



Emily Jane Shapiro

September 28, 1959 - January 5, 2022

Emily Jane Kinnamon Shapiro, beloved wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend of many, began her journey in heaven on January 5, 2022. Emily shone a light on this earth beaming strength, love, compassion, optimism, beauty, and humility. Her dedication to dance and dance instruction was infectious and will be carried on by the many students whose lives she touched. Born September 28, 1959 in Takoma Park, Maryland, Emily grew up in the Washington, DC area and attended school at the Academy of Washington Ballet and American University, receiving a bachelor's degree in Arts in Dance and Performing Arts in 1981. Emily went on to perform in ballet and modern dance and to teach dance in the Washington, DC area until moving to California in 1988 and Texas in 1994, where she also instructed at numerous studios.

Emily is remembered by her daughter Sara for teaching her to see beauty in all things. She instilled curiosity and passion for life and nature and for seeing magic in the world.

Emily is remembered by her Son Michael for always being supportive and loving and being his hero, teaching him perseverance, strength, optimism, and courage. She instilled beauty in this world in a fashion that inspired him to look at the world in a way never possible without her guidance and motherly teachings. Emily was an angelic soul who showed her son that there is beauty in even the smallest things and to never overlook the silver lining no matter how hidden it may appear.

Emily is remembered by her husband of 33 years, Jeffrey, as half of a whole, a cherished soul and life partner who embodied grace, dignity and beauty, and always put the interests of others above her own.

Preceded in death by her parents John and Helen Kinnamon, Emily is survived by her husband Jeffrey, daughter Sara, son Michael, sister Catherine Joy Cocuzzi and brother John Kinnamon.

In recognition of the current COVID public health emergency, a celebration of Emily's life

will be scheduled later this year, with anticipation of a safer time for family and friends to gather.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation honoring Emily's memory and wishes by supporting cancer research at the Livestrong Institute and recognizing Emily's extraordinary oncologist and researcher, Dr. Anna Capasso. Donations can be made online by copying this link into a browser: <https://bit.ly/emilyshapiro> or by mailing a check to: The University of Texas at Austin, Attn: Gift Processing, P.O. Box 7458, Austin, TX 78713-7458. In the memo line, please write "LCI/Capasso – in memory of Emily Shapiro."

Tribute Wall

HH

“ I have been with Emily and Jeff on several occasions, and each time I was made to feel welcome, like a member of the Shapiro family. Emily was always a very positive thoughtful person, who complemented Jeff perfectly. My condolences to the Shapiro family on the loss of such a wonderful wife and mother.

Howard Hopper - February 09, 2023 at 12:56 PM

IM

“ Emily continues to be a part of my life though she is out of reach. . .she influences so much how I think about and look at dance, what I enjoy about nature, and when I recognize a friend. It's so hard to think about how I miss her. I know I cherish every memory, especially of the hours spent in the studio . . .and of the laughter and tears for just about everything else. Emily's passion for life and experiences reminds me that gifts are available constantly-- curiosity, creativity, stillness, beauty, kindness, energy, effort, patience, and so much more. She embodied all these gifts and has been a gift to all of us. Now she is a gift to the angels, too. We had to share her too soon. Thinking of Emily inspires me to be a better person who embraces opportunities to learn, reflect, try, grow, and extend. Though out of reach, Emily is always in my heart. Always wishing peace and comfort to Jeff, Sara, and Michael.



Ilona Missakian - January 16, 2023 at 02:39 AM

RS

“ We didn't have much time to get to know her as we would have liked, yet we found an abundance of life contained in a package too small to hold it all in. Emily would smile at the drop of a hat, and share an event or a memory that would touch others in the same way that it touched her. She was proud of her children, strong in her pursuit of life, eager to enjoy the moment, and glad to share a future with Jeff. She just had so much energy! Even when she was down, she seemed to be ready to shake off the darkness and regain her smile and enthusiasm. We were looking forward to Spring time with her in our town, and ready to watch her face light up with exploring a new part of the country with us. We are sad to lose her before we really had a chance to know her well, yet so glad to have the time that we did. The best comparison I can envision is watching a sunset in the summertime; A bright, shining force that is too strong to be overcome, but is instead covered by shadows, little by little until it slowly disappears. It's never really gone, never consumed, but just outnumbered for a while. We all know that it will burst forth in the morning, ready to shine even stronger again. That is the Emily that we saw and loved. Rest easy. Roger & Deanna Simcox

Roger & Deanna Simcox - January 15, 2023 at 09:07 PM

RE

“ We imagine you happy
Dancing in the sky
Skipping through the Milky Way
Smiling as you fly

We imagine you with loved ones
Catching up on moments past
Watching over your family
Until you meet again at last

You will always be remembered
Did you see we left a rose?
We said a prayer and placed it
Where the ocean water flows

Rest in peace dear Emily
Fate has demanded that we part
You will always be remembered
Your smile your strength your heart

Ron and Ellen - January 14, 2023 at 08:58 PM

MB

“ Emily is missed every day. May she rest In peace and may Jeff take comfort in the fact that he did everything humanly possible to help his dear wife in her time of need. M & B

Mitch and Bonnie - January 14, 2023 at 12:59 PM

LS

“ You brought sunshine into our lives and you will be with us always as a bright shining star in our memories. Until we meet again dearest Emily💕💕💕
My love forever,
Mom Shapiro

Lennie Shapiro - January 12, 2023 at 09:07 PM

MM

“ It is difficult to believe that a year has gone by since Emily's passing. Time passes, but our memories remain indelibly imprinted within us. Emily was a beautiful person who had many creative talents. Above all, she was proud of her family. Her love for Sara and Michael really shone through. The life that she and Jeff built remained strong. Emily, we miss you. We will hold on to our fond memories of happy times we shared.

Marshall & Marcia - January 11, 2023 at 09:36 PM

CV

“ Emily was surely a beautiful, talented person who loved her family and loved life. She seemed to so enjoy being the creative person that God had made her to be. The words used to describe her by those who knew and loved her most are telling...strength, love, compassion, optimism, humility, grace, dignity and beauty all describe an amazing person.

We are so thankful that during her very trying journey with cancer she was surrounded by, supported, and loved to the very end by Jeff, Sara, and Michael. What a gift.

Our prayer for the family...

"May the Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
The Lord turn his face toward you,
and give you peace."

Charlie and Paula Vento

Charlie and Paula Vento - January 10, 2023 at 11:42 AM

LG

“ My fondest memories of Emily are of us tapping together. She was a graceful dancer and a lovely person. She was always smiling. I am wishing Jeff and their children peace and comfort in knowing what a bright light she was to everyone who knew her. My deepest condolences, Lynne Gellman

Lynne Gellman - January 08, 2023 at 01:25 PM

JH

“ Lisa and I will always remember the many dinners with Emily. She was the highlight of the evening with her stories and bubbly nature. It was very sad to hear the news of her passing. On this anniversary we send our prayers to Jeff and his family and thanks for the many fond memories.

Jonathan & Lisa Humble



Jonathan Humble - January 06, 2023 at 07:44 AM

HI

“ *Helen Ingham lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Helen Ingham - January 05, 2023 at 12:44 PM

HI

A blue candle for the lady who always wore blue.

Your beautiful smiling face is missed, Emily. I have looked towards the center of class expecting to see you there numerous times and although I don't see you, sometimes I feel your presence and it brings a smile to my face. You always remembered the original routines and so I looked at you to see if I was doing the moves correctly. You were always the pro in class.

Emily and I have been gym friends for about ten years. We attended many gym classes together over the years. After class, we took quick walks around the gym to cool down where we chatted about anything and everything. Emily was a devoted mother and wife, and a wonderful child to her parents. She cared with a passion and lived her life to its fullest. There was so much life in her...

Emily made the world a better place. I am grateful for her friendship and getting to meet her beautiful family. Jeff, Sara, and Michael, I pray you have peace and love, and you feel Emily's grace in your heart when you need it most.

Helen Ingham - January 05, 2023 at 02:04 PM

JT

“ *Emily will always be missed; our hopes and prayers are for Jeff, Sara and Michael, that the love for Emily expressed by all her friends will somehow ease the burden. I believe this quote from Jessie Stillwater (author) is accurate and appropriate: "Grief never ends. But it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness or a lack of faith. Grief is the price of love".*

Our prayers are with you all.

Jim & Gail Tidwell

Jim Tidwell - January 05, 2023 at 11:12 AM

PN

“ When Jeff first brought Emily around, I was struck by her bright eyes, bright smile and inner beauty. Her warm laughter drew me out of my cloud and into the present. I was so happy for Jeff to have found someone who was fun, warm and genuine. She lit up the room and drew everyone in. She was so devoted to Jeff and Jeff devoted to her, that they were just right for each other.

Ballerina dancing was her passion. Not that I ever saw her dance, but I could tell that she worked at it for a long time and danced with the best. I wish I had seen her in action. She also taught youngsters to dance. I'm sure the ballad misses her.

Emily was also the most fun during our trip to Bonaire. We went snorkling and scuba diving with the Shapiros and just had a great time together.

Most of importance to her were her children. My wife, Ann and I spent some precious time with Jeff, Emily and Sarah back in September of 2021 up in Cape Cod where Sarah was settling down with the new job at Woods Hole, the marine research facility. We got to know Sarah well and we could see the goodness that she left behind instilled with Sarah.

Emily, you are so missed, the world is not the same without you.

Pat Nucci

Patrick J Nucci - December 31, 2022 at 04:36 PM



“ *Emily Jane Shapiro*

October 14, 2022 at 12:02 PM

SP

“ *I am so sad to hear of Emily's passing. She always so nice and had a bright smile on her face! My heart goes out to Jeff, Michael and Sara. May her memory be a blessing. .*
Shari Pflueger



Shari Pflueger - March 25, 2022 at 04:59 PM

EJ

“ Eileen Johnson lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro



Eileen Johnson - January 25, 2022 at 08:03 PM

MS

“ Emily and Jeff came to our home town in Münster (Germany) some years ago and we spent a lovely day together with Jeff and her family. We had a lot of fun and I will always remember Emily as a warm hearted woman and a great partner for Jeff. My feelings are with Jeff and his Family in these sad days.

Martin & Melanie Schulte-Frankenfeld

Martin Schulte-Frankenfeld - January 11, 2022 at 07:18 AM

MJ

“ Our heart and thoughts go out Jeff and the Shapiro family. Emily's kindness and radiance touch so many. While she will be missed by all, she will never be forgotten and will remain in our hearts.

Mark & Laura Johnson

Mark Johnson - January 10, 2022 at 11:42 AM

KS

“ E we are deeply sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family for strength and the knowledge that Emily is in a better place now and she she is looking down and smiling at you.



Kevin & Jacqie Scott - January 08, 2022 at 10:32 PM

SP

“ Steve Phifer lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro



Steve Phifer - January 08, 2022 at 07:41 PM

SP

We were deeply saddened to learn of Emily's passing. I hope that you find comfort in your memories. I met Emily in junior high school and always remember the manner in which she livened up a room upon her entrance. My two favorite food memories with Emily were lunch at The Salt Lick BBQ when I was in Austin on a business trip and pizza with she and Mark Harris at her brother John's Armand's Chicago Pizzeria.

Steve Phifer - January 08, 2022 at 07:53 PM

PM

“ We were so sorry to hear about Emily. Our hearts go out to Jeff, Michael and Sara. We will remember Emily's infectious smile, her love of dance, and her beautiful hair. She was a lovely lady and always so graceful. We reflect on visits over the years in CA, RI and ID. We send our prayers and hugs during this very difficult time.



Pat and Diane McLaughlin - January 08, 2022 at 05:02 PM

BS

“ Our deepest sympathy for your loss. We will cherish the memories we have of Emily and hope the wonderful memories of her give you comfort during this difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers.



Brick, Patricia & Tyler Sudderth - January 08, 2022 at 02:45 PM

BT

Brick, Patricia & Tyler

Brick, Patricia, Tyler - January 08, 2022 at 02:49 PM

JE

“ Jenny lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro



Jenny - January 08, 2022 at 02:34 PM

JC

“ We always enjoyed seeing Emily, Jeff and their family at the Palace in Georgetown for wonderful dinner and theater. Emily always came smiling and sharing fun stories. We will miss Emily and send thoughts and prayers and many hugs to Jeff, Michael and Sarah and extended family.

Jenny & Bruce Corman - January 08, 2022 at 02:34 PM

MS

“ So sorry for your loss. Emily was taken way too soon and will be sorely missed. We will fondly remember Emily's infectious laugh along with her deep love and affection for her children. And we will always remember the way Jeff loved and cared for Emily during her darkest hour. Your love for each other was such an inspiration, and a true example of what God intended when he stated: "And the two shall become one flesh". Praying for God's comfort and grace during this difficult time!

Mike and Cindy Slaughter - January 08, 2022 at 11:15 AM

MS

“ Mike And Cindy Slaughter lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro



Mike and Cindy Slaughter - January 08, 2022 at 11:14 AM

SB

“ No longer stoically suffering this horrible unfair disease, this is a sad time indeed. I will always think of you, dear Emily, looking for your sunny smile when I go to the gym. You were the bright spot at the Anderson library and are sorely missed. We were so blessed to see you, as infrequently as it was, during this endless plague. You are in our hearts forever. May your family b

Susan Berg - January 07, 2022 at 08:32 PM

SB

*find peace 🙏

Susan Berg - January 07, 2022 at 08:32 PM

RS

“ I was blessed to have known Emily for the past several years. Her incredibly infectious laugh, personable demeanor, and kind disposition will be greatly missed. She was, and will always be, a true friend of mine. Rest in peace mon amie.

ray stephany - January 07, 2022 at 08:31 PM

CG

“ Emily and I first met when Jeff and she brought their ailing pet bird to Texas A&M for veterinary care. We spent even more time in the past three years when they brought their wonderful son Michael to Texas A&M University. Through their trips; it was such a pleasure to see how Emily loved and cared for Jeff, Sarah, Michael, their pets and all living beings. Thank you for sharing her with us all.

Cindy Giedraitis - January 07, 2022 at 07:34 PM

TB

“ I have known Emily for many years and shared great family times with her, Jeff, Micheal, and Sara. Please continue prayers for the family. God speed Emily.

Tm Barge - January 07, 2022 at 07:09 PM



“ Emily was my friend. I will miss her laughter, her joy and her upbeat attitude. I am so grateful to have known her.

Janet Walker - January 07, 2022 at 06:48 PM

Mark Harris

“ Mark Harris lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro



Mark Harris - January 07, 2022 at 06:48 PM

Mark Harris

I was lucky enough to have been friends with Emily in our youth. I will always remember her effervescent personality and wonderful laugh. I will forever be grateful for her introducing me to dance. Thank you Emily.

Mark Harris - January 07, 2022 at 07:10 PM

CH

“ Cherie Harvey lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro



Cherie Harvey - January 07, 2022 at 06:22 PM

CH

Such a beautiful person, inside and out.

Cherie Harvey - January 07, 2022 at 06:23 PM

AK

“ *Amy And Tim Kitzmiller lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Amy and Tim Kitzmiller - January 07, 2022 at 06:15 PM

KR

“ *Sorry for your loss. She was such a trooper throughout this ordeal with you Jeff right by her side. Truly an inspiration to me as well as others who had the fortune to spend time with her over these years. My heart hurts for your family and I wish all fair winds and following seas throughout this difficult time.*

krm - January 07, 2022 at 06:13 PM

KP

Emily's smile and positive approach to life brightened the Sunday school class I taught during her college years in Rockville MD. She added joy whenever was present and left behind many happy memories to savot

Ken Phifer

Ken Phifer - January 07, 2022 at 10:24 PM

AA

“ *Emily certainly was a blessing to all who were fortunate enough to spend time with her. She was always gracious and graceful. Her death is such a reminder that our time here is finite. Our oldest daughters spent their early years together. My heart is sad for the loss her family feels as they have to go forward without her. Thank you for your presence, Emily!*

Anne Alexander

Anne Alexander - January 07, 2022 at 05:05 PM

KJ

The few times I met Emily during her illness, I was amazed at her positivity, Optimism, and grace. She inspired me. Wish I had more time to spend with her. My deepest condolences to the family.

Kusum John - January 07, 2022 at 07:09 PM

CW

“ Emily has always treated me and my family with tremendous grace and kindness. We were blessed to be welcomed into her home on numerous occasions and to share dinners at good restaurants. For me, the greatest treasures she and Jeff shared were two of the family's Passover Seders and later dinners for Kim and me. She made the Seders and the dinners delightful, informative, comfortable and enriching experiences. I will always be blessed to call her my friend.



Carl Wren

Carl Wren - January 07, 2022 at 04:44 PM

LB

“ I met Emily right after we first moved to Austin around 25 years ago. We hit it off immediately, but then again who didn't with Emily. She was such a likable, and joyful person to be around. We had kids around the same age so we had a lot in common.

I believe when I first met Emily it might have been through the Couples Club and then later on in Ladies Night Out. She didn't live nearby so I would always look forward to seeing her when these groups met up and then later on our kids attended the ECP together. Daniel and Michael started a little later than others, I believe. When Emily was available to meet we would get together with the boys at different parks. I always looked forward to our get-togethers. It was fun visiting with Emily while our boys played.

Emily was the type of person that could light up an entire room with her smile. I don't think I ever heard her say anything negative about anyone. She was that type of person. She had a true gift to connect with others and make them feel special. Emily will be greatly missed and may her memory always be a blessing.

Lisa Brill - January 07, 2022 at 04:13 PM

CV

“ Charlie And Paula Vento lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro



Charlie and Paula Vento - January 07, 2022 at 03:13 PM



“ *Debbie Roberson lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Debbie Roberson - January 07, 2022 at 02:52 PM

EK

“ *Eirene Knott lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Eirene Knott - January 07, 2022 at 02:23 PM



“ *Vivian Picow lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Vivian Picow - January 07, 2022 at 02:04 PM



I will always remember Emily for her ready smile and laugh. She will surely be missed by all.

Vivian Picow - January 07, 2022 at 02:07 PM

KE

“ *So sorry to learn of Emily's passing. She was a well-loved member of our Austin community. She always had a smile and kind words to share. Our community has lost someone very special.*

Keri - January 07, 2022 at 12:21 PM

KE

“ *Keri lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Keri - January 07, 2022 at 12:19 PM

CS

“ *Christina Smith lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Christina Smith - January 07, 2022 at 11:51 AM

AC

“ *Death is nothing.
I have only passed to another place: like seeds hidden in the next room. I am always me and you are always you. What we were for each other before, we still are. You call to me with the familiar name that you have always called me; you speak to me in the same affectionate way that you have always done. Don't change your tone of voice, don't be solemn or sad. You still laugh at what made us laugh, those small things that amused us when we were together. Pray, smile, and think of me! My name is the familiar word it always was before: you speak it without a trace of shadow or sadness. Your life has all the meaning that it has always had: it is the same as before, a continuity that is not broken. Why would I have to be out of your thoughts, only because I am out of your sight? I am not far away, I am in another place, just around the corner. Be reassured, all is well. You will find my heart again, you will find again the purified tenderness. Dry your tears and stop crying, if you love me: your smile is my peace.*
St Augustine

Anna Capasso - January 07, 2022 at 11:46 AM

AC

“ *Anna Capasso lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Anna Capasso - January 07, 2022 at 11:45 AM

JK

“ *Emily was a true lover of all things in nature mostly creatures in nature. We enjoyed talking about our various experiences in nature. I will miss those conversations. Love you Emily! John and Becky*

John Kinnamon - January 07, 2022 at 10:19 AM

JK

“ *John Kinnamon lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



John Kinnamon - January 07, 2022 at 10:12 AM

JC

“ *Joy Cocuzzi lit a candle in memory of Emily Jane Shapiro*



Joy Cocuzzi - January 07, 2022 at 09:45 AM

JC

“ *Em gracefully danced through life. She blessed us with her beautiful smile and giving heart. Painfully, the curtain came down way too soon. I believe she rests peacefully with mom and dad. Her love endures and will live in our hearts until we see her again. Sleep gently, sweet sister.
Forever yours, Joy and Nick*

Joy Cocuzzi - January 07, 2022 at 09:45 AM