



Amy Straus

April 24, 1963 - July 28, 2024

Amy Marie O'Rourke Straus was born on April 24, 1963 and passed away suddenly on July 28, 2024 at the age of 61. She was preceded in death by her best friend in life, husband Doug and leaves behind three cherished sons, Matthew from Jacksonville Florida, Chris from Murfreesboro, Tennessee and Peter and his wife Laura from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

She was preceded in death by her loving parents Betty and William O'Rourke, her sister Marita Bartholome and brother Brian O'Rourke, Father in law Hal Straus and brother in law Rick Neal.

She leaves behind family to cherish her memory, her brother Bill O'Rourke from South Bend, Indiana, her sister Eileen Upton from Overland Park, Kansas her brothers Terry O'Rourke (Mary) from Leawood, Kansas and Kevin O'Rourke (Jan) from Kansas City, Missouri, sister Mary Beth Hodes (Jeff) from Kansas City, Missouri, Sister in-law Erin O'Rourke from Fairway Kansas , her mother in-law Janet Straus and sisters in law Melissa Straus from Overland Park, Kansas and Stephanie Straus Neal from Tucson, Arizona.

She will be deeply missed by her many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and

great nephews whom she loved to follow and always "liked" on social media.

She met the love of her life, Douglas Matthew Straus, working for his parents company, Crabtree & Evelyn. Not only was she a valued member of the Crabtree & Evelyn family, but was very quickly and happily accepted into the Straus family.

As a mother she always supported her 3 boys no matter the situation, always motivated them to be their best, and was the glue that kept her family together during the toughest times of their lives. Her strong will, drive, and motivation will live on through her 3 sons.

Amy showed a love for life daily. She was always helping others in any way she could. Ask her coworkers at any First Watch, Denny's, and Sticky Fingers that she worked with and they would tell you about how she made a cake for every coworkers birthday or special occasion even if was her day off. As a mother to her sons, many at her restaurants, as well as her son's friends, also considered her a mother figure. She was truly selfless and always put others first.

She loved watching the Chiefs and Royals, especially the super bowls and even got a hug from Travis Kelce when the Chiefs were playing the Jacksonville Jaguars and he ate breakfast at her First Watch. She loved listening to Travis and Jason's podcast. She was a true Bravo fan and especially enjoyed Andy Cohen and the real housewives but also liked watching old seasons of her favorite tv shows.

Amy was an advocate for her fellow citizens.

Councilman and other servants of the people will no longer hear her heartfelt concerns for our communities and our country.

She is one of those people that are truly unforgettable and will be greatly missed.

She touched many people through her life evident by all those reaching out during this time of mourning.

A Celebration of Life ceremony for Amy will be held in Leawood, KS on Saturday, September 7th from 1 pm - 4 pm. For additional information please contact Eileen at meupton@comcast.net .

Previous Events

Celebration Of Life

SEP 7. 1:00 PM - 4:00 AM.

Leawood

Tribute Wall



“ Amy is our neighborhood friend. We met when she was walking her beloved dog, Buster. We've sat out here at the round table on so many occasions talking about life and family. She brought us cakes, cookies, brownies...and Margheritas! We laughed together, cried together, played cards together, celebrated together, walked together. I became Buster's dog sitter and even walked him for her at halftime of the Super Bowl in February when she was in Kansas with her family...she called and said I needed to walk him for good luck. She credited this walk to the KC Chiefs' SB win. It seemed a funny thing and we laughed, but right now I'm thankful that I could somehow contribute to her joy the way she contributed to those of us on our street.

I'm heartbroken that I can't watch this Saturday's Jags and Chiefs game with you, Amy. I miss you and even though I said it before, I hope you know I truly love you. Thank you for sharing your friendship with me.

Lisa Root - August 07, 2024 at 12:33 PM



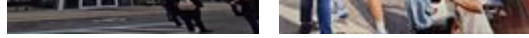
“ Her last Sunday, is a Sunday I will never forget for the rest of my days. Amy was in the best mood, nothing was going wrong for her...she had made so much money that weekend, she was able to bake a cake for Breeona (NutterButter cheesecake) & bringing out that cake for Happy Birthday time was the only time Amy had came into the server alley for anything because she was so busy out front at the bar. She had came into the office at the end of day to recap the day with me like she always did. And she said see ya Wednesday! Which was weird bc those were my Mondays...and normally shed say her next day working and it wasn't the same as mine so we'd go thru until we could get to the day we would work together again. But this time...it matched! And she said "well we will enjoy our days off won't we??" And we both laughed.

Knowing Amy's last 2 days here with us were such a great days for her...makes my heart happy ❤️💛 she deserved nothing less than that. Amy was such an amazing selfless, giving, supportive, happy, more than motherly woman. I never knew her husband..but I felt like I did because of how much love she still had for him and how she still included him in her everyday conversations. The love that her and her husband made for her boys...seems like a love story of the century. And I truly admire her for that kind of love for others, but her family was always above all.

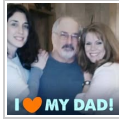
Put your top down to your Bug Ms Amy and let that heavenly sun shine on your face ☀️ I know you're still smiling that big smile...even when you're up to no good lol I'll miss you more than you'll ever know but am so so thankful you came into my life.

Team Riverside will never be the same....but you'll always be in our hearts and on our picture wall!! && I'll make sure Lainy's chalkboard pictures go up!! (&& Thank God I made that Birthday calendar a couple months ago!! 🥺 God knew what he was doing!)





Holly Mason Gunderman - August 05, 2024 at 09:39 AM



I'm her neighbor and wanted you to know she talked about her work family as much as her blood family. We loved her cakes, cookies, and brownies too. Our last time together was about two weeks ago. She came and shared a cupcake from the lady at the laundromat. I'm so grateful for every moment. It did my heart good to read your sweet post.

Lisa Root - August 07, 2024 at 12:37 PM

RL

“ Ms. Amy! When you work in a restaurant with people they very quickly become family and that's how Amy felt to me. She always had a smile and a twinkle of mischief in her eye. She always worked the hardest and taught be a lot about what it takes to make it in the restaurant world. She was incredibly thoughtful and it was impossible to see the love she had for husband and sons. I always told her I wanted a love like them! She was wonderful and I am much better off for being able to have her as my friend. So much love to all of her family.

Rosie Latimer - August 05, 2024 at 08:19 AM

JL

“ Fly High Amy! It was a pleasure working with you all those years. We braved Carowinds together and had many beers 🍺 over the years.. thank you for being such a positive person in my life ❤️

Jody Lewis - August 04, 2024 at 01:35 PM

TB

“ *The Dito Brothers purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Amy Straus.*



The Dito Brothers - August 03, 2024 at 09:53 PM

AL

“ *I worked with Mrs. Amy at first watch in Murfreesboro for years. She quickly became a close friend of mine. We would spend time together outside of work having dinner, attending parties, or just relaxing and chatting about movies and politics. She was a very strong woman and a proud feminist. I remember Amy always baking birthday cakes for everyone at work, and even after we parted ways she would still call every year to sing me happy birthday by phone. She was a very special, fiery, selfless woman. I miss her so much already but I know for a fact that she is with Doug now. And that's all she ever wanted ❤️ rest easy Mrs. Amy. Love you so much.*

alex - August 03, 2024 at 10:07 AM