



Melissa Akers

June 17, 1970 - May 31, 2026

LASHMEET – Melissa Gail Akers, 55, was called home to be with the Lord after a long-term illness that she fought courageously until the very end. Born June 17, 1970, Melissa lived a life filled with faith, love, strength, and devotion to those she held dear.

Melissa loved the Lord and found great joy in going to church. Her faith carried her through many difficult days and gave her the strength to keep fighting, even when the road was hard. Those who knew her will remember her courage, her love for her family, and the way she held on with determination and grace.

Melissa had a great love for teaching and was deeply dedicated to her work. She cared about the children she taught and poured her heart into helping them learn, grow, and feel loved. Teaching was not just something she did, it was part of who she was. Her patience, kindness, and dedication left a lasting mark on the lives of many.

She also loved the simple joys of life. Melissa loved to shop and had a special fondness for shoes, clothes, coats, and blankets- lots and lots of blankets. She had a way of collecting the things she loved and those little pieces of her personality will forever bring smiles and memories to the people who knew her best.

After being hospitalized in February, Melissa often spoke of wanting to go home. Her family takes comfort in knowing that she is now truly home- no longer suffering, resting peacefully in the arms of Jesus, and surrounded by eternal love.

She was preceded in death by paternal grandparents, Gaythel and Ruth Akers, and maternal grandparents, Roy and Shirley Swim.

She is survived by her parents, Larry and Linda Akers; her fiancé, John Smallwood; her daughter, Noel Williams; her grandchildren, Chloe Williams, Landon Williams, London Williams, and Baylon Williams; her brother, Rodney Akers and wife Denise; her nieces and nephews, Scott Akers and wife Heather, Kayla Dillon and husband Jamie, and Justin Akers and wife Alexis, six great-nephews and great-nieces; and many others who loved her. She also leaves behind her special pets, Lola and Nessie, who were dear to her heart.

Funeral Service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, 2026 at Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton with Pastor Larry Akers and Pastor Jerry Heaton, officiating. Interment will follow at the Swim Family Cemetery on Reese Harmon Ridge Road in Lashmeet.

The family will receive visitors from noon until the service hour. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.bailey-kirk.com.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to St Judes Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN, 38105.

Her life was a blessing, her love was a gift, and her memory will forever be treasured by all who loved her.

Cemetery Details

Swim Family Cemetery

Reese Harmon Ridge Rd
Lashmeet, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Funeral Service

JUN 6. 1:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Tribute Wall

JM

“ *Melissa was a perfect example of a daughter of God. She was such a sweet & loving soul. She brought warmth and light wherever she went, and her actions were a testament to her faith. I feel blessed that I had the chance to meet her and spend some time chatting. My heart goes out to Uncle Larry & Aunt Linda. May the Lord bring you peace and comfort.* ”



Joanne McInerney - June 04 at 02:00 PM

LA

“ *Love, Andrea & Ava Addair purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Melissa Akers.* ”



Love, Andrea & Ava Addair - June 04 at 01:37 PM

LA

“ *Love, Andrea & Ava Addair planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Akers.* ”

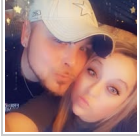
Love, Andrea & Ava Addair - June 04 at 01:37 PM

AM

“ *Going to miss you Missy. Love ya.* ”



Arlene/Buddy Midkiff - June 04 at 11:53 AM



“ So very sorry.. I went to school with Missy...Always thought she was a Beautiful girl ❤️ Sweet soul....Lots Prayers



Tina Hylton - June 04 at 07:45 AM



“ Jody and Sherri purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Melissa Akers.



Jody and Sherri - June 03 at 09:05 PM



“ So very sorry to read this, Melissa was a fantastic person with a heart of gold. I worked with her at one time , she always had a smile to share. God Bless this family with comfort and peace and healing.



Letha/Glen Davis - June 03 at 03:24 PM

BD

“ *Melissa was a beautiful person inside and out. I had the privilege of working with her at CVS many years ago, and she was truly the best boss I've ever had. She always led with kindness, compassion, and respect, and she made everyone around her feel valued. Her positive attitude and caring heart left a lasting impression on so many people.*

I am so sorry for your loss. Please know the family are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Brandi Dow - June 03 at 10:29 AM

ED

“ *We're so sorry for your loss, she was always so sweet and kind, beautiful.*

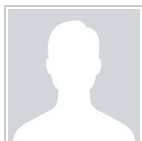
Earnest and Diane Tilley DeHart - June 03 at 08:43 AM

ED

“ *Earnest And Diane Tilley DeHart lit a candle in memory of Melissa Akers*



Earnest and Diane Tilley DeHart - June 03 at 08:41 AM



“ *We are very sorry for the loss of your daughter. May the Lord hold you both at this difficult time. We will be praying for you and the family.*



Hope Nogosky - June 02 at 10:11 PM

CK

“ I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with your family during this heartbreaking time. May her memory always be a source of love and comfort.



Cindy Burnette Kelly - June 02 at 08:48 PM

BC

“ Melissa was such a sweet soul. I'm so saddened to hear of her passing. Prayers for her family and friends 🤍.

Billy Coleman - June 02 at 08:34 PM

BS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I had Melissa in class and homeroom. I also kept Noel for her when she brought her to school. Prayers for everyone.

Bonita Sink - June 02 at 07:04 PM



“ Melissa was Such a Special Lady!!
What a Fine Example of a Godly Soldier! She touched So Many, including me with the Fine example she lived before us. Love, Hugs and prayers to the family that will miss her everyday. Love always Dianna Akers Hutchins



Dianna Akers - June 02 at 06:47 PM

HP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Linda and Larry and the family, may the Lord keep his loving arms around all of you, and may you find peace comfort and strength in our Lord.
Love and prayers,
Tommy and Karen Martin,
Mildred Mack and
Heather and Eddie Bates
Family



Heather Phillips - June 02 at 05:56 PM

SF

“ Im so sorry for your loss . Melissa was the sweetest lady always a smile on her face and always positive. God received a true angel .

Sherry Fuhrman - June 02 at 04:13 PM

PS

“ Peggy Sparks lit a candle in memory of Melissa Akers



Peggy Sparks - June 02 at 03:43 PM



“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences for your loss. Melissa was a dear high school friend, and though life took us in different directions, I’ve often thought of her over the years. I always saw in her a deeply selfless spirit—someone who gave of herself freely and cared for others in a quiet but powerful way. Teaching is such a beautiful example of that kind of life, and she truly embodied it. I am so sorry for your loss and am keeping your family in my thoughts and prayers. She will be missed ❤️

Laura Brown - June 02 at 02:46 PM

BM

Melissa was my best friend when we both taught first grade at Spanishburg. We talked, we laughed, we prayed. She always said how much she loved her family. I am confident that because of Melissa's faith in Jesus Christ, we will see each other again.

Becky Meadows - June 05 at 03:01 PM