



Crystal A. Boucher

April 14, 1963 - April 17, 2022

HADLEY – Crystal (Opalenik) Boucher, 59, passed peacefully at home surrounded by family on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022. She was born in Holyoke on Easter Sunday, April 14, 1963. She graduated from South Hadley High School in 1981, where she met her husband of almost 40 years. Crystal worked at local garden centers, which inspired her to open her own business and become a Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist. Her visions came to light when Crystal Gardens Unlimited opened in Belchertown on Rt 9 & 202, transforming a diner into a favorite destination for plant enthusiasts. She eventually expanded, purchasing 80 acres of land in Hadley. “The farm” was her tranquil place. It’s where she could be her true self, walk barefoot in the grass, prune plants and be one with nature.

Crystal loved loud cars and music, homemade french fries, and being at the beach with her toes in the sand. She was an avid picker. She had many natural talents and could do anything she put her mind to, from rebuilding cars to sewing prom and wedding dresses. She always amazed and inspired us. Crystal had a longing for travel; at the end of 2020, she rented a car and drove to California, making multiple stops along the way; this was a big check off her bucket list. She left us with a legacy we will carry on forever; our tradition of making pierogies, an appreciation of the outdoors, an obsession with plants, the passion to follow what is in our hearts, and the strength to ALWAYS believe in ourselves.

She was predeceased by her parents, Joan Opalenik and Thomas Hartinger, both of Holyoke, MA. She is survived by her husband Ted Boucher of Hadley, MA, two daughters, Jennifer Duff and her husband Michael of Somers, CT, Melissa Rios and her husband AJ of Hampden, MA, and her brother Brian Opalenik of Chicopee, MA. Crystal was an affectionate and caring Grammy to her 6 grandchildren- they will miss her dearly, Paul, Juilianna, Lucas, Lily, Raiden, and Rogan. She is also predeceased by the best dog ever, Onyx.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

New England Funeral & Cremation Center, LLC, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. Please visit Crystal's memorial page at www.nefcc.net to extend condolences.

For further information please contact Jennifer at
To send a flower arrangement or to plant trees in memory of
Crystal A. Boucher.

Tribute Wall

TB

“ My life will never be the same without my beautiful friend! She was so strong and knowledgeable about so many things. I miss her laugh already. 😭 She did an amazing job raising 2 beautiful daughters... I will always hold a special place in my heart for her. I will always keep her memory alive ❤️🙏

Tina Burl - February 14, 2023 at 09:55 AM

CT

“ Ted, Jennifer(Michael), Melissa(AJ) and families, we are so very sorry for your loss. Please accept our condolences during this difficult time and know that you all are in our thoughts.

Cindi & Scott Theriault - February 14, 2023 at 09:55 AM

PS

“ Dear loves ... Teddy, Jenny, Melissa, family & friends;\nMy heart and prayers are with you! 🙏🏻💜 I met Crystal when Melissa was an infant and since then my life has never been the same. She was beautiful inside & out and taught me incredible things about God's earth. We shared more times than I can remember... always an interesting & fun adventure wherever we were. We miss her already! Godspeed My Best Perennial Friend! \nForever in my heart, \nPam xo\n🥰🙏🏻🌈💜

PAMELA SALMON - February 14, 2023 at 09:55 AM

VL

“ My beautiful Aunt-
I won't say goodbye, but I will see you so long for now!
Another puzzle piece sent to heaven
Your wisdom,
your words, your smile, and your strength- all will be missed! Thank
you for all your insight during some of my darkest days and helping
Kaylee with her studies that taught her to respect the earth and
appreciate the organics
I am thankful for our relationship and
love!
Until we meet again my beautiful aunt
❤️

Vanessa Lauziere - February 14, 2023 at 09:55 AM

JD

“ In Loving Memory of Crystal A. Boucher,
Hearts and prayers
go out to you at this time and in the days ahead.
A
Sympathy Gift of Group of 10 Trees has been Planted In Loving
Memory of Crystal A. Boucher courtesy of Jean & Scott Duff.

Jean & Scott Duff - February 14, 2023 at 09:55 AM