



## Vanessa J. Vassar

September 15, 1971 - March 26, 2017

Dateline: Godfrey

Beautiful and much loved, Vanessa J. Vassar went away with Jesus at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, March 26, 2017 from her home in Godfrey. She was born September 15, 1971 in Alton to parents Henry J. and Shirley J. Vassar. Her father preceded her in death on September 26, 2015. She graduated high school from Alpha Christian Academy in Alton, Greenville College in Greenville, IL, and Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, TN. She served with "Youth with A Mission" in the Philippines and Hawaii. After returning home she was employed at Bethel Church in Nashville, TN in their after school program. She later worked as an early childhood mental health consultant for the State of Illinois and taught at Lewis & Clark Community College until serious disabilities prevented her. She was also a talented artist and enjoyed making pottery and jewelry. With many prayer warriors, family and friends around the world, she fought a fourteen-year battle against Amyloidosis and Acute Leukemia. She was an unforgettable, beautiful spirit who suffered much, but loved her Lord and everyone she met. She will be sorely missed by her mother, sister, Kelley (Dan) Schultz; four half-brothers, Kenneth, Wayne, Joseph, and Adrain Vassar. A special niece, Madison M. Schultz, nephews, Justin and Jason Nasello and their families. Aunts, Doris Fink and Cheryl Henson. Cousins, Joe (Dana) Fink, Tanner, and Chris Fink. Other relatives in Texas and Louisiana are Aunt Patricia Perkins, Aunt Emma (George) Frazier,

and Pastor Mark (Marie) Vassar and numerous cousins, plus too many special friends to mention. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until time of funeral service at 1:00 p.m. Friday, March 31, 2017 at Lifehouse Community Church in Alton. Pastor Michael Adams and Pastor Mark Vassar will officiate. Burial will be at Upper Alton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Vassar Memorial Park Fund at Lifehouse Community Church. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Upper Alton Cemetery

Oakwood Avenue  
Alton, IL 62002

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 31. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Lifehouse Community Church  
3825 Seminary Street  
Alton, IL 62002

## Funeral

MAR 31. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lifehouse Community Church  
3825 Seminary Street  
Alton, IL 62002

# Tribute Wall



“ *Vanessa J. Vassar*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Vanessa J. Vassar*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss, Vanessa was a beautiful person inside and out. IT was an honor to have known her, and one day we will all meet again. God bless mom and family*

**Annette Williams** - April 03, 2017 at 09:16 AM



“ *I am so sorry. It's been so many years since I've been with Vanessa, yet I will always remember her as one of my closest friends from grade school. She was such a special person. Grateful to know she is in Jesus's arms now.*

**Vickie (Dodson) Olson** - March 31, 2017 at 03:57 PM



“ Vanessa and I met almost 20 years ago at Bethel World Outreach Center ( then called Bethel Chapel) and I remember admiring her from afar- always joyful, fun, and popular. Little did I know we'd end up becoming good friends thru the Youth Life Learning Center. There I witnessed her truly love on refugee children like they were her own. Always encouraging, mentoring, advocating, helping them and their families. She kept up w many of these young adults all these years, as they loved her dearly. I know Vanessa stored up many a treasure in heaven throughout her humble, beautiful life. She traveled to DC for my wedding six years ago, and has been a sweet support to me thru foster and adoption of our African American children. Oh, Vanessa I so wish you could have met them both. They would have adored you. It's amazing how comforting it is knowing we will all see each other again one day

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**Katie Ford** - March 31, 2017 at 03:53 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Vanessa J. Vassar.



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March 31, 2017 at 09:53 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Vanessa J. Vassar.



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March 30, 2017 at 03:20 PM

SG

“ Dear Vanessa was beloved by everyone who knew her. I worked as a therapist at The Alcohol and Drug Council of Middle Tennessee during the time Vanessa worked with Cool Tools, a student-oriented program. She was committed to her work with young people and was a true asset to the Council. My thoughts and prayers are with Vanessa's family and circle of friends at this sad time. Heaven has truly gained an angel who "earned her wings" on earth. Rest In Peace, Dear Girl. --Sherri Gray

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**Sherri Gray** - March 29, 2017 at 10:07 PM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of Vanessa J. Vassar.



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March 29, 2017 at 04:25 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Vanessa J. Vassar.



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March 29, 2017 at 01:28 PM

JB

“ My condolences to the Vassar family.  
Love from Jocelyn Burton and Family.



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jocelyn bu - March 29, 2017 at 09:00 AM

JS

“ We were neighbors and went to church with the Vassars for years so I watched Vanessa grow up. She was a kind, thoughtful and precious child who grew into a kind, thoughtful and precious woman. She will be sorely missed in this world because we need people like her now.....but she is now celebrating her new life in heaven. My condolences to Shirley and the family.....Vanessa was so special and dear to all who knew her.

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Jo Ann Sichra - March 28, 2017 at 06:48 PM



“ Vanessa and I were mostly acquaintances. We shared many friends and I would often see her at parties. Several months ago we started having dialysis in the same place. I got to know her a little better. She always seemed to be handling things with grace. I will always remember her smiling. When things were bad for me I often thought of her. If she could do it, so could I. May you rest in peace

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Ryan Grant - March 28, 2017 at 03:46 PM

AM

“ I have known Vanessa since we were very young girls. Her family took me to VBS and were always just fantastic people. Over the years, Vanessa became very close with my children and helped strengthen their relationship with God. She was a kind soul who always smiled and was good to everyone she met despite suffering horrific medical problems. She never complained and always wanted to hear what was going on with MY health which was minor in comparison. She will be missed greatly but I know she is celebrating her eternity in heaven. Love you Shirley! Thank you for raising such a wonderful lady!

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**Amy Melchert** - March 28, 2017 at 01:27 PM

KR

“ I met Vanessa at the first YLLC in Nashville. We had a great time and it was never the same after you ll left. We had a great time with the arts and crafts that you were so great at creating. You were so much fun to be around and so loving. You had a beautiful spirit as well. May you forever Rest in Paradise. May God be with your family during this difficult time. Until we meet again my sister. Love Kisa Robinson

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**Kisa Robinson** - March 28, 2017 at 12:56 PM