



Lisa Anne Downey

April 3, 1964 - April 10, 2024

DOWNEY, Lisa, A., April 10, 2024 Age 60. Beloved daughter of Mary and the late Donald Downey. Dear sister of Kathy (Sal) Presti and Mike (Dori) Downey. Loving aunt of Meagan Presti, Sarah Presti, Ryan Downey, Alexa Downey, and Brendan Downey. Lisa was a long time teacher, softball and basketball coach at L'Anse Creuse High School.

Lisa's impact extended far beyond her immediate circle; her influence rippled through communities and institutions. She was a mentor, a teacher, a confidant, a cheerleader, and a friend.

As a coach, she molded champions, instilling in them not just skills, but also resilience and sportsmanship. Her classroom was a sanctuary of knowledge and inspiration, where students found not only lessons in textbooks but also in life. Her dedication to her family was unwavering, her love a beacon in their darkest hours. And Michigan football? It wasn't just a team to her; it was a passion that ignited her spirit.

Her laughter echoed through countless memories. She pursued her dreams with a fervor that inspired those around her to reach for their own stars. In the face of adversity, she stood firm, a pillar of strength that weathered life's storms.

Lisa's departure leaves a void impossible to fill, but her legacy shines on in the lives she touched. In moments of doubt, her words echo: POISE, CONFIDENCE, INTENSITY. They are not just reminders; they are a testament to the essence of her being.

Lisa's spirit marches on with us, urging us to embrace life with the same gusto and determination that defined her existence. She is truly someone you come across once in a lifetime.

Forever Go Blue and Go Lancers!

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Lisa Downey Memorial Athletic Scholarship L'Anse Creuse High School. Please make checks payable to L'Anse Creuse High School Attn: Lisa Downey Memorial and mail to L'Anse Creuse High School, 38495 L'Anse Creuse Rd, Harrison Township, MI 48045.

Visitation Saturday 3-9pm and Sunday 2-8pm at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons, 36900 Schoenherr at Metro Parkway (16 Mile Rd.) Funeral Monday instate 9:30am at St. Paul of Tarsus Catholic Church, 41300 Romeo Plank at Canal until time of Mass 10am. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Share memories with the family at their "On-Line Guest Book" @ WujekCalcaterra.com.

Cemetery Details

Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **13**. 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling
36900 SCHOENHERR RD
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Visitation

APR **14**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wujek - Calcaterra & Sons Inc - Sterling
36900 SCHOENHERR RD
Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Instate / Funeral Mass

APR **15**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul of Tarsus
41300 Romeo Plank Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Tribute Wall



“ I just heard the terrible news of Lisa's passing. We are her Big House, Section 6 family. We have shared football Saturdays for decades. It was such a joy to spend Michigan games together! She was so much fun. She knew my parents, my brother and I, and now our kids as we all grew up in those seats. I've learned here about all of the other amazing things she did in life. This is a devastating loss. Please know all of the family is in our thoughts and prayers. Forever Go Blue Lisa. You will be missed! Karen, Dave and family

Karen Stetson - April 17, 2024 at 01:25 PM

“ When I read the news that Lisa had passed away, I was completely devastated. The only thing I could think to do was write down and share some of my memories with Lisa.

Mickey Redmond,

The first time I went out with Lisa was an icebreaker date with Arlene and Mickey Redmond. I didn't know it at the time because Leslie and Arlene didn't tell us. Lisa knew right away though. It was a very nice night and at the end of the evening I was hinting around that I would like to go out again. I don't remember exactly what Lisa said but it was something like "you seem like a nice guy do you know that's Mickey Redmond?" Now there's something you need to know about Lisa. Ever since Lisa was a little girl, she had been practicing announcing hockey games just like Mickey Redmond, her idol. Lisa was just thrilled to be out with the real Mickey Redmond, but I wasn't certain I was going to get a second date. Luckily for me I did get a second date. By the way, Mickey Redmond is the nicest person you would ever want to meet.

First Date,

For my first real date with Lisa, Lisa wasn't quite ready, so her dad invited me to play a game of pool. We were having a competitive game and just by a fluke I won the game with my last shot, I had wasted a lot of time in college playing pool. Lisa was more than a little annoyed with me saying "didn't you know to let him win". Not a good move on my part for a first date. Every time I came to see Lisa after that I had to play a game of pool with her dad. I don't believe I ever won a second game even though I tried. I enjoyed every minute of that time with Lisa's family.

Our Lady Queen of Peace (QP)

After a few dates Lisa put me to work filming her games. This was great for me because I got to spend so much more time with Lisa. I got conflicting filming instructions from her dad, but it quickly became clear whose instructions were to be followed. Soon after we started having team parties at my house. These are some of my

fondest memories with Lisa, doing what she did best. All the girls got the biggest kick out of painting my face and the evenings where nonstop fun for everyone. My house was close enough to QP that the boy's road their bikes there and played ding dong ditch. Lisa caught them right away and knew who every one of them were, telling them they were in big trouble and that Sunday they were.

The Squirrel,

One time I was traveling on a business trip, and I got a call from Lisa saying that someone broke into the house and just knocked all the things off the fireplace mantel. She said the intruder did nothing else. I got home pretty soon after the call and we started investigating. It was soon clear that a squirrel had fallen down the chimney trying to get warm. We looked hard for the squirrel but couldn't find it. I was very tired from traveling and insisted that the squirrel must have had gotten back out. Lisa was not convinced. She told me that she wasn't going to stay in a house with a squirrel and she went to her mother's. The next morning, I heard the squirrel running around downstairs. It wasn't the first or the last time that I was completely wrong. I got the squirrel out of the house and called Lisa to tell her it was safe to come home. I had to tell her every detail of how I got the squirrel out of the house before she would come home. Everyone loves this story about Lisa, and I tell it all the time.

I could go on with many more stories, L'Anse Creuse volleyball parties ..., but I'll stop here. I am currently teaching and if I impact only one percent of the students that Lisa did, I will be the best teacher in our school. I always felt that Lisa made all the stars around her shine. The time that Lisa and I were together, were some of the best days of my life. I think of her often and hope to see her again.

DP

“ *RIP Downey.*”



Deb Potter - April 14, 2024 at 08:44 AM

TK

“ Lisa Downey

When i heard the news i was heartbroken and soon after the angels came... coach downey was not only my teacher or my coach but she was like a second mom me and her became so close through out the years i could call her and talk to her about any and everything. She made me become a stronger person and always told me i'm going to be a great mom.

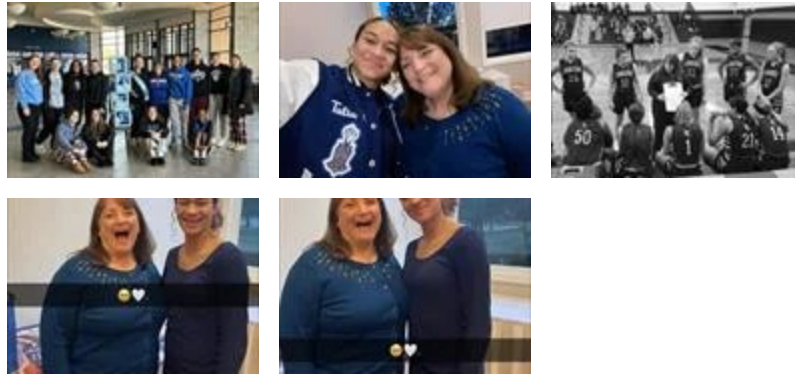
I'm so honored i got to coach her last basketball season with her and will forever be thankful i knew this amazing lady. She was so wise so selfless and an all around great person. She was the strongest woman i knew, and she went through many things in life and you would never know. she protected everyone and anyone. she loved her family and could talk about them for days... even though her stories were long if you really listened they were always for a reason she was so wise. if i could listen to one of her stories one more time i'd wish it would never end. I could go on an on about this woman she made my highschool experience so fun seeing her for practice , in the hall way at school ,seeing her support my sports taking the time out her day to talk to me helping me with school she more than a coach. Even tho she didn't have kids of her own anyoene who has ever played for her knows how much she treated us like her own.

Thank you for always being by my side thank you for taking care of me when i told you i was pregnant and telling me that god made it happen for a reason you lifted me up everyday and i loved our conversations id trust you with my life You made my first pregnancy amazing when i cried and cried you were always there to talk or give me a hug i love you so much coach downey thank you.

i'd never forget your famous saying in our game huddles #ifykyk



*she loved her dog riley so much and so do we ☐!
my condolences to her family she loved you all so much and was so
proud of you!*



Talia Krause - April 14, 2024 at 08:30 AM

LL

“ *Lakisha L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lisa Anne Downey.*

Lakisha L. - April 14, 2024 at 12:40 AM

MF

“ *Poise. Confidence. Intensity.*



Megan Fedolak - April 13, 2024 at 09:17 PM

KW

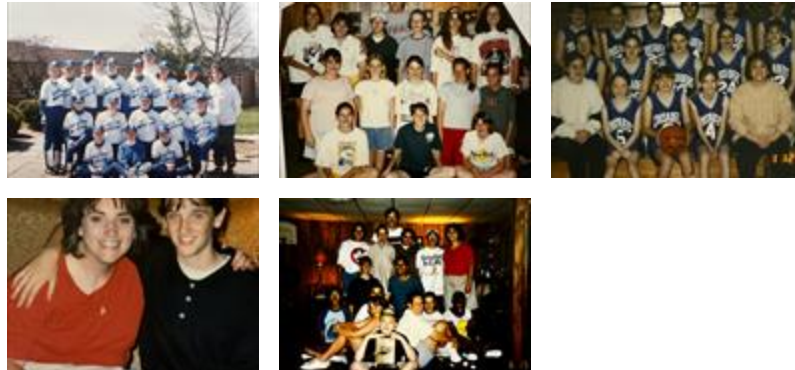
“ coach downey was by far with no way of any competition the best coach i have ever had and will ever have. If you had the chance to meet her you would know how much of a hard working and devoted woman she was. With her it didn't matter if you were family, a player, a student, or even a complete stranger she would do anything for anyone if they asked her. I never asked her to do what she did for me and i never could of asked. She devoted her hole life to help others. And this world is beyond blessed to have had a soul as pure and bright as hers was. My she rest easy and till we meet again. i love you



kaylene wirick - April 13, 2024 at 01:34 PM

SA

“ 7 files added to the album Queen of Peace



Sabrina - April 13, 2024 at 01:28 PM

SA

Coach.



My mom and dad planted the seeds to be sure, but Coach was the sun and she watered too.

She coached me and my best friends in CYO basketball and softball at Queen of Peace, 1995-1997. I have countless memories of us at the gym and on the diamond. Learning how to hold a bat and shoot a basketball. Learning to be aggressive, while being a good teammate. Since the fall of 1995 I've hardly entered a gym or picked up a ball without thinking of her. This week she left us far too soon.

Don't bring excuses, she had no time for them. If you're not five minutes early, you're late. Play with poise. It's been over 25 years since I played for her, but I can always hear her voice and see her mannerisms as if it was yesterday.

I coached two seasons of little league softball—I gave 100%, hoping the girls would end the season learning at least one thing having loved playing a sport that was everything to me—all the while thinking I could never be half the coach she was but hoping that maybe I could pay forward her enthusiasm and wisdom.

She will continue to inspire and motivate as her players and students continue to live and play and pay it forward as she taught us.



The last time I saw her she was on her way to Michigan football's home opener—hustling to get there for the tailgate with her family. We were hustling to get Johanna to her first soccer tournament of the season (the whole if not five minutes early notion weighting on me), but she and we stopped long enough for her to give Johanna a pep talk.

Win every one on one. Do not give up. Play with confidence.

I will hold that moment very close to my heart.



Coach loved quotes. I do too. She would tell us in John Wooden's words: the true test of character is what a person does when no one is watching (so stop cutting corners on warm-up laps).

Now she'll always be watching. A row of four icons: a blue heart, a basketball, a softball, and a small square.

Sabrina - April 13, 2024 at 01:32 PM

JC

“ I'll never forget the years I put in coaching at Our Lady Queen of Peace and L'anse Cruse with Lisa. With Lisa it was team spirit first and sharing memories while making sure we all got a positive experience when it comes to living life to the fullest! We can all vault with the positive Lisa portrayed. GO BLUE!

Jeff Cetlinski - April 13, 2024 at 09:04 AM

ML

“ I officiated and coached against Lisa. She was all aces. I am heartbroken that she has passed. Godspeed to her and her family

Mike Lombard - April 12, 2024 at 09:09 PM

NC

“ Natalie Clever lit a candle in memory of Lisa Anne Downey



Natalie Clever - April 12, 2024 at 08:21 PM

LI

“ i'll never forget you Coach Downey you were one of a kind truly. I'm so lucky to have known you and cherish every moment we had together. You made softball the best moments of my life and you will always be remembered. You were always more than a coach and I hope you rest easy.

lilly - April 12, 2024 at 07:17 PM

DF

“ Downing Family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Lisa Anne Downey.



Downing Family - April 12, 2024 at 04:55 PM

DF

“ Downing Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lisa Anne Downey.

Downing Family - April 12, 2024 at 04:55 PM

AP

“ Adrienne Buccellato & Courtney Powerski purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Lisa Anne Downey.



Adrienne Buccellato & Courtney Powerski - April 12, 2024 at 03:47 PM

AP

“ Adrienne Buccellato & Courtney Powerski planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lisa Anne Downey.

Adrienne Buccellato & Courtney Powerski - April 12, 2024 at 03:47 PM

SF

“ Sincerely, The Bylciw Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lisa Anne Downey.



Sincerely, The Bylciw Family - April 12, 2024 at 02:13 PM

SF

“ Sincerely, The Bylciw Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lisa Anne Downey.

Sincerely, The Bylciw Family - April 12, 2024 at 02:13 PM

BN

“ 1 file added to the album LC Softball



Brooke Nadolny - April 12, 2024 at 11:01 AM

SS

“ Sam (Manzo) and Brandon Sabornido purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Lisa Anne Downey.



Sam (Manzo) and Brandon Sabornido - April 12, 2024 at 10:58 AM

BN

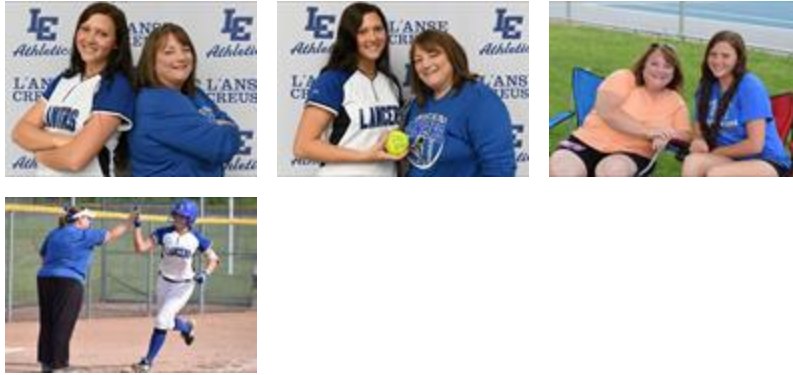
“ Brooke Nadolny lit a candle in memory of Lisa Anne Downey



Brooke Nadolny - April 12, 2024 at 10:45 AM

BN

“ 4 files added to the album LC Softball



Brooke Nadolny - April 12, 2024 at 10:42 AM

KK

“ Downey Family,
Our thoughts & prayers are with you all during this difficult time. Lisa will always be remembered for her passion, dedication and the impact she made with her teams for softball, basketball and the community. May her spirit and her legacy to continue to inspire us all. Our deepest condolences to everyone affected by her loss. Our hearts are broken & she will forever be looking over us. She will be missed..... Hugs & love from Kerri Kelly Regina High School Softball & Basketball Teams...

Kerri Kelly - April 12, 2024 at 10:19 AM

AW

“ Dear Downey Family,

My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. Lisa was a true ambassador for High School Athletics, and also as a teacher. Her teams at L'Anse Creuse High School were always disciplined and well coached. I met her two years ago, when I was doing my Athletic Director internship at Cousino High School, and her Girls Varsity Basketball team was playing at Cousino. She was a great coach, but even a better person, too, and that's why she is in the Macomb County Coaches Hall of Fame.

Adam Waller - April 12, 2024 at 09:35 AM

LA

“ L'Anse Creuse Education Association purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Lisa Anne Downey.





L'Anse Creuse Education Association - April 12, 2024 at 09:22 AM

MC

“ Lisa will always embody the meaning of passionate. Many prayers, and sincere condolences to Lisa's family, friends and students.
Marjeanne (Auty) Camp

Marjeanne Camp - April 12, 2024 at 09:15 AM

RP

“ Coach downey was by far the best coach i have ever had in my life, she inspired me every single day to do my best and she always believed in me more than i believed in my self i am so beyond lucky to have had her as my coach. I will forever play in her honor and im so happy that i had the opportunity to be on her team and experience the Lancer culture.  



rylee payne - April 12, 2024 at 08:02 AM

DM

“ Lisa was my softball and basketball coach at Queen of Peace. She was a tough coach, I didn't realize the discipline she was actually instilling in me at the time. She taught me you have to work hard for what you want. Her passion and love for both games was apparent. By far the best coach I ever had growing up! Many prayers of comfort for her family!

Dawn Marcacci - April 11, 2024 at 11:05 PM

TE

“ Ms.Downey was my economics teacher and one of my coaches for basketball. i wasn't directly on her team but she made me along with other athletes feel like we were. During my freshman year she pulled me aside to tell me she sees so much potential in me and wanted me to play for her program. She never made me feel like i couldn't do something, she always pushed so many people into getting out of their comfort zone. she was such a hard working, wise and driven person and will forever be missed.  

TaMya E. - April 11, 2024 at 10:02 PM



SL

“ Rest in peace Coach Downey. Sincere condolences to the Downey Family

Sally & Evan Lehto

Sally & Evan Lehto - April 11, 2024 at 09:22 PM

EM

“ Ms. Downey was my economics teacher my senior year, since I was the oldest she called me student teacher. She always told me not to stress out and to enjoy the moment. I worked hand in hand with her when it came to pep assemblies, I wrote the scripts she was the emcee. She always made sure everyone's voice was heard and built everyone's confidence. She always had the best stories to tell and I will forever remember the impact she had on my life. Ms. Downey's smile and place at Lancer Country will never be forgotten. Rest Easy Ms. Downey, you will always be loved  

Emmalina Matti - April 11, 2024 at 07:41 PM

JL

“ I have known Lisa for over 30 years. I reffed many of her basketball games. I always knew I had to bring my “A” game to the gym when I reffed her games. She was a passionate, caring coach. This world will miss her. Jim Lewis

Jim Lewis - April 11, 2024 at 06:38 PM

KS

“ I never had her as a teacher or a coach when I was in high school but I will always remember her as a friend and mentor to so many students and players. My deepest sympathies and prayers go out to her family and everyone who knew and worked with her

Kerri Saikin - April 11, 2024 at 06:13 PM



“ My heart goes out to Lisa's family. She was a wonderful person and my life was enriched by the time I spent coaching with her at Mercy. She had a wonderful sense of humor and was passionate about sports.

Laurence Baker - April 11, 2024 at 06:10 PM

RZ

“ Kathy and Sal, I'm so sorry for the loss of your sister. She had a huge heart and shared it with everyone she met. She has truly earned her place in Paradise.

-Rose Riesterer

Rosemarie Riesterer Zook - April 11, 2024 at 04:48 PM

SS

“ I played basketball at Mercy Hugh School during the late 90s when Coach Downey was a coach there. Although she was never actually my coach, she always felt like one. I had enormous respect for her as a woman and a coach. She cared so much about her players, and in return, you wanted to win for her. Not every coach has that impact on their players. We also were both daughters who had special bonds with our dads. I remember her speaking so highly of her dad, and her entire family. My heart and prayers go out to Coach Downey's family, her loved ones, the players she coached, and everyone whose lives she touched.

Susie (Roble) Soehnchen - April 11, 2024 at 04:38 PM

JV

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I was very surprised to hear the sad news. I worked with Lisa at the bank years ago and we realized that we were both graduates of Bishop Gallagher. Lisa talked extensively about coaching and how much she loved what she did.

Janet VanDeVelde - April 11, 2024 at 04:20 PM

TF

“ *The McIntosh Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Lisa Anne Downey.*



The McIntosh Family - April 11, 2024 at 03:47 PM

TF

“ *The McIntosh Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lisa Anne Downey.*

The McIntosh Family - April 11, 2024 at 03:47 PM