



Desra J Day

January 18, 1984 - April 3, 2024

Desra J Day, 40 years young, began her journey homeward on Wednesday, April 3, 2024. She is survived by her loving parents, Charles Day, Tawni Barnes and step-dad, Mark Barnes; grandmother of 91 years, Frances Day; her brothers Todd Day and Joshua Yorgen (Tiffany Cook); her sister, Aimee (Jason) Kishell; and step-sisters, Lauren, Katherine and Megan Barnes; and beloved nephews and nieces, Lanie and Annie Yorgen, Cameron and Kylie Day, Elliott and Everly Kishell.

Desra was born in Beech Grove, IN on a blustery cold night on January 18, 1984. She grew up on the south side of Indianapolis and attended Central Catholic Grade School. She graduated from Franklin Township High School in 2002 and furthered her education at IVY Tech to prepare her for the working world ahead.

During her childhood years, Desra enjoyed dance, tap and ballet, and performed at various venues. Throughout her school years, she loved playing the flute and was first chair in the school band. She attended Community Church of Southport and was involved in the youth group going on several mission trips to help with Vacation Bible School for children in impoverished areas. Desra had a huge heart for children, feeding the homeless, and for broken souls.

Desra was employed at GEMMS Corp, a medical software developer in Carmel IN, where she served as a Diagnostic Report Specialist/Software Interface Manager for seven years. She excelled in her position but felt another calling. Changing course, Desra headed to the seas where she began a career in yachting as a stewardess. For many years she traveled extensively throughout the Caribbean islands, loving the sea, serving the guests, and exploring the islands. Thereafter, she helped manage Quarry Lake Campground, Fillmore, IN. She loved nature, caring for people and nurturing life. Desra's final assignment was at Orange Blossom Opry, Weirsdale, FL. As a server, she loved the hustle, the smiles and friendships she found there.

Desra traveled the world, mostly solo. She enjoyed meeting local people, loved scuba diving in the Caribbean reefs, hiking through Ecuador, kayaking on quiet rivers, riding camelback in Morocco, safaris in Africa, sky diving, zip lining across the night sky, and backpacking anywhere with her hammock. She loved authentic dishes and traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland for a class in British cuisines. She was a vivid storyteller and could draw you into her adventures as if you were there. She was an example to us all with her endless courage, warm friendship, and free spirit.

Desra experienced far more in 40 years than most do in a lifetime. She wanted to capture and embrace as much as she possibly could in her given time. Likewise, she could sit, relax and just enjoy the solitude of the moment, appreciating life around her. She leaves a trail of friends across the world who were touched by her smile, her kindness and her love. We will all miss her, but she can still be found. Look for her in a beautiful sunset across the waters, she'll be there.

There were so many things about Desra I'm sure we've left out. Please let us know about your special times with her. We would all love to hear about it. A

celebration of life will be held in the near future and will be announced.

Desra's wishes were to be cremated and have her ashes scattered in the beautiful places she loved. Thank you to her friends and family for loving her and sharing this adventure with her called "Life".

Quotes from Desra's Facebook page:

"A person's most useful asset is not a head full of knowledge, but a heart full of love, an ear ready to listen and a hand willing to help others."

"Life is worth much more than gold."

"Be kind."

"God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death shall be no more, neither shall there be anguish, nor grief nor pain any more, for the old conditions and the former order of things have passed away. And He Who is seated on the throne said, See! I make all things new."

Revelation 21:4-5a

"Peace I leave you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid."

John 14:27

"And the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it."

Ecclesiastes 12:7

Thank you, Father, for the precious gift of Desra.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for a future date.

In lieu of flowers, please give something you no longer need to someone who does. "Pass it On"

-Des-

Tribute Wall

TA

“ 21 files added to the album *Desra Dominican Republic 2010*



Tawni - June 10, 2025 at 01:10 PM

TA

I think we all knew Desra as a tree hugger!

Tawni - June 10, 2025 at 01:21 PM

TA

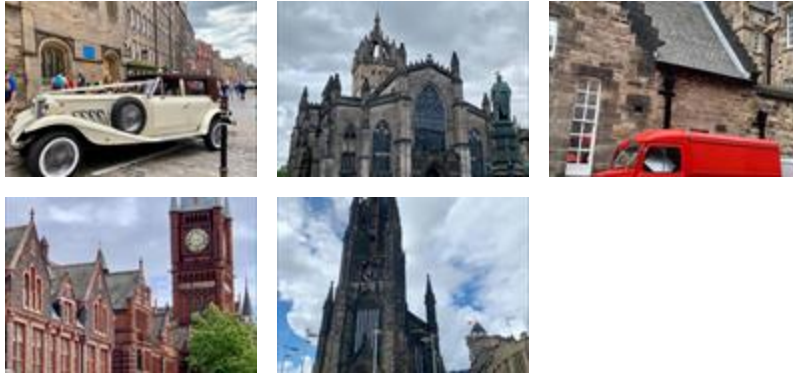
“ 26 files added to the album *Desra Costa Rica 2011*



Tawni - June 10, 2025 at 12:45 PM

TA

“ 32 files added to the album *Desra's Scotland Cooking Class 2019*



Tawni - June 10, 2025 at 12:34 PM

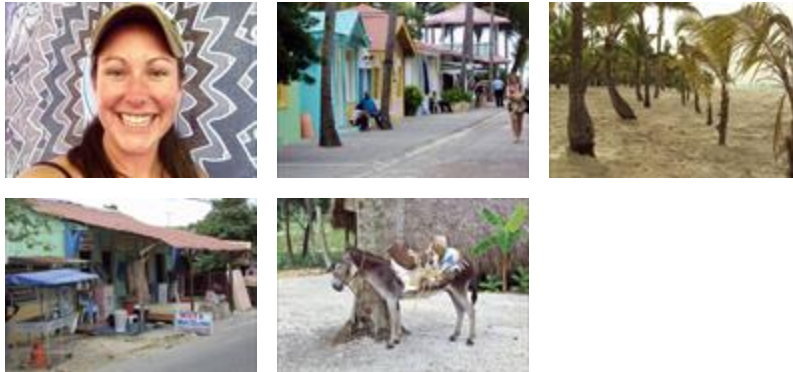
TA

Desra took a month long cooking class in Edinburgh, Scotland. I remember her commenting about how clean their foods were, with no GMO's, not like the US. Desra's great grandmother, Edith Ferguson, from her mother's side, was Scottish.

Tawni - June 10, 2025 at 01:21 PM

TA

“ 14 files added to the album *Memories of Desra*



Tawni - June 10, 2025 at 12:25 PM

RB

“ I am overcome with sadness that our last visit together was our last. It was too long ago. I feel like it was left undone. We didn't get to finish. Desra came and went like the tides, and I always looked forward to her visits and to hear about her adventures. She was a self-proclaimed vagabond, and I admired that about her. She was free. She possessed a natural beauty. We made an instant friendship chatting each other up on a beach. We made memories whenever she made it to my area. It was always a blast. She showed me how to relax, and she taught me many things - she gifted me some introspection here and there and for that I am forever grateful. Her perspective was different and refreshing to me. She was thoughtful and kind. She traveled light and made do with what was there. She improved any space she was in. She brought a light and airy fun vibe with her. Her laughs and smiles were infectious. She was lovely, and I am happy to have known her. I will miss our fish dip, dancing under the moon, day trips to the beach, tubing, chatting, hot tubbing, relaxing, admiring the beauty of the earth, and just having a beautiful friend. I cherish our memories, and always will. She is sorely missed, and I will never forget her. I pray she has peace in soul now. I love you sister - now and forever



Ryann Bruno - May 20, 2024 at 11:38 AM

AM

“ Dera, you meant so much to us. I'll kayak for us. My heart is broken, but I'll be looking for signs that you're at peace. You are forever my soul sister!



Angela Mosteller - May 19, 2024 at 12:24 PM

BK

“ Desra, Mike and I are so thankful for the times we visited you and your Dad down in Florida. To see your beautiful flowers and garden. You have always amazed me on all of your adventures and talents. If there was something you wanted to learn, you went on good old you tube and taught yourself things and accepted any new challenges with open arms. You have always been a very special young lady and we all love and miss you very much. Love Aunt Beth & Uncle Mike

Beth King - April 23, 2024 at 06:38 PM

AD

“ Desra, I loved your cranberried pecans and will make in the future thinking of you. Wish I would have got to ask you how to make the biscuits and gravy. They were so good! Was so nice last time I saw you showing me around your garden. I will miss seeing you when we visit Florida. Love you, precious lady!!!

Alicia Day - April 22, 2024 at 03:26 PM

JD

“ Desra, I can't tell you how much you will be missed. You will forever be my favorite niece with a heart of gold 🧡 fly high with those new wings! Love you always .

John Day - April 22, 2024 at 03:22 PM

LD

“ Desra, though we only met once, that day was special. You treated me like we had known each other for years! You definitely have a special heart and will be missed by all! I'm glad I had that chance to get to meet you! ☐

Lizzie Day - April 20, 2024 at 02:10 PM

TD

“ Rest easy sis. You will be dearly missed by us all. We love you!!



Todd, Cameron and Kylie Day - April 18, 2024 at 04:51 PM

JC

“ Desra and I met at Connors when we were there to see a mutual friends band play. She was standing next to me and I asked her at random if she'd share a basket of fried cheese balls with me. We've been friends ever since.

Her toenails always painted so pretty; she had the cutest feet. We'd laugh about how she could go days without a "proper shower" yet she never had body odor.

Desra was an excellent cook, and had an incredible garden. She connected to Spirit through nature. Hummingbirds would fly around her fearlessly when she put the feeders up.

Desra trusted me; we had an honesty between us. Shared values. She was a healer, a nurturer, an adventurer, a tremendous steward in life and her courage could not be rivaled. To her, Love was an action, not just a feeling.

I miss the way she'd close her eyes when she'd sway back and forth, and get lost in the music..... And that laugh.

She was my sanctuary and I was honored on the occasions that I was able to be hers; it felt like home wherever we were.

Porch time was some of my favorite time with her... porch coffee, porch drinks, porch talks. I hold her in my heart always, and think of her while having coffee on the porch in the mornings.

I hope to honor her by continuing her legacy of kindness and stewardship, seeking to spread joy and embrace adventure.

My beloved friend.

Jeanne Clark - April 16, 2024 at 01:16 PM

JC

It's the small details, the little things, the sweet uncontrived moments I miss the most.

Jeanne Clark - April 17, 2024 at 09:16 AM

LA

Thank you so much for sharing this, Jeanne. Really helped me find some peace this morning. ❤️

lanie - April 17, 2024 at 10:06 AM

KH

“ Desra was my wingwoman more than once. We got to have many long talks when she lived with me for a bit in 2015. She once told me “Be proud of the tiger stripes, they show you have lived”. Sending thoughts of peace to her friends and family.



Kelsey Hauth - April 16, 2024 at 12:01 PM

LM

“ Found this picture of the lovely ladies from my archive



Lezza Mignery - April 15, 2024 at 07:13 PM

CZ

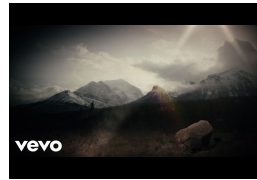
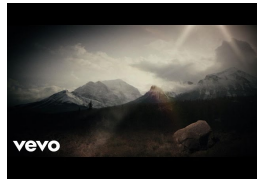
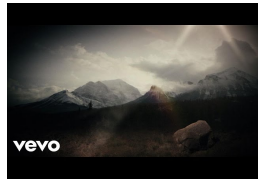
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Casey Zeigler - April 14, 2024 at 07:37 PM

LM

“ 3 files added to the album Memories of Desra



Lezza Mignery - April 13, 2024 at 12:43 PM

LM

“ Lezza Mignery lit a candle in memory of Desra J Day



Lezza Mignery - April 13, 2024 at 12:37 PM

LM

“ Desra...I always loved your adventure stories and also very very jealous of all the beautiful places you got to go. I told everyone I knew about you as well...all were fascinated...just mind blowing of the time you spent on this earth. RIP...Say hello to heaven for me.

Lezza Mignery - April 13, 2024 at 12:36 PM

EI

“ I went to the OBO last night and it felt strange that you weren't there. Your picture is there with your friends from the cafe. You were always nice and always smiling. The last time I saw you, you let my brother have the last pretzel because you thought it might be too hard to sell. He was really happy about that. I saw this picture of you on Facebook and I thought it was really pretty and I thought your friends might like to see it too. I will miss seeing you! Love, Eillen



Eillen - April 13, 2024 at 08:42 AM

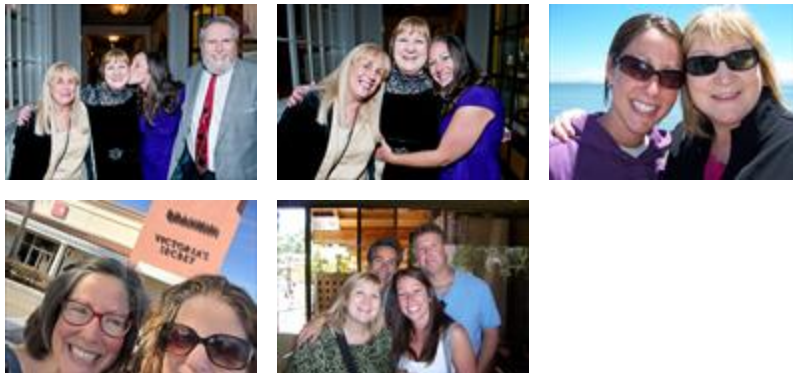
GP

“ My heart goes out to you, Tawni, as well as Mark and your family. Your daughter sounds so much like you in spirit! I doubt that we can totally understand the depths of your grief in losing a child. Please know that we are thinking of you.

Gale Passman - April 12, 2024 at 02:44 PM

VL

“ 10 files added to the album Memories of Desra



Veronica LaBeau - April 12, 2024 at 01:48 PM

VL

Desra was a true force of nature and inspired all who knew her! She was a testimony to living life to its fullest! Desra was a rock star in all her endeavors. She shared her love, humor, joy and skills with all her family and worldwide friends!

I have known her most of her life, shared in some of her adventures, feel incredibly privileged to have been part of her family circle and especially shared in her Love! She is a constant reminder that it is not how we depart but how we lived and loved!!!

I will forever hold you in my heart!

Veronica LaBeau - April 12, 2024 at 02:22 PM

VL

I am so sorry for your loss Chuck and Tawny. I am keeping you and your families in my prayers and always in my heart!

Veronica LaBeau - April 12, 2024 at 03:21 PM



“ *Oh Desra! You were such a bright spot in my life. I was always so excited when you were in town and needed your dental check up. Lucky for me I set my own schedule and could allow extra time because we had things to catch up on and discuss! I loved your brightness and your courage to go out of the norm. You comforted me when I had concerns about my daughter (just a few days older than you!) You gave me your wisdom! Gosh girl, you were so loved.*
~Mary Anne

Mary Anne Litwicki - April 12, 2024 at 09:08 AM



“ *Desra made me the BEST homemade biscuits and gravy I’ve ever had. It was delicious :-)*

Also, the first time I went skydiving, she was with Jeanne and I. That was a great memory :-)

Desra, you will be missed ❤️

Mark Meyers - April 11, 2024 at 10:31 PM



“ *I’m so sad I never got to meet this beautiful soul. And share some of the gifts that God gave to her!*

Lynne lohner - April 11, 2024 at 09:03 PM