



## Leanne Happe

May 2, 1959 - June 17, 2021

Leanne Happe passed away on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at her home surrounded by family after a battle with cancer.

Leanne was born May 2, 1959 in Evansville, IN. She worked for Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp. for more than 20 years as a Territory Sales Rep. After retiring from B & W she worked many years for Westside Catholic School. At Westside Catholic she cooked and served lunches, but will be mostly remembered as an adored co-worker, and a well-loved “lunch lady” by the students.

Leanne grew up around horses, taking every opportunity to ride and care for them. In her late teens she became a groom at Ellis Park, where she was soon introduced to her second passion: photography. Under the tutelage of the track photographer, Leanne sharpened her skills, and throughout her life she photographed 25 Kentucky Derbies and various other high stakes horse races. Trail riding her own horses with family and friends, along with thoroughbred horse racing, were past times that she enjoyed her entire life.

Leanne also loved to travel, having visited New York City with friends and family dozens of times over the years. She was always the unofficial tour guide and knew the city as if it were her home town. Leanne also enjoyed the beaches of Florida, Alabama and North Carolina, and had visited much of

Europe as well.

As full and busy as her life was, Leanne always made time to volunteer. She donated countless hours to Westside Catholic School, having baked cookies and fried pronto pups for the Fall Festival year after year. Leanne also played a key role in the WCS Back-To-School Backpack and Christmas Angel Tree programs. At St. Boniface Parish Leanne managed and worked a Summer Social Booth for decades, and worked alongside her husband in various other volunteer endeavors.

Outside of the school and parish, Leanne and her husband warmly welcomed and hosted hundreds of friends at their Lake Barkley home over the last 20-plus years. Guests were always treated to her fabulous cooking, but especially her cobbler and homemade ice cream. From their lake home, to school and church, to everyday life, Leanne will be fondly remembered for her kindness and generosity, which knew no bounds. She gave of her time, talent and resources with warmth, and a unique sense of humor. Leanne had a sincere servant's heart and will be missed for years to come.

Surviving are her husband of 27 years, Jeff; two daughters, Maddie (Nick) Will and Betsy Happe, both of Evansville; mother, Helen Williams of Paducah, KY; brothers, Mike (Angie) Baker, Jeff Baker, and Jamie Cox, all of Paducah, KY; sister, Keri (Jason) Vaughn, also of Paducah, KY. She is also survived by several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and countless friends.

Leanne was preceded in death by grandparents, Virginia and Ed Williams; and a brother, Kevin Kreel.

There will be a Mass of Christian Burial held at 10:00 AM on Monday, June 21, 2021 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 1:00 until 7:00 PM on Sunday at Pierre Funeral Home, 2601 W. Franklin Street, where there will be a memorial service conducted by the church at 6:00 PM. Friends may also visit with the family from 9:00 AM until service time on Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2701 W. Franklin Street.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Westside Catholic School's General Fund, or the Leanne Happe Endowment for Westside Catholic School, both at 1626 Glendale Avenue, Evansville, IN 47712.

Condolences may be made online at [www.pierrefuneralhome.com](http://www.pierrefuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

2500 Mesker Park Drive  
Evansville, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 20. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home  
2601 West Franklin Street  
Evansville, IN 47712  
(812) 423-6471  
info@pierrefuneralhome.com  
<https://www.pierrefuneralhome.com>

## Memorial Service

JUN 20. 6:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home  
2601 West Franklin Street  
Evansville, IN 47712  
(812) 423-6471  
info@pierrefuneralhome.com  
<https://www.pierrefuneralhome.com>

## Visitation

JUN 21. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
2701 W. Franklin Street  
Evansville, IN

## Mass of Christian Burial

JUN 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
2701 W. Franklin Street  
Evansville, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Pierre Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Leanne Happe*



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**Pierre Funeral Home** - June 19, 2021 at 06:23 PM



“ *Leanne Happe*

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January 16, 2023 at 06:53 PM



“ *Jeff-  
We are so very sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with all of your family.*

*Sincerely,  
John & Jeanne Dewig*

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**Jeanne Dewig** - July 04, 2021 at 09:40 AM

MH

“ Thinking of you during this truly difficult time. No words are caring enough to take away sorrow, but may you find comfort in knowing that warm thoughts and sympathy are with you. Praying for you Jeff and your family.

*Margie Hartmann*

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**Margie Hartmann** - June 24, 2021 at 09:44 AM

DS

“ She was my cousin, best friend, and we were like sisters. We never called each other by our first names but also cousin!  
Grew up together since we were babies.  
We talked everyday on the phone.  
I love her with all my heart and soul and she will be missed so deeply!  
Love ❤️ you Cousin!



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**Donna Slinker** - June 23, 2021 at 05:11 PM

MJ

“ Thinking of you Jeff and your family. Wishing you much peace and comfort. Our deepest condolences and prayers to you all during this difficult time. Leanne will be greatly missed by all. Mark and Joann Johns

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**Mark Johns** - June 22, 2021 at 09:39 PM

DZ

“ Well I'm just very sad that we didn't stay in touch. I haven't seen you since 1984, but I have to say that that was probably the best summer of my life. I sold racing forms by the club house and loved doing that. You and I became friends. You loved photography and so did I. We loved the horses and we went to a couple of tracks together out of town. We had some great times. I remember you as a wonderful person and I truly wish our families could have met each other. My husband would have adored you like I did. I only knew you for a short time but you would have been a friend for a life time. R. I. P.

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**Debbie Zaro** - June 22, 2021 at 08:44 PM

FH

“ She was always a very nice lady to be around. Very understanding and kind. Condolences to all of the Happening family

*Fred & Diana Hawkins*

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**Fred Hawkins** - June 21, 2021 at 06:36 AM

BK

“ So sorry for your loss, love and prayers to your families.  
*Berta Kares*

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**Berta Kares** - June 20, 2021 at 01:09 PM

CM

“ Condolences to Jeff and daughters and whole family. Sorry for your loss.

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**CLYDE MCSPARIN** - June 20, 2021 at 11:14 AM

RJ

“ so sorry for your loss Jeff and Family she was always such a sweet Lady

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**randy johnson** - June 20, 2021 at 11:09 AM

SB

“ My condolences to Jeff and everyone in the family. Remember all the good times.

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**Steve Bohleber** - June 20, 2021 at 08:56 AM

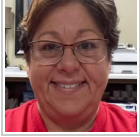


“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Leanne Happe.



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June 20, 2021 at 12:17 AM



“ When I first met Leanne, she was my B&W tobacco rep. She tried to talk me into joining the team, but I was too chicken to leave my job. She did, however, talk me into working at The Shoe Carnival with her. It was only suppose to be for Christmas, but I ended up being there for 3 years. I believe we spent our paychecks there on shoes! Later on, we both worked for Nabisco as merchandisers. Once a year we would drive to N.Y. to spend a week with my dad. Boy did he LOVE her! After we each go married, and I moved away, we didn't get to see each other much. I missed her. I missed our friendship. I haven't had another one like it. We always talked about having lunch one day in Evansville. Sadly, we only made it once in all the years. My daughter has a friend named LeeAnn. When we talk about some of the things I did before I got married, I always say MY Leanne. I hope hers brings as much joy to her life as MY Leanne did. Prayers for comfort to Jeff, Betsy, Maddie, and her extended family.

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**Christel Zoglmann** - June 19, 2021 at 07:07 PM

SD

“ 10 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Sheila Dale** - June 19, 2021 at 05:56 PM

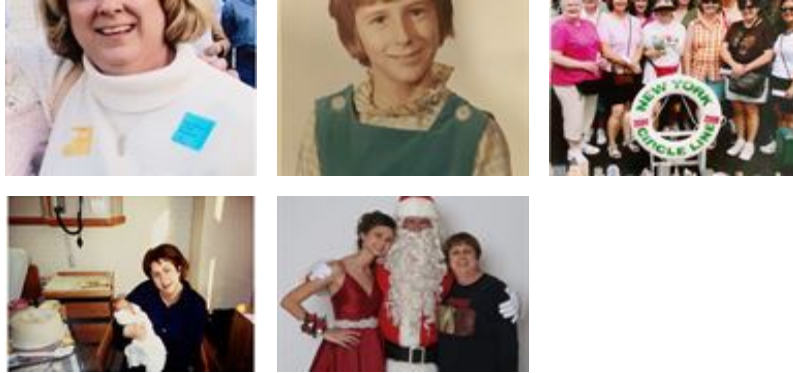
SD

*Oh, how I'm going to miss you, Leanne! Rest in peace, dear friend. Happy Trails!!!*

Sheila Dale - June 19, 2021 at 06:08 PM



“ 189 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pierre Funeral Home - June 19, 2021 at 05:09 PM

MK

“ *Leanne was my B&W rep for it seemed like years, it wasn't business most of the time we would talk about families and what was going on with her. I don't think she ever met a stranger. My sincere sympathies for her family 🙏🙏🙏*

Mary Knepper - June 19, 2021 at 01:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leanne Happe.*



June 19, 2021 at 11:55 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leanne Happe.*



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June 19, 2021 at 11:48 AM



“ *So sorry to hear this news. Leanne and I were pretty close back in high school. What a wonderful friend she was. We went separate ways after high school but I will always cherish those moments with her. My condolences to her family and friends. She will truly be missed.*

*Curt Hooper*

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**Curt Hooper** - June 19, 2021 at 08:05 AM



“ *We shall always remember Leanne generosity and great cooking at the Lake. Our love goes out to Jeff and the girls 🥺🥺🥺🥺*

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**Phillip an Toni Ann Gross** - June 18, 2021 at 10:30 PM



“ *Prayers for comfort during this time of sorrow.*

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**Kevin and Nancy Nelson** - June 18, 2021 at 09:50 PM

PF

“ Philip and Donna(Cook) Feazel purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Leanne Happe.



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**Philip and Donna(Cook) Feazel** - June 18, 2021 at 09:26 PM

PC

“ Meeting Leanne was a blessing. She was just special. I am sure God was prepared for her. She will stay busy helping others as she did on earth.

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**Pam Cheaney** - June 18, 2021 at 07:25 PM

DW

“ Leanne was amazing, she was sweet, caring and funny. I met her on one of my jobs and always looked forward to seeing her when she came in. She will light up Heaven like she lit up the lives of everyone she met. Heaven has a sweet, beautiful new angel.

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**Darla Woolsey** - June 18, 2021 at 04:48 PM