



## Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf

July 17, 1963 - September 2, 2025

Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf, 62-year-old resident of Little Falls, MN passed away Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at Mercy Hospital in Coon Rapids, MN. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Little Falls with Father Ben Kociemba officiating. Burial will take place at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery north of Little Falls at a later date. Visitation will be from 4 to 7 P.M. on Monday at the LeMieur Funeral Home in Little Falls and from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. on Tuesday at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials dedicated in Michele's name to the Multiple Sclerosis Society <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/>. Caring for Shelly and her family is the LeMieur Funeral Home in Little Falls, MN.

Michele was born July 17, 1963 in St. Cloud, Minnesota to Marilyn & Arthur Douvier. She lived in Collegeville during her elementary years. In her later school years, she lived in Avon, graduating from Albany High School in 1981. She attended Brainerd Technical College, graduating in 1982. She was a Dental Assistant, working at dental offices in Albany and Minneapolis until 2008. She was united in marriage to James Ostendorf May 29, 1998. She lived in Minneapolis, Big Lake and Brooklyn Park which was where she resided when she and James adopted their daughter, Gracelyn. She moved to Little Falls in 2008 and worked at CHI St. Gabriel's Home Care and Hospice until she retired in 2018.

A heart of gold stopped beating but Michele's love remains. She had a beautiful soul who changed lives with kindness. Her generous and fun-loving character will be greatly missed. She will be remembered for a life of compassion and deep devotion to all.

Michele is survived by her loving husband of 27 years, James; daughter, Gracelyn; father, Arthur Douvier of Albany and brother, Mark Douvier (Laura) of Upsala.

Michele is preceded in death by her mother, Marilyn Douvier (Pfannenstein).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 8. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Little Falls Chapel  
214 2nd St SE  
Little Falls, MN 56345  
(320) 632-5242  
info@shelleyfuneralchapels.com

## Visitation

SEP 9. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Little Falls  
305 4th Street SE  
Little Falls, MN

## Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 9. 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Little Falls  
305 4th Street SE  
Little Falls, MN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - September 08, 2025 at 01:25 PM

JO

“ *My dear Shelly was laid to rest at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery Columbarium 7 D23 Friday, September 19th, 2025.*

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**James Ostendorf** - September 21, 2025 at 01:17 PM

JO

“ ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND SHELLY'S FAMILY...THANK YOU TO EVERYONE! The outpouring of love and support has been humbling and overwhelming. I assure you, Shelly weeped with great gratitude. You are the best!!

Sorry it took so long to reply to all the shared thoughts and condolences. I wanted to log in via Facebook. As most of you know, I never set up an account there (I let Shelly do that stuff). I tried to set up an account there recently but was rejected because "I didn't do something correctly" and now it disabled any possibility of setting up an account to my desired email address in the future. Where's an 8-year-old when one needs help with these websites? BTW...I set up a dedicated login to just this website.

Thank you also for finding this, the CORRECT obit location. In an effort to profit off Shelly's obit (via their own ad links), echovita.com did their usual unauthorized re-write of my obit for Shelly. I wouldn't have come up with "As we bid adieu to Michele's earthly form..." Search "echovita.com unauthorized obituaries" and see what AI and the world has to say about it.

Now on to "Liking" (and LOVING) all your responses here.

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**James Ostendorf** - September 11, 2025 at 08:31 AM



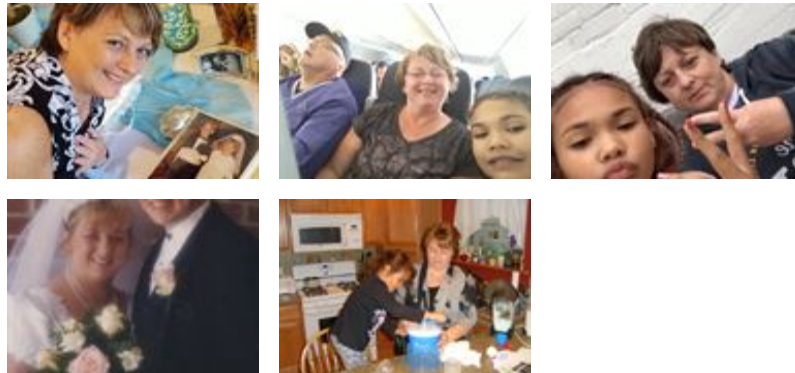
“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.

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September 08, 2025 at 08:35 PM



“ 292 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - September 08, 2025 at 01:11 PM

YF

“ *Your CentraCare Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.*



**Your CentraCare Family** - September 08, 2025 at 10:30 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.*



September 08, 2025 at 09:11 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.

September 08, 2025 at 09:11 AM

DJ

“ Dawn Janson lit a candle in memory of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf



Dawn Janson - September 07, 2025 at 09:29 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.



September 07, 2025 at 04:08 PM

PS

“ Pat Schusstt lit a candle in memory of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf



Pat Schusstt - September 07, 2025 at 09:15 AM

KE

“ *She had a beautiful soul who changed lives with kindness... Shelly packed an extra Tupperware container of porcupine meatballs and mashed potatoes and sent them with James to share with me at work. A favorite meal for me. Nearly twenty years later I still think of that kind gesture when eating porcupine meatballs. Shelly was a Kind and Wonderful Soul. God Bless You.*

*-Ken Gillette*

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**Ken** - September 06, 2025 at 12:18 PM

JA

“ *We are suprised and saddened to learn of Shelly's passing. May you find support and comfort in leaning on family and friends at this sad time. We have made a donation on Shelly's behalf to the MS foundation. We are hopeful this will help those in need going forward. With Deep Condolensces, Take Special Care at this time, Gregg, Janis, Adrienne Allen Hanson & family, Andrew Allen & family, Aimee Allen Ramfjord and Family.*

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**Janis Allen** - September 06, 2025 at 09:07 AM

ME

“ *Margaux, Zach, Gabe, and Emily purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.*



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**Margaux, Zach, Gabe, and Emily** - September 06, 2025 at 12:24 AM

ME

“ Margaux, Zach, Gabe, and Emily planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.

Margaux, Zach, Gabe, and Emily - September 06, 2025 at 12:24 AM

LL

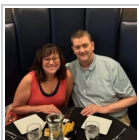
“ James and Gracelyn, Michele was a wonderful person, we send our condolences. Prayers and hugs to you both of you. Rod & Lola Lilga

Lola Lilga - September 05, 2025 at 07:48 PM

KL

“ Michele and I had lunch together awhile back and talked about raising kids and the fun we had in taking breaks together at work. I will never forget her "dime" story and how her Mom always spoke to her through a "dime." Every time I see a dime on the ground or floor, I think of her and her Mom. That dime meant her Mom was watching over her and everything was going to be OK. They are now reunited, so I know the dimes will be flowing! - Kathy Lange

Kathy Lange - September 05, 2025 at 02:14 PM



“ My heart is breaking for you James and Gracie, as well as Michele's other family. I worked with Michele for many years in our Fargo CHI office. We referred to each other as far away friends. She was an incredible coworker and friend. I will miss you Michele- fly to Jesus my friend. 🙏😭

Candis Bjore - September 05, 2025 at 12:32 PM

GF

“ Guy Allen & Lyle Fokken purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.



Guy Allen & Lyle Fokken - September 05, 2025 at 11:27 AM

KP

“ I am so sorry for your loss, James and Gracie. A beautiful lady she was. □



Karen Przybilla - September 05, 2025 at 08:33 AM

CF

“ James I am so sorry for your loss. Michele was a very special lady. She was always so kind to everyone and had the most beautiful smile ❤️🙏

Cherri Funk - September 04, 2025 at 11:16 PM

BB

“ Michele was such a great coworker she always had a smile and willingness to make it a great day. Sending prayers to James, Gracie and family 🙏 She will be missed by many RIP my friend.



Brenda Baum - September 04, 2025 at 08:18 PM

MF

“ Mark and Gwen Kunkel Family purchased the Lord's Prayer 44" Sonnet for the family of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.



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**Mark and Gwen Kunkel Family** - September 04, 2025 at 02:35 PM

MF

“ Mark and Gwen Kunkel Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michele "Shelly" D. Ostendorf.

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**Mark and Gwen Kunkel Family** - September 04, 2025 at 02:35 PM

GK

“ James and family. We have so many wonderful of memories of "Aunt Shelly". From being the unofficial Aunt to our Children and loving them as if they really were nieces and a nephew to many fun nights just having fun at the lake. This is a big loss to all of you. May you know that all her suffering and heartache are finished now and she is back with Marilyn smiling down on all of you. Your loss and heartache are so real and we pray that in God's time it will be lessened. All the wonderful memories will live on for all that have been touch by Shelly's infectious laugh and smile. Sincerely,  
Gwen and Mark Kunkel and family.

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**Gwen Kunkel** - September 04, 2025 at 02:27 PM