family.*

Jonathan & Amy Cook

Jonathan Cook - January 26, 2021 at 08:58 PM



“ Love and laughter epitomize Darlene to me. Celebrations with Darlene were joyous and filled with laughter that lifted and healed. It was never the laughter at someone that could be cruel, but always the kind that was infectious, filled others up and made our burdens a little lighter. Her laughter and humor were always accompanied by grace, kindness, and her underlying deep love.

Her love was also infectious. When one was around her, radiated love felt like a warm wave. It prompted me and I suspect many others to love a little more deeply and freely. Her love was never more apparent than in the moments of grief and sorrow when her great love was reflected in her great service. Her love poured out like healing balm on the broken hearted and wounded in spirit. Even when she herself was grieving and the flow of that balm reversed towards her, our hearts expanded in greater love for her and for those around us.

Darlene was filled with charity, the true love of Christ. I believe her love is strong enough that it will extend across the veil and be felt by her family especially, supporting them through this time of loss and grief and beyond. Her legacy will be passed along as we all share the healing love and laughter she so freely gave us.

Scott Bowen

John Bowen - January 26, 2021 at 05:38 PM



“ *Darlene a true Daughter of God that shared her love with me and my family. I loved the warm hugs and her smile. She made me always feel so loved and she was so investing in my life. We have birthdays a few days apart and for 20+ years she has sent me cards or texted me a birthday wish. My kids were able to go to "Darlene's playtime" they loved it and they loved her. She had a true gift of caring. In fact at Christmas I hang up the kids art work they made at Darlene's. I loved her hugs but my favorite was when we were done chatting she would touch my arm and I would feel of her love and look at her and then we would end in a laugh. My family and I love Darlene, she was truly the kindness and most loving person. Thank you for sharing this day with me. You all did a wonderful job. She sure was smiling big today. My thoughts are with your family. We love you.*

Tracy and Michele Day and Family

Michele Day - January 26, 2021 at 05:06 PM



“ *We love Aunt Darlene and miss her dearly! She always had a smile on her face and made everyone laugh. She is truly Christ-like in her pure love of everyone! Brindi, Matt, Mayci, Kyla and Ashlyn Muirbrook*

Brindi Muirbrook - January 26, 2021 at 04:16 PM

LC

“ *Mama Darlene embodied all I hope to be as a mom and woman. I feel so privileged to have been touched by her incredibly special soul. What a shining example of what it means to live an extraordinary life. One that truly glorified God by loving others above all else. She was one of the most loving and selfless people I’ve ever met. She spread Gods love, light, and joy wherever she went and I will miss her warm soul dearly 🥹❤️. Sending all the love and prayers to the Isaacson family.*

Lana Corley - January 26, 2021 at 03:16 PM



“ *I feel so grateful to have had the imprint of Darlene’s hug forever in my memory. She had a smile that made anyone feel a God-like love. She watched me over a week while my parents were traveling and I remember feeling like she was so cool! She’d ask me about my day, my friends, the BOYS and listened with the utmost care that a 14-year-old needed. She drove me around to seminary and dance and looking back I realize what a responsibility that was! I will surely miss her!*

Stephanie Hartman - January 26, 2021 at 02:54 PM

CC

“ There’s that saying about how people won’t remember what you did, but how you made them feel, and as I try to remember any one memory of Darlene, that is what my heart keeps telling me. I remember countless smiles and hugs, a warmth and joy about her. When you talked with her she really listened. She made you feel like she was genuinely happy see you and cared about how you were. Your mom was an angel on earth and her goodness will live on not just in the beautiful legacy she leaves behind in her family, but also in the many lives she touched with her unconditional kindness and genuine care. I am so sorry that the world is without her; she was a gift to us all. Sending prayers for comfort and peace.

Colleen Conlin - January 26, 2021 at 02:42 PM

JB

“ Darlene was a great lady. She will be sorely missed. I was one of the friends that grew up in her house. She was always so loving and welcoming to everyone. There was one time where I came in while she was on the phone or something and didn't realize I was there. To play with her I opened the fridge and put my head inside so when she turned around she would just see me looking in her fridge. Instead of being startled she laughed and asked I was hungry. I remember being bummed I didn't get more of a reaction from her but knowing that was the person who she was. She is a great lady and a great friend. I will always cherish the memories I have of her and her family. Wishing everyone the utmost best.

Josh Bryan

Josh Bryan - January 26, 2021 at 02:38 PM

KN

“ I was so sad to hear of Darlene's sudden passing. She was such a ray of sunshine and was a light to all who knew and loved her. I met her through her husband and you could tell the love and respect that they have for each other. Although the temporary separation is difficult, we are comforted to know that she is with those who love her and she had left such a beautiful legacy of family, faith and service.

Ken Newman - January 26, 2021 at 02:07 PM

MH

“ I met Darlene shortly after I got married. She was always kind. I didn't get the full measure until we were in the same building and then in the same congregation not long after that. She LOVED loving people. She loved seeing my kids and hearing about what they were up to. My last memory of her was only two weeks ago in our virtual Relief Society meeting. I was blessed enough to be put in a small break out group with her when we were asked to discuss gospel questions. I learned of her December. It wasn't an easy one and she told us she still felt weak. However, despite how she felt, she bore a really powerful testimony. I truly believe that some people, very few, possess a gift for loving and making folks feel better just by being around them. She had that gift.

Maggie Hsu

Maggie Hsu - January 26, 2021 at 02:00 PM

SR

“*Darlene embodied pure love. She is one of the few people I know that radiates genuine love to all those around her. Many times, through her daughter Rachel, I got to bask in the warmth of her love. Her hugs were tight and warm, her smile was bright and genuine and her care for people was pure and without guile. She was a true disciple of Christ who emanated His love through her. Heaven has received one of the brightest souls. I know she is happy to be serving and loving on that side, just as she was on this side. I am a better, kinder, softer person for knowing Darlene. Love to the Isaacson Family who are also great people because of Darlene and her example.*

Much Love, Sommer Reynolds

Sommer Reynolds - January 26, 2021 at 01:50 PM



“ *Darlene was an angel to our family. Our kids think of her as a surrogate grandmother and one of the worst things about COVID has been not being able to spend as much time with her and Jeff.*

When they were our visiting / home teachers they made a huge difference in our lives and I pray I can minister and love a fraction of how powerfully they have. They made us feel so special and one true testament to Darlene’s powerful ability to love is that the hundreds of people that have shared their feelings for her on this post probably all felt like they were the special one. She made everyone she was around feel loved and special.

As I prepare to attend her services today and have reviewed the tributes on this site I am broken hearted. She was taken from us far too soon. I'm almost angry because all of the glowing tributes on social media and here on this website can't possibly take the sting out of knowing we won't be able to spend time with her here in mortality any longer.

I love the tender example of a loving couple that Darlene and Jeff were. This year, our family was camping at Deception Pass and had just set up our campsite when we were over joyed to see that Jeff and Darlene would be our neighbors. It was so cute to watch them setting up their tent together. I offered to help out but they did it on their own, lovingly working together. Just a pair of amazing people doing a simple task was beautiful to watch.

Another memory is that even though their love was more than enough of a gift, Darlene and Jeff never left our home without leaving some kind of treat for the kids. My kids never visited their home without leaving with a pile of toys, DVDs, and especially snacks. The Isaacson snack treasure trove is legendary within our family. And if that wasn't enough there always seemed to be a happy meal thrown in for good measure. They really knew how to win the hearts of our small children.

I keep trying to think about how to make sense of the loss of this dear Angel and the only thing I keep coming back to is trying to pay tribute to her by following her example of Christlike love more in my life.

Praying for and sending love to Jeff the whole family. ❤️❤️🙏🙏

Mathew Hong - January 26, 2021 at 01:29 PM

JK

“*I’m so thankful for Darlene, she has been my true friend. She has always noticed my feelings before I mentioned it to her. I am grateful for her, and her big heart that was unmatched by anyone. She fed my soul and others with Christ’s love. She is my true friend sister and neighbor. I will always love and miss her.*

-Julie Yeonmi kim

julie yeonmi kim - January 26, 2021 at 01:18 PM

ME

“*I ran in to Darlene just a few months ago at the store. I hadn’t seen her for well over 20 years, yet it was like I saw her yesterday; we picked up right where we left off. So grateful we were put in each other’s paths that day. Darlene always made you feel like a million bucks and that you mattered—because you did to her. She’s going to be a spectacular angel on the other side, as she was here! I’m so sorry for your loss, my prayers are with you.*

Melissa Davis (Graham)

Melissa - January 26, 2021 at 01:17 PM

MM

“Darlene had a way of looking at people that instantly said, “I’m paying attention. I care about you.” I grew up with Darlene’s kids and seeing her around church and school activities. She was quick to smile and give a hug, and you didn’t have to know Darlene long to feel like she was a friend. I am grateful for the light and love she shared, for her example of genuine, Christ-like charity. She will be greatly missed. We’re sending thoughts and prayers for you all.

Love,

Marielle McDonald Melling and Family

Marielle Melling - January 26, 2021 at 01:11 PM

“ *Memories of Darlene Isaacson by Gail Buckles, January 26, 2021*

Last week our dear friend, a true angel on earth, passed through the veil to meet with loved ones she truly has missed. The only problem is her family and friends are left here with only memories of her until we are reunited.

Memories and stories flood my mind...which to choose? Her visit when Ty was still with us, when they'd come to La Quinta to enjoy the sun and pool? I don't remember who slept on the blow up mattress?

Going to the weekly Palm Desert Street Fair, checking out all the booths and what they were selling? Darlene and Jeff visiting with us in our living room here in Utah? The time she spent at the (Buckle's) Bellevue Bridal Shows working with Brad and Heather after we had moved? Or the countless birthday greetings she'd send. She and Jeff even had white elephant parties at their Bellevue home. And she would laugh heartily at herself or with others.

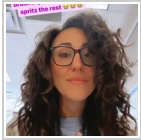
However, I am thinking of a particular photo I have of her at one of our earlier New Year's Eve parties in Bellevue which I can't find! Oh, how she loved parties! The room would light up more with her presence as you would typically see. It was in her countenance which would brighten anytime she was with people, especially those she loved.

In this particular picture it was New Year's Eve so think in your mind (because that's where she resides for us now anyway). Darlene, in 2000 or 2021, as it neared midnight, had on a New Year's day hat over her curly dark hair and in her hands both a noise maker and a balloon. She seemed so happy and excited to bring in the New Year with celebration made even greater with her friends.

She was both a gracious, beautiful woman without guile, yet she never let go of her little-girlishness. She would take great interest and joy in new adventures of all kinds and like all children she

spread her love and the Savior's love wherever she went as I said, like an angel on earth. And now, she shines ever brighter...forever.

Gail&John Buckles - January 26, 2021 at 12:50 PM



“ *Darlene was my son's primary teacher when we first moved here. Oliver was so shy and she showed him so much love and he always wanted to sit on her lap to be comforted each week. She was so kind to me too and so attentive to our situation, being new in the ward with the pandemic and everything. She consistently brought Oliver treats through the pandemic and just came to check on me to make sure I was ok. My world is much lonelier without her. She is an incredible lady. I miss her.*

Caity Cummings - January 26, 2021 at 12:43 PM

RB

“ *While I didn't know Darlene personally, it was clear that she'd built a very loving and caring family. I've worked with her daughter Heidi for years and it was always evident that she came from a beautiful family that truly treasured every moment and the bond they shared. Darlene's legacy is a special one and it will always shine brightly through her children and grandchildren. -Ron Burkhardt*

Ron Burkhardt - January 26, 2021 at 12:42 PM

JM

“ *I met Darlene when I was 5 years old when her daughter, Heidi and I played together. Every time I saw her over the last 31 years she told me how much she loved me and how proud she was. I had the gift of working with her privately for 3 months and the winner of that scenario was me. Darlene loved with every cell. She was gracious and generous and loved to laugh. I'll miss her very much.*

j muenz - January 26, 2021 at 12:12 PM

JB

“ *Jeff and Family;*
I was saddened when Travis emailed me to tell me Darlene had died. I wish I had words that can make this time better for you, but I don't know if they exist. You are in my thoughts.

John Benson

John Benson - January 26, 2021 at 10:42 AM

TK

“ *Dear Jeff and Family*

Barb and I have know Darlene for many years. I can't think of a time when I did not see her with a smile on her face and a willingness to help another.... even during times when she herself was suffering.

Darlene was the "real McCoy"! She understood and lived her life loving and serving others as the Savior would want of all of us to do.

She will be dearly missed.

Tim and Barbara King

Timothy B King - January 26, 2021 at 10:05 AM

AB

“ My first memory of meeting Darlene - over 36 years ago when we moved from California to Bellevue - was seeing her sunny face and hearing her laugh - loudly. I thought, Oh, thank heaven! Here's a new friend who says outrageous one-liners and laughs as loudly as I do! This was the beginning of becoming Forever Friends.



I don't think I'll ever forget her laugh (unless I get dementia). We also shared the love of giving and attending parties, showers, birthday remembrances. I recall Christmas white elephant exchanges; going to lunch for any reason as long as it was after she held her preschool classes; sitting and chatting at her table in her red and white kitchen (remember the strawberries?); watching her nurse Ty in her family room when we'd visit him and her, and then later serving her beloved mother in her home until she passed on; stopping (literally) to smell her roses on her front walkway.

Darlene taught our youngest in her home and made him, an introverted preschooler, feel happy and secure there. She hugged and loved our sons all the way through from 18 months old until now - and I'm sure she still loves them from heaven. These are our sons' comments when we told them Darlene had passed: "What a gem." "She is a great example of love and laughter." "Darlene has a heart of gold." She owns these descriptions! Darlene IS golden.

We had a lot in common that linked our hearts permanently. I'll mention one of so many. We each were married to two of the nicest guys in the whole wide world (which means if there was trouble or something wrong, WE were the troublemakers). Yes, they both clean bathrooms.

A favorite memory: I recently described my relationship with Darlene to my sister, "She was my laughing and walking partner." How fortunate I was. There was always laughter and love, through the pain, losses and life's challenges, on into the sunshine and light.

And there was so much joy.

*Thank you, Darlene, from another of your Forever Friends,
Annette Bowen*

Annette Bowen - January 26, 2021 at 02:28 AM

JM

“Darlene was one of the very first people I met at church when Warren and I moved from Seattle to Bellevue with our two oldest, Carrie and Katie. Darlene had just had Rachel and Jason and was, to say the least, very busy caring for them. Still, we managed to sneak off occasionally leaving our children with Warren and Jeff.

Through the years there were several boundary changes in our ward(s), sometimes we were in the same congregation, other times we were in completely different church buildings. But once you were a friend of Darlene's you were a friend for life.

Darlene taught seminary for quite a stretch and at least two of our children had her as an instructor. She sometimes got in trouble for bending the attendance policy or other seminary rules but she would shrug it off and say, “You've just got to love them.” In turn, our kids that were lucky enough to have her for a teacher recall her genuine, warm, caring attitude and knew she sincerely loved and was interested in them.

Years later, Darlene called me to say she was traveling with Jeff and was going to be near where one of our girls lived. She wanted to attend church and thought it would be nice to go to our daughter's ward. It was an angelic intervention. Our daughter had just lost a baby mid-term her pregnancy and was grieving; I couldn't go be with her so Darlene said she would give her a mother's hug. She did what she set out to do and with her loving hugs through tears brought comfort to our daughter.

Darlene could light up a room or a chapel with her bidding to have you come see her, catch up on life and, of course, hug. There was never any doubt where you stood with Darlene, you were loved unconditionally.

Jeanie Marquardson

Jeanie Marquardson - January 26, 2021 at 01:24 AM

DM

“*Darlene is the perfect definition of "one-in-a-million"!!! She loves like no other. She has no guile. She is a true disciple and exemplar of Christ...and she always will be! We will miss everything about our dear one-in-a- million friend!*

Our sincere prayers and love to Jeff and the entire Isaacson family.

Bill and Diane McDonald

Diane McDonald - January 25, 2021 at 11:12 PM

HK

“*Loving, kind, thoughtful, beautiful, happy, cheerful, always fun, always positive, brave, and so much more! Darlene's personality just sprinkled joy and happiness to all of us no matter what the circumstances. I've attached a picture of the fabulous five (less Teeny who was the mother of the groom) as we were working together in the kitchen preparing for a wedding open house for one of the Jones boys! What fun we had just serving and laughing and eating and playing together! Darlene, you are the bright spot in our hearts and will remain our beloved friend eternally until we meet again! My thoughts and prayers are with you dear family at this moment and always. May the Lord bless you always as you remember our Darlene: Mother, Wife, Grandmother, Sister and dearest friend. With love, Helen Klann*



Helen Klann - January 25, 2021 at 10:59 PM

SC

“ *Darlene was love. She would light up when we saw each other and hugs would follow, then laughter and feeling like you’d never been apart.*

Darlene personified Christlike love, acceptance, encouragement and living by example her testimony.

Our prayers go to Jeff and your family. Such a shock and loss. Heaven accepted an Angel into their arms.

We loved Darlene and our hearts go out to your family and we pray for your comfort.

sherry and eldon carlson - January 25, 2021 at 09:58 PM

TG

“ *We were so saddened by the news of Darlene’s passing. Darlene was one of those people you meet and instantly you love her. When we moved to Washington back in 1988, the Isaacson’s were some of the first people we met. We loved their warmth, loving caring friendship and fun parties. They took us in like they had know us forever. We moved from that area over 20 years ago but every time we ran into Darlene, it was like time never lapsed. She always had a big smile and a hug no matter how many years had passed. Darlene was a true example of Christlike love, she treated everyone this way. Heaven has gained a special angel. She will be missed. Our hearts go out to you Jeff and your family. We love you.*

Karl and Tracey Graham

Tracey Graham - January 25, 2021 at 06:12 PM

SD

“ My name is likely not known to any of you, but I was one of many young teenagers who first met Darlene in the Fall of 1967 when we first met at Fisher Junior High School in Cheney, WA. Combining students from 4 grade schools into a single Jr. High, and then High School was a fascinating experience. The Darlene I knew from 1967 to our graduation together in 1972 was the early but already lovable, compassionate, and caring person that you met later in her life. Darlene was one of a group of girls in our class that we would often encounter while walking around town. Stopping to talk in the middle of the street was just part of our growing up in those years together. Darlene always had a wonderful smile to share, even the year she was wearing braces.

I had one particular memory of Darlene. In the spring of '71 or '72, we had a girl-ask-boy Sadie Hawkins dance. Whichever year it was, one of Darlene's friends handed me a folded note. In it, Darlene asked Yes / No with a check box, would I be her date for the dance? Well, I had already agreed to go with another classmate but it seemed too impersonal to just check the Yes / No box. I found Darlene during a class break and let her know that I had already accepted an invitation. She was, of course, so gracious and understanding. That was “our Darlene” that we knew from so many years ago. It was only in recent years that, through Facebook app, that I was able to reconnect with Darlene and begin to learn what her life has included.

Reading all of your comments and those of others on Facebook leaves me so appreciative of all that our friend, my friend, from those decades ago became as an adult, wife, mother, grandmother and friend to so many. Thank you for loving and caring for her. Thank you for letting her share that same love and compassion with you. While we all would have wished for more time with Darlene, the legacy of memories and example she has left with each of us is what she has now entrusted us to carry forward. I wish you all a continued life of great memories and encouraging experiences from your many years of knowing and sharing your lives with Darlene. My

*special thanks and best wishes for Jeff and the Isaacson family. -
Steve DeViney, Cheney High School class of '72 (Denver, CO).*

Steve DeViney - January 25, 2021 at 05:08 PM

RL

💔💔💔. I Will Miss You Forever! Love, Rhonda Stradling Lara

Rhonda Stradling Lara - February 01, 2021 at 09:07 PM

RL

Thank You Steve! As stated above, Darlene will forever be missed! 💔💔

Rhonda Stradling Lara - February 02, 2021 at 12:49 AM

RK


“ *Jeff and Family,*

While I never had the opportunity to meet Darlene personally, I know that any spouse of a soccer referee is a saint. We often speak of our spouses and kids to one another before and after games. We all know we need to not dally after the last game of the day as our "better halves" usually have a plan waiting for us.

Your an amazing man Jeff and I can only imagine how blessed you all have been with such a beautiful woman in your lives. We send you all our love and prayers from my household to yours.

With Love, Becky, Jason, Alex, Max, and Jake Kaczor

Rebecca Kaczor - January 25, 2021 at 04:59 PM



Karen
Snow

“ *One of my most favourite people ever. She believed in people and loved them through and through. Her shine could light the world. She is part of home and I will always miss her. Thank you Darlene, you are part of me and our family.*

Karen Snow - January 25, 2021 at 02:58 PM

“ Dear Jeff and Family,

Greg and I feel that Darlene was one of those rare people who never had a bad word to say about anyone. We have especially loved reading her comments on Facebook the past few years; they were always encouraging and extra kind.

She was a genuinely Christlike person, who had a way of making everyone feel special. We always enjoyed seeing her, and her hugs were the best!

When we first moved into Bellevue 5th Ward in 1989, she and Jeff were one of the first to welcome us to the ward, and we were lucky enough to be invited to the Isaacson's Annual White Elephant Christmas parties. Their house would be packed with wall-to-wall people throughout the living room, dining room and kitchen area, with a large pile of wrapped gifts in the living room. When the game got going, everyone was laughing uproariously. The friendships we formed and fun we had were part of what made us feel that we had moved to the right ward!

In the early 1990's when I was the ward Relief Society President, Darlene served as one of my counselors, and that was when I first got to know of her amazing and generous heart. She would truly grieve when others were grieving, would shed tears with others, and always offer her warm hugs.

While we were serving together in RS, Darlene's sister passed away. She would share details about what happened in our presidency meetings, and we spent many hours mourning with her. She loved her sister so much, and felt that her sister was the most giving and kind person she knew. I know Darlene is now enjoying a joyful reunion with her sister, as well as her parents and Ty.

In 2008 she reached out to me after I had undergone a couple of serious surgeries. I was unable to drive for a few weeks. She picked

me up one day and took me to get a pedicure and haircut. It was so great to get out, but the best and most uplifting part was spending time chatting with her. Just an example of how caring & generous with her time she was.

I visited Darlene when her mom was on hospice and staying in your family room. I remember too how Ty stayed in the Isaacson home when he was on hospice. Darlene seemed instinctively to know how to care for both of them. She opened up both her heart and her home to make their last days easier.

We love your family. You will continue to be in our daily thoughts and prayers. May the Lord comfort you and offer peace to your hearts.

All our love,

*Greg and Susan Gardner
January 2021*

Susan Gardner - January 25, 2021 at 01:34 PM

KN

“Darlene had an extraordinary gift to love others deeply and genuinely. She radiated light. I was blessed to serve with her when she was our Relief Society President and I will always remember the way she led with pure love; I never once heard her speak a negative or unkind word. She always saw the best in people and was constantly lifting others up with her warm hugs, compliments, and encouragement. She was quick to laugh and tell a good story, and always seemed to have a twinkle in her eye. I remember dropping off something at her house one evening and she insisted that all of my kids come inside to her kitchen so that she could give them each a treat. That was Darlene-always generous, and always giving to others. I remember too how much she loved her family and how she seemed her happiest when talking about her husband, children, and grandchildren. We feel blessed and honored to have known her.

-Kristine Nicholls

Kristine Nicholls - January 25, 2021 at 12:04 AM

SI

“I met Darlene for the first time back in 1978 after returning from a two year mission for my church. Her and my brother Jeff had been married a short time. One thing that I was impressed with was her attentive nature in conversation making all around her comfortable. Her infectious laugh was impressive. I can still hear her laughing which brings comfort to me. Darlene wasn't shy about giving advice, but she had a knack of delivering the message in a kind manner resulting in no I'll will. For example, she gave me some big sister advice prior to leaving on my honey moon. Jeff married a gem.

Scott Isaacson

Scott Isaacson - January 24, 2021 at 10:59 PM



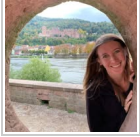
“ I am not alone in feeling absolutely loved by Darlene, and yet, whenever I was around her she had a way of making me feel like the most important person. I met Darlene when I showed up to a get together at Rachel's house. I was invited by other friends, and had no idea that I was walking into a home that would instantly feel like my own.

Darlene had an amazing way of making everyone feel seen. I loved her boisterous laughter and the excitement she showed in everything. She listened with love and withheld judgement. She showed me that women don't have to be quiet and passive to be beautiful and kind. Darlene's humor and love of laughter made her the life of the party. Even when the parties were with her young adult children and friends. She made her home a refuge, a place for happiness and love where everyone was welcome. She, and the rest of the Isaacson family, had a profound influence on me in my early 20's and accepted me when I needed it most.

Even though I haven't seen Darlene in years, my memories of her being a loving, generous, accepting, and fun woman have not faded.

She was an incredible mother, which is evident in the beautiful children that she and Jeff raised together. When I think of any of the Isaacsons I think of unconditional love and feel grateful for the opportunity I had to be loved by such an amazing woman and family.

Katie Tyler - January 24, 2021 at 10:55 PM



“ Growing up in Cougar Mountain, my siblings and I were blessed to be surrounded by amazing humans. Darlene was one of them. She was so kind and loving to us. She was always excited to see us, gave the best hugs, and made us feel welcomed in her home. I remember how as a child, I would see her fridge and it was completely covered in pictures of her family. She loved them and she loved everyone she knew. I am so thankful for the opportunity I had to know her. She was truly one of a kind and will be missed by all who knew her.

Shannon Stapley - January 24, 2021 at 10:44 PM



“ Douglas Isaacson lit a candle in memory of Darlene Midgley Isaacson



Douglas Isaacson - January 24, 2021 at 10:37 PM



“ We will remember Darlene as sweet, caring, kind, selfless, loving. She was a light to us whenever we saw her. Our family enjoyed her sense of humor. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jeff, children and grandkids. We love you all very much. God be with you until you see her again. Love, Doug (Jeff's brother) and Lani Isaacson

Douglas Isaacson - January 24, 2021 at 10:37 PM

JS

“ I forgot to add this from Rachel’s wedding just before we both moved away after being buddies and “neighbros” for 5 1/2 years.



Jen Simon - January 24, 2021 at 10:25 PM

JS

I’m pretty sure Darlene bought me that new outfit for the wedding.

Jen Simon - January 24, 2021 at 10:26 PM

MP

“ I wrote this to Darlene 4 years ago. The love in the Isaacson home showed me what I would create in my own.

Darlene- you have been on my mind the last few weeks and I meant to write you and thank you. As my kids get older and my house continues to fill with their friends I realize how important and significant your home was to me. It was a safe place filled with love and a place i could go and have deep conversations and place I could laugh and abide by the rules of the house. My wife and I are now creating that place for our kids and their friends. Thank you for my safe place and for giving me a model of what to be. Just wanted to let you know that your influence and welcomeness into your home has shaped me. Hope you are doing well.

Her response was exactly what Darlene would say. Love to you all and will be keeping you in my prayers.

Michael Pressnall - January 24, 2021 at 10:25 PM

RA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ronna Atkinson - January 24, 2021 at 10:24 PM

JS

“ I lived next-door to Darlene's daughter Rachel for a number of years when our girls were little. Darlene spoiled us with attention and gifts! One time, she took us shopping so the girls could get cute dresses and get their pictures taken. I still have this in my wallet. Darlene made everyone feel so loved and part of the family.



Jen Simon - January 24, 2021 at 10:22 PM

JS

Darlene gifted Tay this darling dress!

Jen Simon - January 24, 2021 at 10:28 PM

RA

“ In the 4 short years I lived in Washington I made many life long friends and Darlene was one of my dearest!! Bombastic! That was our word! I crack up now just thinking about it! She made me laugh so much!! We were in the Cougar Mountain Ward together and she was a light and love from the first time we met. She held my baby during church and knew just how to soothe her. She later became that same baby’s “Miss Darlene” at playtime where she would go and feel safe and loved for the next year and a half. And I would feel safe and loved when I went to pick her up. We would always have long chats - along with Rachel - and I grew to love that time to connect and feel uplifted. We worked together in YW’s and sat together on the long bus ride to the Orlowski’s home in Park City, Ut. It was quite the adventure taking the YW (Heidi being one of them) there to enjoy General Conference. That long bus ride together is where we truly connected. She shared with me all about losing her sister, how much she loved her family, being a mother and a wife. She shared her testimony that strengthened me in ways she’ll never know. Her unconditional love and ability to forgive were inspiring! We also traveled to Palm Springs together once and laughed the whole weekend! I couldn’t believe how lucky I felt to have found such a friend when there was a 16 year age gap between us. Again, another lesson she taught me about love. The last time I saw Darlene was in 2016 and I can still feel her warm and loving hug. Oh how I miss her and regret letting so much time pass since we last saw each other face to face. Thank you Darlene for being that warm, loving, and safe friend to all, especially me!!! Love you so much my sweet friend! Stay Bombastic!!



Ronna Atkinson - January 24, 2021 at 09:56 PM

MK

“ I can't begin to put into words what Darlene meant to me. The day I met Darlene I was working in the hospital and her mom had been admitted. Her mom kept calling me a name that was not mine. She was kind with an extra sparkle in her eyes so I knew that person meant a lot to her. Darlene came around the corner and dropped her purse and hugged me. She said I looked just like her sister had and that she knew she was gonna love me. She then asked how her mom reacted to me. I remember telling her she responded with unconditional love.

Darlene and I kept in touch. A few weeks later she called and said her mom needed me. I didn't hesitate. I used to spend my days with her in her adult family home. That didn't last long before Darlene mentioned bringing her mom to come stay with her and Jeff. She made me promise I wouldn't abandon her once we did. I had already loved Elaine and Darlene so unconditionally that I couldn't imagine my days without them. I stayed with them around the clock. Until Elaine took her last breath surrounded by her loved ones.

I remember when Darlene asked me to join the church. I told her that I went thru the lessons when I was a teen but I got hooked on one lesson. She told me that she would do the lessons with me and hold my hand. Jeff weeks later baptized me. It was beautiful and Darlene bought me my first bible.

I get choked up to think about Darlene no longer being here. She played a huge role in my life. She may have felt she needed me. But I needed her. She saved me.

I had never met anyone as Christlike and amazing as her. Her laughter and smile could get me thru my toughest days.

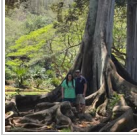
The way Darlene loved her family. The way she loved everyone she came in contact with. She was truly a one in a lifetime friend. I still haven't truly absorbed that she is no longer here. I always knew she was a phone call away. I always knew in my toughest times that when we prayed together that God listened. She was certainly like a mom to me as she was to so many. I literally cherish all the time I spent with her.

Melissa Kimball - January 24, 2021 at 09:55 PM



“ Darlene's email is "daryourmom at msn.com" which always tickled me. I'm not sure how that email came about but it's pretty much how I think of Darlene. She's a mom who loves everyone unconditionally.

DeeDee Walsh - January 24, 2021 at 08:35 PM



“ Darlene was such a sweet, happy, and loving person! Michelle and I were so grateful that she came to our wedding with Jeff! We love her so much and will greatly miss her! She was right behind me in this picture I attached. Love you Darlene! Heaven gained an amazing angel.



Jacob Isaacson - January 24, 2021 at 08:23 PM

MC

“ Mama Darlene always lit up a room when she was there. I met Darlene when I first met Heidi on Sea Gals. She was such an amazing and supportive mom to her and was always SO proud of Heidi. Any encounter I had with her was always warm and with a huge hug! I feel so blessed to have met and known her. She's truly raised a beautiful daughter and I know Heidi will continue to carry her sweet mama in her forever. Rest In Peace sweet Darlene. You will be forever missed but never forgotten. I love you!!!

Love,
Melanie Christopherson

Melanie Christopherson - January 24, 2021 at 07:12 PM

LG

“ Our hearts and prayers go out to the entire family. Mama Darlene was such a warm soul with a bright smile and spoke so many kind words. A beautiful soul who was taken too soon but will never be forgotten, you will be deeply missed.

Lesley Grio - January 24, 2021 at 06:49 PM

BB

“ Our family lived up the street from Isaacson's when our kids were young. Darlene and I were in a Primary presidency together. Our two youngest sons attended playtime at her house. One day after his nap our youngest son woke up crying that he wanted to go home to "Dahlene's". When we moved to Walnut Creek she kept them while we got settled then the whole family came to our new home. I missed Darlene so much because no other friend could replace her. There is no one by one like our Darlene. In our hearts forever.

Becky Biesinger - January 24, 2021 at 06:49 PM



“ Dear Isaacson family, my heart and prayers go out to you at this time. I've shared more detailed memories and heartfelt love on the other link, but did not want to miss this opportunity to share something here. Darlene has been my friend for about 35 years, but honestly I can not remember life without my dear friend in it. She has taught me more about Christ like love than anyone. She lived her life serving and loving others. I will forever be grateful to a loving Heavenly Father who brought her into my life. She was my "safe friend" who I went to with deep sorrows and cherished happiness. She always gave me hugs and loving advice without any judgment. She did hard things with grace, love and a smile on her face even when her heart was breaking. I'm hanging on to that example now. I love you Darlene, you are my forever friend!

Cathy Cooney - January 24, 2021 at 06:05 PM

BC

“ I knew Darlene when she was my relief society President. I was under her to serve RS as newsletter specialist. Her image in my hear was a sweet, lovely person. She always smell good and welcome everyone in our ward. She was positive and chatting. She loved to give sisters hugs and kisses. She brought warm to each sister.

Jeff also was my home teacher few years ago. Last time I talked to her was last year November 4th. I thought about her suddenly after in different wards for years. I texted her and ask how she was doing. She sent me her pictures with her grandchildren. She was babysitting and help her children. How wonderful person she was. She has been sacrificed herself in her family, her church, friends and more.

I love her and I know she look down at us often. She will be always in our heart.

Breanna Yali Chen

Breanna Chen - January 24, 2021 at 05:20 PM

DB

“ I remember that one of my first interactions with Darlene was when she was serving the children at church. I was supposed to be her support person, but she always went out of her way to tell me what a good job I was doing and to give me praise and encouragement. She served those children, as she did everyone in her life, with unbounded and genuine love. She saw others for their innate worth and wanted the very best for everyone. After my daughter's passing, she was so tender and kind whenever we saw each other. Any conversation with Darlene left me feeling lighter, loved, and more optimistic. I can only imagine the rejoicing in heaven at her arrival. Bryon and I are sending all our love to Rachel and all the family. Thank you for sharing Darlene with us.

Deborah Barnard - January 24, 2021 at 05:08 PM

AM

“ I really did not have the privilege of knowing Darlene, but when our church congregation met with hers while we were unable to meet in our building, she was most welcoming and friendly. She had a beautiful smile that lit up her face and radiated out from her to light up others. It was apparent that she was close to our Savior. I am grateful to have felt the love of Christ through Darlene.

Amber - January 24, 2021 at 04:52 PM

SB

Darlene and I decided we knew each other in heaven. We met when Rachel started dating Tyler Bailey. He knew he was going to be a member of this family when they drove to Cheney and changed their clothes in the parking lot of one of our church chapel because it was locked. Obviously I needed to meet these people my son instantly obeyed. I am Tyler's mom and there isn't a day that went by when we would talk and she declared her love for Ty. Tyler passed away almost 9 years ago and since then Justyn has taken a place within the Issacson family. I know she has embraced Justyn just as much as she did our Ty. Darlene has a big heart. There may be a hole in ours but memories of her and her sacred testimony of our Savior will fill it up. I'll be seeing you my sweet sister!

Shawn Bailey - January 24, 2021 at 05:38 PM

RA

“*Darlene was someone who saw everyone as equal and treated everyone like her own family! I believe that she could see others through heavens eyes, so it was easy for her to love so much! The veil was always thin for her. Darlene welcomed my mom as if she was her long lost sister when we moved to this area. I could see Darlene's eyes shine bright when she served. She spoiled me and my family! I want to cry as I think about how she graduated from earth and selfishly wish she was still here. I know she's rejoicing as she not only was welcomed with a host of angels that she served that have passed on, but also with those that were waiting for her to preach to on the other side of the veil! Darlene is someone I hope to be like, she's one of the most Christlike people I have ever met! 💜💜💜 Rest In Love Darlene! I love you and see you in the other side!*



To her family, thank you for sharing your mom/ wife/ grandma and passing on your precious baby clothes to mine through our angel Darlene! Love you!

Raquel - January 24, 2021 at 04:51 PM



“ *Darlene had a way of making everyone feel valued and important. She asked questions and always waited for answers. She listened in a gentle, welcoming, and powerful way. This worked magic with the children she taught in Primary. They knew she cared about them. Darlene was a fantastic example of Christ-like love.*

Sarah Jacobsen - January 24, 2021 at 04:36 PM

LW

“ *Darlene oozes love. I use the present tense because I imagine that now, she is still oozing love (and sharing many, many hugs) to her friends and families in the next life. When my husband and I had just moved into our church congregation, she routinely took the time to talk to me in the hallways, compliment me and tell me I was doing a great job as a mother. Those quick conversations with her were often the highlight of my day. Our family will miss her, and we will be praying for Jeff and the wonderful family and loved ones she leaves behind.*

Lauren Wilks - January 24, 2021 at 04:34 PM

LW

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Lauren Wilks - January 24, 2021 at 04:26 PM

MM

“ We send lots of hugs from our family to yours. Darlene touched every single one of our lives. Just walking around the house, I see little evidences of her love and affection, a blanket, a bag, a picture. I first met your family when bringing a meal when Ty was in his last days at your house. Darlene began winning her way into our hearts by being an activity day leader for my girls. She hosted a baby shower and then watched my baby when I went to the dentist. She took over leadership of the relief society when I was released, and I was never more grateful for her great love and service. She loved and guided my daughter in ministering and brought love and special surprises to my son as his primary teacher. She always spoke of her family and shared stories of all the wonderful things they were doing, just like you knew them and they were part of your family too. Sitting in her living room, she would always mention her mama like she was sitting right there with us. I felt part of her own special family every time I saw her. Knew I was loved and cared for no matter what. It was a great day to find out we were cousins by marriage through my husband's uncle. My daughter said she went right up into heaven and I couldn't help thinking that we have a little less of heaven with us now. But Darlene shared enough of that heaven with all of us that maybe we still have a little extra lying around because of her. Love from the Monson family

Melinda Monson - January 24, 2021 at 04:16 PM

CS

“ Darlene was only ever loving and kind. She always wanted to hear about my updates with school and trips and jobs. She always made me feel special and cared for. I could ALWAYS count on her for a hug and loves. Her texts and messages made my whole day brighter. I can't believe she's gone. I will miss her everytime I come home. 💖

Cami Schiel - January 24, 2021 at 04:00 PM

WB

“ I'll always remember her sparkling smile. She is one of the kindest people I know.

-Wendy Burke

wendy burke - January 24, 2021 at 03:09 PM

Jl

“ Darlene was always the sweetest and caring person! Michelle and I were so grateful that she and Jeff flew out to Utah for our wedding just over a year ago. She was always so loving and caring! I loved getting hugs from her when she would visit. She is now a guardian angel for sure, and will greatly be missed!



Jacob Isaacson - January 24, 2021 at 03:06 PM

DA

“ Darlene led an exemplary life by every measure of which I am aware. She was a rock of the foundation of her family and her church and friends. We miss our Sister Isaacson but I am so thankful to have known her all these years. The world on which we live is less than it was and heaven a sweeter place for the rest of us to strive. God bless our sweet Sister Isaacson.

Don Adams - January 24, 2021 at 02:34 PM

BM

“ The first-time I met Darlene was when they moved into an apartment in Newport Hills and I was assigned to be her visiting teacher. As I approached the apartment, I viewed through the window and saw Darlene sitting in the playpen reading a magazine while her twin babies were exploring the living room. Over the years, we have laughed many times over that incident. I miss her terribly! She was an example to me of joy and graciousness. I can hardly believe that she was taken from us so soon! My heart goes out to Jeff and her children. She loved you all so much and was proud of your accomplishments. May the light of her love shine on in you forever.

Bonnie Marie - January 24, 2021 at 02:04 PM

JH

“ We moved to the same ward as the Isaacson's a little more than 31 years ago, Belleue 5th Ward. My children grew up with Jason and Rachel as teenagers. They are good friends. Darlene always had a big smile and warm greetings to us all these years. Even after we attended different wards we still had connect through Facebook. From the time I knew she was in ICU to her going to next life was just overnight. It was shockingly sad. Only the Plan of Salvation can comfort everyone who knows her. May the survivor families be comforted.

Judy Hsu - January 24, 2021 at 12:59 PM



“ When we, the Corbitt Family, moved into the Cougar Mountain Ward, Darlene welcomed us with open arms. She flattered my husband, Don, and I by inviting us to our first ever white elephant party she hosted that Christmas in her home. I still have and use the gifts I received at that event! Darlene's gentle, unassuming, genuine love and concern touched the hearts of anyone that knew her. She inspired trust and confidence. I never heard her speak ill of anyone. She saw people as Christ does - spirits of unbounded potential. She will be missed, but her influence will continue to guide the lives of all that knew her.

Karen Corbitt - January 23, 2021 at 11:35 PM

ML

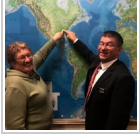
“ Darlene was just Love. I never heard her say a kind thing, and whenever I saw her, it was like no time had passed. I'm not sure if I ever crossed her mind between times when we'd run into each other at church, but every time she saw me, she would just drop everything and stroll over to ask how I was doing...and she truly cared about the answer. The last thing she ever said to me, when we crossed paths, was to ask me to tell my parents hello. She had such a big heart, and she blessed everyone around her with it.

Maxine Adams Lo - January 23, 2021 at 10:28 PM

ML

**never heard her say an unkind thing. My apologies.*

Maxine Lo - January 24, 2021 at 02:38 PM



“ *It was always a pleasant experience to visit with her. She was inclusive and very friendly. I love how she loved Justyn and his kids from day one. She was always ready to help no matter how far she had to travel. Love her and will miss her. Ileen Chris*

Ileen Chris - January 23, 2021 at 09:27 PM