



## Whitney Marie Fortner

January 1, 1993 - September 10, 2024

Whitney Marie Fortner, 31, passed away from an automobile accident in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. She arrived in this world on January 1, 1993, in Indianapolis, Indiana. She is the daughter of Jodi M. (Essex) Vanausdall and Jeffrey H. Fortner.

Whitney was raised in Lebanon, Indiana. Growing up, Whitney had many nicknames, including “Witness,” “Whittles,” and “Tater.” As a child, she made many good memories with her cousins, whether it be playing Disney Monopoly, helping clean someone’s room, or singing occasional karaoke. Whitney graduated from Lebanon High School in 2011. After high school, she worked in a variety of restaurants where she was well loved by those she served. She also worked at Signature Healthcare at Parkwood. She recently moved to Colorado and fell in love with the area.

To Whitney, friends were just as meaningful and important to her as her family. She enjoyed spending time with each and every one of them. As an adult, Whitney remained an avid Disney fan, and she visited Disney World many times. Whitney loved the ocean, and this reflected her free and adventurous soul. She also enjoyed being outdoors, camping, kayaking, or just floating down the river with loved ones and friends. Whitney was known as a kind and fun-loving individual who loved making memories with her friends and family. Whitney attended Freedom Church for a time and was baptized there in 2016.

Whitney's sweet and kind presence will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Those left to cherish her memory include her mother and stepfather, Jodi and Kerry Vanausdall of Lebanon; father, Jeff Fortner of Tampa, Florida; brothers, Nick (Ashley) Fortner of Lebanon and Isaac Fortner of Jamestown; grandparents, Don and Peggy Gates of Crawfordsville and Ann and Jerry Essex of Lebanon; aunts and uncles, Brad and Tonia Fortner of Lebanon, Cherity and Kirk Gregg of Thorntown, Sheri and Tom Lister of Lebanon, Sara and Doug Spray of Pittsboro, Brent Essex and Matt Seslar of Indianapolis, Jerri and Joe Glasson of Lebanon, and Cheryl and Todd York of New Castle; niece, Lillian Fortner; nephew, Hudson Fortner; several cousins, extended family, and many friends: and her beloved fur babies, Amidala "Dolly", Dobby, Figaro, and Remus.

Whitney was a compassionate and giving person, and her generosity continued even after her passing. As an organ donor, Whitney gave the gift of life to others, reflecting her lifelong spirit of kindness and selflessness.

Funeral Services are planned for 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 21, 2024, at Myers Mortuary, 1502 North Lebanon Street in Lebanon, Indiana. Visitation will be held from 1:00 p.m. until the time of services. Cremation will follow services.

Memorials may be directed in Whitney's memory to Chicken Nugget and Gang, 117 West Elm Street, Lebanon, Indiana 46052.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 21. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Myers Mortuary  
1502 North Lebanon Street  
Lebanon, IN 46052  
(765) 482-0620  
office@myersmortuary.com  
<https://myersmortuary.com/>

## Funeral Service

SEP 21. 4:00 PM (ET)

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1502 North Lebanon Street  
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# Tribute Wall

TF

“ So sorry to the family and friends. Thoughts and prayers for such a difficult loss! 🙏

Terry and Amanda Fearrin - September 21, 2024 at 04:17 PM

AC

“ To Jeff and Jodie and Nick. I remember the goods times, camping and watching the kids play and run together. So sorry for your loss, prayers to help you keep her in your hearts. Sincerely, Andi Coffman

Andi Coffman - September 21, 2024 at 03:45 PM

RB

“ Jodie and Kerry we are so sorry for your tragic loss.

*Much Love for the Behr family*

Robert Behr - September 21, 2024 at 09:19 AM

IW

“ Israel Wilson purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Whitney Marie Fortner.



Israel Wilson - September 21, 2024 at 08:22 AM

IW

“ Israel Wilson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Whitney Marie Fortner.

Israel Wilson - September 21, 2024 at 08:22 AM

KD

“ Kimberly D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Whitney Marie Fortner.

Kimberly D. - September 20, 2024 at 11:32 PM

OS

“ Olevia&Kyle Vore, Nick Iacobelli, Mary S purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Whitney Marie Fortner.



Olevia&Kyle Vore, Nick Iacobelli, Mary S - September 20, 2024 at 10:25 PM

KJ

“ Kenzie and James purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Whitney Marie Fortner.



Kenzie and James - September 20, 2024 at 08:03 PM

K.

“ We are so sorry for your loss.  
You are in our thoughts and prayers  
Artie & Kathy

Kathy . - September 20, 2024 at 06:31 PM

SS

“ Sarah and Collin Smith purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Whitney Marie Fortner.



Sarah and Collin Smith - September 20, 2024 at 05:47 PM

SS

“ Sarah and Collin Smith planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Whitney Marie Fortner.

Sarah and Collin Smith - September 20, 2024 at 05:47 PM

TO

“ The Lebanon Post Office purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Whitney Marie Fortner.



The Lebanon Post Office - September 20, 2024 at 03:16 PM

PG

“ Damon & Patty Gates have donated to Chicken Nugget & Gang in memory of Whitney Fortner. God bless.

Patty Gates - September 20, 2024 at 03:11 PM

TP

“ You were always full of joy and positive energy!! I loved running into you and sharing some time! Love you Whitney.



Tricia Patmore - September 20, 2024 at 01:17 PM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Whitney Marie Fortner.



September 19, 2024 at 11:08 PM

KK

“ So sorry for the loss of Whitney. May the whole family find comfort, peace and love during this difficult time.



Kimberly Butler Kinhead - September 19, 2024 at 01:45 PM

KM

“ Kip and Mindy McGinnis purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Whitney Marie Fortner.



Kip and Mindy McGinnis - September 19, 2024 at 10:03 AM

LL

“ You were such an amazing friend. You lit up every room and were always a pleasure to see. Rest easy til we meet again.

Logan Long - September 18, 2024 at 11:15 PM

SB

“ Sally Byrd lit a candle in memory of Whitney Marie Fortner



Sally Byrd - September 18, 2024 at 09:48 PM

VE

“ You lit up every room with your beautiful bright smiling face. You are already so missed and forever will be. Love you sweet girl. Rest easy

Vicki Edens - September 18, 2024 at 12:02 PM

RH

“ Our prayers and condolences are with you and your family during this most difficult time.

Ron & Cherie Huser - September 18, 2024 at 10:07 AM

MG

“ You are forever loved and missed. I remember always being at your house when you guys lived out in the country. We rode the go karts and was always outside on the trampoline. I will forever cherish the memories we had growing up. I love you Whittles.

Makenzi Glasson - September 17, 2024 at 06:43 PM