



## Diane Marie Owen

June 20, 1948 - November 27, 2020

Diane Marie (Betz) Owen, 72 of Bluffton, passed away Friday, November 27, 2020, at her home with her family by her side.

She was born on June 20, 1948 in Bluffton to Robert Lyle Betz, Sr. and Mary Eileen (McGough) Betz. Diane graduated from Bluffton High School in 1966 and graduated from Taylor University in 1970 with a degree in elementary education. She later went on to get her Masters degree in special education from the University of St. Francis and a subsequent endorsement in visual impairment. She taught special education for over 40 years at Warren Elementary School, Poplar Grove Elementary School and for the Adams-Wells Special Services Cooperative. While at the Coop, she taught students in six different school districts in Adams and Wells Counties. She retired from teaching in 2013, but continued to serve as a substitute teacher in Adams and Wells Counties until the early part of 2020. Diane was a member of Park Community Church.

Diane and Larry Wayne Owen were married on June 21, 1974, at Park United Brethren in Christ Church in Bluffton. He preceded her in death on March 21, 2017.

Diane is survived by her children; Sarah Anne Owen of Washington, D.C., Julie Marie (Rev. Duane) Modlin and Mark Robert (Rachel) Owen, both of Bluffton, along with four grandchildren Sophie Marie & Emma Rose Modlin, and Judah Michael & Isabelle Virginia Owen. She is also survived by two sisters-in-law; Luana (Owen) Walker and Judith (Anderson) Owen, both of

Albion.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Larry, a brother Robert Lyle Betz, Jr., and a sister Deborah Jane (Betz) Reinhard.

A private service will take place on Wednesday, (Dec. 2, 2020) at Park Community Church in Bluffton, with Pastor Dennis Wood and Rev. Duane Modlin officiating. Burial will follow at Six Mile Cemetery in Bluffton.

Public visitation will take place on Tuesday, (Dec. 1, 2020) from 5 P.M. until 8 P.M. at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

The safety of the family and all visitors is our utmost priority. For everyone's safety, we ask that you practice social distancing. Masks are required for visitation and for the funeral and cemetery service. During the current COVID-19 guidelines, we are only allowed a limited number of people in the building at a time. We appreciate your cooperation and patience.

Friends wishing to watch Diane's service can do so from the safety of their home, utilizing a Zoom Meeting. You can login using the Zoom Meeting I.D. # 969 7113 0785 and you can login after 10:15 A.M. on Wednesday, December 2, 2020.

Memorials may be made to Park Community Church (please designate for general fund or for FoodFight!) or Visiting Nurse.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Six Mile Cemetery

4795 SE State Road 116  
Bluffton, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 1. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Diane Marie Owen*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - December 01, 2020 at 05:04 PM



“ *Diane Owen was my school teacher at Paper Grove she was a good woman and I was in special Olympians 1987 to 1988 she was the best teacher I ever had rest in peace God bless you I will always miss you 🙏❤️*

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**Carl. Shaw** - September 13, 2025 at 05:47 PM



“ *Diane Marie Owen*

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September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *I only met Diane a few times when she visited D.C. but having her and Larry around was having some fun people full of wisdom in your life, even if just for a few hours. Their wonderful investment in their family shows through my friendship with Sarah and the wonderful encouragement and woman of God she is. May God as Emmanuel be extra real to you, Julie, Mark, and their families at this time. Praying for you all! Ginger Mickelson*

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**Ginger Mickelson** - December 13, 2020 at 10:23 AM

BS

“ Diane was a vibrant, loving teacher. I had many opportunities to work alongside her, and was always happy when that was the case. She had a wonderful touch with children and had many warm smiles and words for students and staff. I always felt privileged to find her subbing in our building. She spoke lovingly of her family and always shared about an event or occasion she was looking forward to with them. May God's peace wrap around you at this time - at the loss of this special woman.

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**Brenda Sagstetter** - December 03, 2020 at 08:12 PM

MS

“ Dear Sarah, Julie, Mark and family,  
We want to share our condolences. Your Mom was such a wonderful lady. We have so many wonderful memories of your family from Park U B Church. May Jesus wrap His loving arms around you at this time.  
Max and Jan Springer

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**Max & Jan Springer** - December 03, 2020 at 09:53 AM

CF

“ To Mark and Family,  
  
We are sorry for your loss and your family is with our thoughts and prayers. Your mothers legacy will live through her family and all the children she inspired.

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**Curt Funk** - December 02, 2020 at 08:51 AM

W"

“ With love from your UL "Family" purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



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**With love from your UL "Family"** - December 01, 2020 at 12:56 PM

TS

“ Sarah and Family, thinking of you and wishing you hope in the midst of sorrow and comfort in the midst of pain. May God continue to comfort and keep you in his care.



*Tia Staton & Family (UL LLC)*

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**Tia Staton** - December 01, 2020 at 12:17 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



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December 01, 2020 at 12:00 PM

YU

“ Your friends at UL-NFP! purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



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**Your friends at UL-NFP!** - December 01, 2020 at 10:27 AM

MJ

“ *What a loss! Diane was a wonderful woman of God! What a legacy she and Larry left! We grieve and celebrate together with family and friends....we are honored to know the Owens*💕

Mary Johnson - December 01, 2020 at 09:37 AM

SB

“ *Diane was a truly wonderful educator with such compassion for all. So many students benefited from her dedication to the field of special education. I always enjoyed getting to work with her and was glad to see her when she would return to substitute. The love for her family was always evident. I pray that you are comforted in this time of loss and can rejoice that she is resting in her eternal home.*

Sandy Beckner - December 01, 2020 at 09:18 AM

KS

“ *To the family of Diane  
I'm so sorry for your loss. I worked with Diane over the course of many years at the Adams-Wells Special Services Cooperative. She appeared very dedicated in serving special needs children. On a personal level, she always had a steady smile.*

Kathy Stewart - December 01, 2020 at 09:14 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.*



December 01, 2020 at 09:11 AM

MC

“ Julie and family,

*We are so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. We know that it is hard to see our parents go.*

*Our prayers and thoughts will be with you all.*

*Margaret & Jerry Crandall*

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**Margaret & Jerry Crandall** - November 30, 2020 at 01:14 PM

SG

*Rest in peace my dear. I've so many fond memories of our years in Park Church youth group -Bible Quiz team, mid-winter retreats, the fun mission trips to Kentucky in the old church bus. I know you are reunited with your dear husband and family, free from pain, safe in our saviors arms. You will be missed here below.*

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**Susan. Rupel Gallivan** - November 30, 2020 at 03:16 PM

SC

“ Diane was always very kind and generous to me and her life blessed me with one of the greatest gifts I have- the friendship of her daughter Sarah. She lived a full life and my love, prayers and sympathy goes out to all of her family.

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**Samantha Clements** - November 30, 2020 at 10:08 AM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



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November 30, 2020 at 10:05 AM

SF

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I worked with your mother for 30 years at the Adams Wells Special Education Cooperative. She was always kind, patient, open to new ideas, listening to students and families. I learned much from her! Susan French

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**Susan French** - November 30, 2020 at 08:42 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



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November 30, 2020 at 08:10 AM

KS

“ She lived her life with love and compassion for those whom others viewed as a burden she saw as a joy and blessing. May you feel Gods embrace during this difficult time.

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**Kathy Schwartz** - November 30, 2020 at 06:17 AM

MG

“ I was very saddened to learn of Diane's passing. I pray Our Heavenly Father will comfort you and surround you with peace at this time of sorrow. May you cherish your memories of Diane. With deepest sympathy, Marcia {Nicholson} Gregg.

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**Marcia Gregg** - November 30, 2020 at 03:46 AM

LW

“ *Diane was a beautiful person, wonderful teacher to our daughter and a good friend from way back to church camp days in Rockford, ohio. Prayers for her loved ones.*

Linda Wurm - November 30, 2020 at 12:41 AM

KN

“ *I met Diane thru GriefShare at Hope Church. We were both recent widows, having lost our husbands 2 days apart. She was kind,compassionate,& a great source of support to me. Heaven will welcome her.*

Kay Nash - November 29, 2020 at 10:58 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.*



November 29, 2020 at 10:31 PM

LF

“ *Sarah, Mark, and Julie,  
My heartfelt sympathy to all of you and your family. Your sweet mother has left an imprint on so many young lives. She was one of the most dedicated educators I have known. I never, ever saw Diane without a smile from the first time I met her in elementary school through our adulthood. I know how sorely she will be missed.  
Linda Fritz*

Linda Fritz - November 29, 2020 at 10:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



November 29, 2020 at 09:26 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



November 29, 2020 at 09:05 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



November 29, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diane Marie Owen.



November 29, 2020 at 08:04 PM



“ 144 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - November 29, 2020 at 01:58 PM