



Kyla Y. Hartong

October 5, 1967 - August 14, 2015

Hartong, Kyla Y.

Ann Arbor, MI

Formerly of Leawood, KS

Cherished daughter, sister, wife, mother and friend, Kyla, 47, passed away on Friday, August 14, 2015 with family at her bedside. Born October 5, 1967 in Kansas City, KS, the daughter of William A. and Linda Y. (Lewis) Hartong, Kyla married Carl J. Pelofsky on May 25, 1996 in Kansas City, MO. Kyla suffered this year from neuroendocrine carcinoma, a rare and aggressive cancer. Her fight typified the way she lived her life: determined, relentless, selfless and single-minded in focus. Even during this time, Kyla's concern was for her family, not herself. Her life will be remembered for the many years she lived with great vitality, energy and generosity. Kyla and Carl welcomed beautiful twin boys, Justin and Benjamin, in 1999, and since that time the family has lived a charmed life, filled with love, accomplishments and grace. Kyla was fearless, jumping out of airplanes, skiing the mountains of Colorado and Switzerland, biking through the streets of New York, and before she had children, driving a little too fast. She was a dancer and artist. A licensed clinical social worker with two graduate degrees, Kyla dedicated herself to the service of others, professionally and personally. She chose the most difficult paths, working with those with addictions, eating disorders, and for years, families facing the often frightening neonatal intensive care unit. She gave to

those she didn't know, but more so, she gave to those close to her. Because of that, Kyla will exist in her family and friends always, because her energy will shift and grow but never dissipate. Survivors include her parents Bill and Linda, her husband Carl, their children Justin and Benjamin Pelofsky, her brother Jordan Hartong and sister-in-law Lorraine Hartong. Private services will take place at a later date in Kansas City. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Ele's Place, 1582 Eisenhower Place, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. To sign Kyla's guestbook, to leave a memory, or for more information please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Tribute Wall



“ Kyla Y. Hartong

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ Dear Bill and Linda,

I couldn't find the home address for the hand written note this should be, but hope you will eventually see this e-mail.

I wanted to join the obvious legions of people here in KC that were stunned to read of Kyla's death and offer my condolences.

I recall how very kind she was to my employees and especially my seamstresses as we were coordinating the details for her wedding. She was stunning in her Priscilla of Boston gown and veil. (And of course I will also always remember one of the most beautiful back lawns I've ever seen!)

As the father of three daughters, my chest tightens when I learn of these out of order losses to parents. These first holidays coming will be new grief waves and I wanted you to know you will be remembered by my family in our prayers.

*Most sincerely,
Michael Nolte
Nolte's Bridal*

Michael Nolte - November 18, 2015 at 02:03 PM

JH

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jordan Hartong - September 16, 2015 at 09:11 AM

EP

I remember when Kyla did this! So awesome!

Elizabeth Passantino - September 17, 2015 at 06:44 PM

EP

“ *Elizabeth Passantino lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong*



Elizabeth Passantino - September 03, 2015 at 04:05 PM

LI

“ Carl, Justin, Benjamin, Hartong family, and Pelofsky family;

I want you to know how deeply saddened I am at our loss of Kyla. I have known Kyla for a long time and from the start admired the way that she would get to the heart of the situation.

Kyla lived her life by helping others, but most importantly, when she loved, she loved unconditionally!

Kyla will always have a special place in my heart.

Linda Fein Zwillenberg

Linda - September 02, 2015 at 06:26 PM

LH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Linda Hartong - September 02, 2015 at 04:14 PM

EP

Such a beautiful picture! I think about Kyla everyday. I miss her so much.

Elizabeth Passantino - September 03, 2015 at 04:00 PM

LH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Linda Hartong - September 02, 2015 at 03:28 PM

EP

I LOVE this picture!! The BEST!!

Elizabeth Passantino - September 03, 2015 at 04:01 PM

LH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Linda Hartong - September 02, 2015 at 03:27 PM

EP

So great!

Elizabeth Passantino - September 03, 2015 at 04:02 PM

LH

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Linda Hartong - September 02, 2015 at 03:23 PM

EP

What a great family picture!

Elizabeth Passantino - September 03, 2015 at 04:03 PM

LH

Ben, Carl, Justin and Kyla

Linda Hartong - September 18, 2015 at 03:55 PM

EC

“ Dear Carl,
We were saddened to hear the news about Kyla. We send our heartfelt sympathy to you and the boys and hope that you find strength and peace in your family and in your community of friends.
Ellen & Jonathan Chilton and family

Ellen Chilton - August 31, 2015 at 05:23 PM

MH

“ Dear Carl, Justin, Benjamin and family,

We send love and condolences and want you to know you are much in our thoughts and prayers.

xo Medill, Max, Thomas & George

Medill Harvey - August 30, 2015 at 05:21 PM

SC

“ Stephen Crisp lit a candle in memory of Kyla
Y. Hartong



Stephen Crisp - August 28, 2015 at 10:28 AM

SC

Dr.Hartong and Family, I cannot imagine what a parent endures during these unexpected tragedies. As a parent myself I pray that this family will accept my deepest condolences for the loss of your beautiful daughter.

Sincerely, Stephen Crisp and Family

Stephen Crisp - August 28, 2015 at 10:32 AM

DE

“ Carl,
Please know that our family has you and your family in our thoughts and prayers as you struggle with the loss of your wife and mother of your boys. You have always been a strong person, but know your friends are there for you.

Debi & Dennis Eskie & family

Debra Eskie - August 27, 2015 at 03:03 PM

WF

“ *Dear Carl & family,
We are saddened to hear of the loss of your wife, Kyla. We are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.*

Wendy & Mike Franz & family

Wendy Franz - August 27, 2015 at 10:52 AM

JV

“ *Kyla and I grew up together and went to school together since we were kids. Chuck Heath posted a picture of us next to each other in 8 th grade doing "La Bamba". I remember her standing on her tiptoes to be seen. I always enjoyed her friendship. Unfortunately through the years we lost touch but I remember her so fondly. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of her friends and family. My thoughts are with you!*

Jennifer Voigts

Jennifer Voigts - August 27, 2015 at 10:49 AM

RC

“ *Bill and Linda, may our love wrap it's arms around you to lift you up during this heart breaking time. Your tears are ours. We will wake and think of you each day. Our love Jim and Ricki*

ricki creamer - August 26, 2015 at 07:58 PM

SK

“ *I was absolutely stunned to open today's Kansas City Star and see Kyla's face. What an amazing person and what a tremendous loss. Molly attended preschool with Justin and Ben, and Kyla was a friendly presence in Body Pump at the JCC. We send our heartfelt condolences to Carl, Justin and Ben, and Kyla's entire family.*

The Kavanaugh Family

Stephanie Kavanaugh - August 26, 2015 at 07:51 PM

BC

“ *Dear Carl, we were saddened to hear about the loss of your wife, thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Steve & Barb Cunneen, Leawood, Ks.

Barb Cunneen - August 26, 2015 at 01:22 PM

BD

“ *Bill and Linda, my thoughts are with you. Bill Dorzab*

Bill Dorzab - August 26, 2015 at 09:52 AM

BY

“ *My sympathy to Bill and Linda Hartong. Bob Yunghans*

Bob Yunghans - August 26, 2015 at 08:31 AM

CL

“ *Crystal Lynch lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong*



Crystal Lynch - August 26, 2015 at 08:00 AM

SP

“ *Sue Purohit lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong*



Sue Purohit - August 24, 2015 at 10:27 PM

SP

“ *Carl, Justin, and Ben--
So terribly sorry to hear the news. So difficult to understand and process such an untimely loss. May you find strength and peace not only in each other, but also in the friends and family who will not hesitate to be of comfort and assistance in any way possible. We are very much here for you. --The Purohit family*

Sue Purohit - August 24, 2015 at 10:25 PM

DK

“ *Dear Pelof,

I am so sorry for your loss.*



David Koppel - August 24, 2015 at 09:05 PM

SP

“ Carl,
I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you and your family.

*Sarah Potts
(Barstow Class of 2005)*

Sarah Potts - August 24, 2015 at 03:13 PM

GL

“ Dear Carl,

My thoughts and prayers are with you, your sons, and your entire family at this time of profound loss. Kyla's obituary showed that she lived life with gusto and love. May the memories of her love of family, love of life, and love of others bring you comfort and peace for the rest of your life.

*Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney
(aka "Nurse Bonney" from Barstow)*

Gay Lee Ludwig-Bonney - August 24, 2015 at 01:36 PM

JO

“ Joy lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong



Joy - August 22, 2015 at 10:18 PM

LS

“ We are extremely saddened to know the news of untimely passing away of Kyla. She was our family friend and class mate of our daughter at Shawnee Mission Schools. Words cannot express our grief. We send our heartfelt condolences to her family, specially her husband and twins, parents and her brother and sister in law. We pray God, to rest her soul in peace and give strength to family in this difficult time.

*Lax & Barti Sawkar
Overland Park KS*

Laxmidas Sawkar - August 22, 2015 at 05:05 PM

TO

“ *The Onyszchuks lit a candle in memory of
Kyla Y. Hartong*



The Onyszchuks - August 22, 2015 at 02:39 PM

PW

“ *Paul Wolf lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y.
Hartong*



Paul Wolf - August 22, 2015 at 11:48 AM

CH

“ Stunned to hear of Kyla's passing. Our daughter and Kyla grew up together in Leawood. She was a beautiful and accomplished woman. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Chuck and Judy Hammond

chuck and judy hammond - August 21, 2015 at 09:21 PM

JW

“ Joe Watts lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong



Joe Watts - August 20, 2015 at 08:39 PM

PH

“ I worked with Kyla at Children's Mercy Hospital in the NICU when she covered for a colleague. She was a consummate professional and a true asset and gift to our profession. She was intelligent, caring, and kind and was always on target with her plan and interventions. We had planned to job share before the decision for the family to move to Michigan and we were both looking forward to it. It was obvious she was a wonderful wife and mother, she was so proud of her boys. I am truly so very sorry to hear of her passing. I will keep your family in my thoughts and prayers.

Patti Hills

patti hills - August 19, 2015 at 07:38 PM

LH

I remember her speaking fondly of you..

Linda Hartong - August 22, 2015 at 11:28 AM

TC

“ Dr. Hartong, Mrs. Hartong, and Jordan,

I am so very, very sorry to learn of Kyla's passing. Hearing the news reminded me of all the wonderful summer nights in the old neighborhood playing "kick the can" late into the evening, and how much Jordan and Mike thought she was too strict when she started babysitting them on sleepovers. I think my mom always looked at her as the beautiful redheaded girl she never had. I am not surprised to learn about the wonderful life and family that she enjoyed. The Cunnynggham family's thoughts and deepest sympathies go out to you, her husband and their sons.


Terry Cunnynggham and family, Leawood - Overland Park, Kansas

Terry Cunnynggham - August 19, 2015 at 07:33 PM

LH

Thank you so much Terry.

Linda Hartong - August 22, 2015 at 11:27 AM

 Diana Reamer

“ *Although it has been many years since I last saw her, I truly am sad to hear that she has passed. My heartfelt condolences and prayers for her family.*

Diana Reamer - August 19, 2015 at 07:31 PM

KG

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Pete and Kelly Grist

Kelly Grist - August 19, 2015 at 04:05 PM

SS

“ *Bill, Linda, & Jordan, I am sorry to hear about Kyla. Please know that I am thinking of you, Carl, and the boys at this very sad time. May her memory be for a blessing.*
Sharon Soltz

sharon soltz - August 19, 2015 at 12:50 AM

JL

“ *I am so Sorry Carl and Boys! Take care and take the time to celebrate Kyla's life.*



James Lupton - August 18, 2015 at 06:43 PM

DM

“ *Dear Carl, Justin, Benjamin, Pelofsky and Hartong families. I was extremely saddened to hear of Kyla's passing. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you, and that I will always remember Kyla's and Carl's thoughtfulness and kindness when I was in need, and the joy and fun-loving spirit which Kyla shared with her family and her friends.*

Dan Murtaugh, Kansas City.

Daniel Murtaugh - August 18, 2015 at 03:35 PM

VD

“ Dear Carl, Ben, and Justine:

We are shocked and saddened to hear about Kyla's untimely demise. Though we interacted with Kyla for a relatively short time, we all had grown fond of her, and will always remember her friendly and smiling demeanor. We truly wish we could meet her once before she left for the heavenly abode. When Suhani saw her obituary here, she said "I already miss her"..... :(

We wish peace to the family and would love to be of help in anyway possible.

Vivek, Shiri, and Suhani

Vivek Dalela - August 18, 2015 at 10:00 AM

KA

“ *Kyla's life was too short but she "made her presence felt" which my mother said was always important to do. She changed her part of the world. She believed in socially appropriate behavior and protected her sons from any negative influence. She leaves a big hole in our family with fond memories to fill it in time.*

Aunt Karen

Karen - August 17, 2015 at 06:15 PM

CS

“ *Carl, Please accept our heartfelt condolences. We can't begin to imagine what you are feeling, our thoughts are with you and your boys. Know that your family is surrounded by the love of many.*

~Jim, Christine, James, & Phoebe Sotiroff

Christine Sotiroff - August 17, 2015 at 04:36 PM

SO

“ *Sotiroff's lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong*



Sotiroff's - August 17, 2015 at 04:18 PM

TF

“ *The Sotiroff Family lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong*



The Sotiroff Family - August 17, 2015 at 04:16 PM

DB

“ *Carl,*

Please accept our deepest sympathy at this terrible time. You and your boys are in our hearts, minds and prayers. Such a tragic loss of a beautiful, vibrant woman, wife and mother - may you find strength in your sons and memories.

Dana, Jim and Ian Bartimus

Dana Bartimus - August 17, 2015 at 02:13 PM

LS

“ Carl, Justin, and Ben,

We just heard and are devastated and heartbroken to know she is no longer walking this Earth. She was the first person to really talk to me when we moved to Leawood and Max started school. She was so kind and really lifted my spirits. We talked about how small our closets were in these old homes. She gave me hope that others would be as kind and funny. She was a great mom, as evidenced by her wonderful, polite, and fiercely smart boys. Always looking after them, and any other boys that were in her care at the moment. She was so kind and so sweet. I am sure her last moments were her bravest fighting hard to stay here. She left such a beautiful legacy and we will always remember her with fondness.

Matt, Lauren, & Max Stallbaumer.

Lauren Stallbaumer - August 17, 2015 at 01:51 PM

HS

“ *Kyla's death is such a loss to the world. She was a beautiful person, inside and out, and a wonderful friend and mother. I have many many fond memories of Fridays together with all the kids when they were smaller and of mad libs in the car during Hebrew school carpool when they got older. (She could crack a potty joke like a pro and send the kids into hysterics). She was patient and kind and she will be missed. Hoping all of you find peace and comfort in your memories of her. May her memory be a blessing.*

The Schlozman/Golder family

Heather Schlozman - August 17, 2015 at 11:02 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kyla Y. Hartong.*



August 17, 2015 at 08:39 AM



“ *Carl - Kirin, Mark and I are so sorry to hear about your loss. The pain that you and your boys must feel now must feel overwhelming but hopefully soon her memories will help you cherish what you had. On behalf of our family and the Greenhills community, we are truly sorry to hear of your loss!*

*Sincerely,
Mark, Shefali and Kirin Cromer*

Shefali Cromer - August 17, 2015 at 07:10 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Kyla Y. Hartong.*



August 16, 2015 at 11:34 PM



“ Carl,

I just found out. I am at a loss. Kyla, always had a smile and was so happy. May you treasure those amazing memories with your beautiful boys. Thinking of you.

Melissa Rock

Melissa Stanton Rock - August 16, 2015 at 06:26 PM

AK

“ *Though we are new to the Greenhills community, we know a little bit about cancer and grief . Ed, who will be a junior this year, lost his father to a very similar cancer just a short while ago . It is never easy and there are no right words. And for teenagers like Ed - and your children - the pain will come in waves . Just know this - no one can take the memories away . No one can ever truly understand but your amazing wife and mother will always be in your hearts . It is hard to imagine now - but know one day the pain will ease a little and the love she gave to so many especially her family - will be felt more than the pain . Our hearts and prayers are with you and your family ...and big hugs to your boys .*

Sandy Kellermann

Alessandra Kellermann - August 16, 2015 at 06:13 PM

JB

“ Kyla's beautiful smile and gentle heart will always be in my memory! Kyla was one of the most gentle, sensitive caring people I ever knew! She was such a great mom!! Kyla loved her family and was always so proud of her wonderful sons! Sending hugs and love to Carl, Ben and Justin. So sad for your tremendous loss! This is a loss for all of us.
Much love,
Judy Jacks Berman

judy jacks berman - August 16, 2015 at 05:08 PM

SH

“ The Hortsch/Rodseth family sends our heartfelt condolences. Although most of our children graduated before or just before your family arrived, all Greenhills families and faculty and staff are cherished now and forever. We know she was a remarkable woman, wife, and mother and will be missed so much.

Sarah Becker Hortsch - August 16, 2015 at 12:06 PM

SR

“ Carl, Justin, and Ben,

We are so sorry to hear the news of Kyla's passing. If we can be of any assistance please ask. We hope that over time your sadness recedes and you are comforted by your wonderful shared memories.

Stephanie, Tom, Alex and Libby Reeves

stephanie Reeves - August 16, 2015 at 11:46 AM

PC

“ Pam Courson lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong



Pam Courson - August 16, 2015 at 07:57 AM

KT

“ Kimberly Torolski lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong



Kimberly Torolski - August 15, 2015 at 07:45 PM

AH

“ Amy Hokanson lit a candle in memory of Kyla Y. Hartong



Amy Hokanson - August 15, 2015 at 05:54 PM

AH

“ I will always remember Kyla's dry wit, intelligence and loyalty. She was a few years ahead of me on the wedding and baby path and she was so tender with sharing her experiences that have impacted me as a mother still. She was a good and trusted friend. I pray for comfort and support for Carl, Ben and Justin. Godspeed Kyla

Amy Flatley Hokanson - August 15, 2015 at 05:48 PM



“ Carl, my heart aches for you and the boys. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Kyla was always so kind to Lori and I when we arrived at Barstow. I remember her being so excited about your surprise birthday party. She was also so happy that you would have a friend at Pembroke Hill when we both made the switch. What a great person. I feel lucky to have known her. Please let me know if there is anything you need. Lori and I are always here for you. -Joel Diffendaffer

Joel Diffendaffer - August 14, 2015 at 11:51 PM

AF

Carl, Thinking and praying for you and the boys. We are heartsick and saddened by the loss of your beautiful wife. Kevin and Amy Fox

Amy Fox - August 18, 2015 at 08:14 AM

JE

All of us at Arbor Fit Club loved having Kyla in our classes and she was always such a wonderful athlete and spin class participant. As her spin instructor for about 3-4 yrs, I looked forward to seeing her whenever my class was going on. She was so dedicated in coming as often as her schedule would allow and all of us in class miss her a lot! Julie Evans, Arbor Fit Club

Julie Evans - August 18, 2015 at 01:44 PM

DS

Carl, I worked with Kyla at Children's Mercy. We are sending our condolences. We enjoyed knowing her so much.
Dee Smith

Dee Smith - August 19, 2015 at 10:50 AM

JG

Words seem insufficient in face of such loss. It is true; her spirit will not dissipate but will be shared by all who knew her. Carl, you, the boys, and family members are much in my heart right now.

Joyce Generali - August 21, 2015 at 06:16 PM

JS

Dear Carl, Ben and Justin, we are so very sad to learn of Kyla's death. Though we didn't know her well, reading the beautiful tributes about her reinforces what we sensed - she was a beautiful person inside and out. We can only imagine your sadness now, and hope the many memories of happy times together will comfort you now. We send our deep and sincere condolences.

Steve and Judy Sherry

judy sherry - August 21, 2015 at 10:10 PM

GJ

My condolences to the entire family. Although I only knew Kyla's father, I am confident that the world lost a wonderful and caring person.
Jere Justice

Gerald Justice - August 26, 2015 at 10:44 AM

MW

Dear Linda and Bill, I can only imagine the depth of loss and grief at the demise of your lovely daughter. I will light a candle for her memory and another for the two of you. I will also add her to the litany of daily prayers. God bless your family.

Marcia McNeely Wolf

Marcia McNeely Wolf - September 02, 2015 at 11:41 AM

CJ

I continue to think of Kyla. I am grateful to have known her, the time we worked together, and the "accidental reunion" seeing her in Chicago before her illness. She was a dear friend.

CJ - July 08, 2017 at 05:57 PM