



Laretta Lee Stephens

June 2, 1965 - November 16, 2020

Laretta Lee Moritz Stephens, 55, of Lone Wolf, Oklahoma, passed away unexpectedly on November 16th, 2020. She was born June 2, 1965 in Florence, Alabama to parents Robert and Shirley Moritz. She grew up as a preacher's daughter in Tuscumbia, Alabama where she attended Deshler High School. She also attended Loraine County Community College where she obtained her Associate's Degree, and continued her education at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. It was there that she completed flight crew training and discovered a life-long love of flying and travel. She would go on to have a seventeen-year long career with Republic and Northwest Airlines. She stood out in her time there as a stellar employee and was often recognized for her exemplary performance with special awards. In 1995, she won both the President's Award and the Caring Award (a first in the company's history) for going above and beyond in her efforts to save a passenger's life. She was often chosen for select assignments due to her extraordinary ability to connect with those she encountered. During her time with Northwest Airlines, she worked with the White House press, multiple NBA, NHL, and MBL teams, and the Tennessee Titans. She also committed herself to many humanitarian causes, volunteering over the years with CASA and even traveling to Peru to spend time helping a local orphanage. She loved traveling the world and experiencing a variety of cultures. Most importantly, she was a devoted mother to her four children. She always stood out in a crowd, not only because of her physical beauty, but for her charisma, warmth, and sharp wit.

She was someone who spoke up and advocated for those that could not do so for themselves. In recent years, nothing brought her more joy than her grandchildren and she looked most comfortable with a baby in her arms. Laretta is survived by her husband, Jon Stephens, her daughters, Mary Catherine (Chris) Ferrell and Chelsea (Blake) Mitchell, her sons, Kyle (Desi) Crisler and Jackson Stephens, her mother, Shirley Moritz, her siblings Phyllis Jones and Sharon Tipping, and her six grandchildren, Luke Ferrell, Addison Mitchell, Tegan Mitchell, Alexander Crisler, Iris Ferrell, and Lucile Crisler. Laretta is preceded in death by her father, Robert F. Moritz.

Graveside Services for Laretta are scheduled for Friday, November 20, 2020 at 10:00 A.M., Lone Wolf Cemetery with Pastor Jim Riley officiating. Visitation will be Thursday, November 19, 2020 at Peoples Cooperative Funeral Home from 5-8.

On-line condolences for Laretta can be made by visiting www.peoplescooperativefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Lauretta Lee Stephens*

October 08, 2023 at 02:10 PM



“ *Lauretta Lee Stephens*

October 04, 2023 at 11:28 PM



“ *I JUST found out and tears were streaming! I flew w Retta at NWA and Jon was my roommate in Memphis. I was in their wedding. So many fun times! Lots of laughs and sometimes sadness. I loved her so much. Beautiful inside and out!! A great mother and wife, and best of all grandmother!! My heart goes out to Jon and her family, and siblings and mom. See u one day my sweet, caring, beautiful friend. I love u!! 🥹🥹*

missy holady - December 10, 2020 at 05:10 AM



“ *Lauretta was one of most beautiful women I have ever met both inside and out. We were new moms about the same time and I loved sharing funny mom stories with her. She was so much fun to fly with and all the passengers just loved her. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. 🙏❤️🙏*

Debbie Depew - November 25, 2020 at 08:17 AM

JA

“ Jon, Wow. I was in shock to her about Laretta. My prayers go out to you and your family. Big hugs and much love. Larreta was one of the most beautiful people I’ve ever met in my life. She had such a warm heart and such a beautiful spirit. I will always remember all the wonderful times we had together . Blessings to you and your family !

Julie Ann Britton - November 23, 2020 at 12:47 PM

ML

“ Jon, My heart is breaking for you and your family. Laretta was so special and so loved by all of her friends. You will carry her love in your heart forever. May it bring you peace. Marilyn Leyva

Marilyn Leyva - November 22, 2020 at 12:53 PM

NZ

“ Jon, my heart breaks for you and your family. Laretta was one of those beauties that looked gorgeous with no makeup and coveralls, but when she got all decked out, she was a head turner. As beautiful as she was on the outside (and she was stunning!), she was even more beautiful on the inside. To me, yours was one of those marriages where you truly seemed to be soulmates, “meant to be together”, which makes your loss of her all the more painful to bear. You and your family are in my prayers for peace and strength...hang on to the many happy and precious memories and I pray you find comfort in them.

Nancy Zirkel

Nancy Zirkel - November 22, 2020 at 12:46 PM

GG

“ Jon, I was so heartbroken to hear of Laretta’s passing. Prayers sent to you and the whole family. There is no denying that y’all were the loves of each other’s lives. Gayle Gendron

Gayle Gendron - November 22, 2020 at 12:06 PM

DD

We are so sorry for your loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
Doug and Jerri Dunn

Doug and Jerri Dunn - November 23, 2020 at 11:03 AM

BE

“ I’ll always remember when Laretta told me she would be my mom. My mother and I were never very close and she will never know how much that comment meant to me ❤️ Although I was so young when we first met her kindness never saw distance or time! Every single time we ran into each other it was like we hadn’t ever said goodbye! I’ll never forget her ever! ❤️



Beth - November 20, 2020 at 01:52 PM

KA

I am so very sorry for your loss. You are all in my prayers during this difficult time.

Kim Antoine - December 09, 2020 at 07:51 PM

LC

“ John, I am so sad for your you and your family.you are in my thoughts and prayers.
Linda cornwell

Linda cornwell - November 20, 2020 at 01:47 PM

PJ

“ I am heartbroken and will miss my baby sister. We have always been close, although we lived miles apart. Retta lived with me briefly when she graduated from flight attendant school and moved to Memphis. I helped her move into her first apartment in Memphis. I pass it occasionally and it brings back all the fun memories. She lived in Memphis until she & Jon moved to their farm in OK. We had so many fun times I could not begin to share them all, nor would I share all the details 😊. We celebrated holidays, birthdays, milestones, our children and were there for each other through any challenge we faced. She planned trips and I would travel on a Buddy pass. She loved to travel more than anyone I know and was the most fun person to travel with! Everyone at the airport & the crew on the plane knew her and loved her. I always felt like I was traveling with a rock star. On my 40th birthday she surprised me with a trip to Grand Cayman. We had so much fun. One of my favorite trips! Our last trip was to the beach with Retta, Sharon & Mom. Retta and I never ended a call or text that I didn't say I love you and she always replied I love you more. I'm grateful for every moment we shared. ❤️



Phyllis Jones - November 20, 2020 at 09:38 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



People’s Cooperative Funeral Home - November 19, 2020 at 06:03 PM



“ 90 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



People’s Cooperative Funeral Home - November 19, 2020 at 04:37 PM



“ *Lauretta, you will be missed. I have so many worlds but nothing sounds right... your love made some of the greatest people I know.*

Anna - November 19, 2020 at 04:10 PM

WM

“ *My deepest and sincere condolences to the friends and family. Mary and I went to Naval bootcamp together and instantly bonded. I knew immediately how dear her mom was to her. My heart is broken for the family. She was always so nice to me. Such a beautiful soul gone way too soon. I love you Mary.*

Walteria Maine - November 19, 2020 at 04:08 PM