



Melissa Beth White

May 2, 1975 - December 18, 2025

Melissa Beth White, 50, of Wantage, New Jersey, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 18, 2025, surrounded by love, following a short illness. Melissa was born on May 2, 1975, and was a devoted daughter to Richard and Charlanne Leavy; wife to Christopher White; mother to Kaitlyn and Lucas White; sister to Felicia and Joseph Milelli and Justin and Amy Leavy; her loving mother-in-law, Beverly White; her spouse's siblings, Wendy and Bill Gaechter and Dave and Lisa White; and aunt to Cameron and Calissa Gaechter, Jordyn and Connor White, Isabella, Joseph, Matteo, and Leondro Milelli, and James and Emily Leavy. She was known for her tenderness, kindness, compassion, patience, and deep unwavering love for her family. Melissa can be remembered by her mastery of child care and child development and was best represented by the daycare she owned, "Roots & Wings" and later as a loving care giver to families with young children. She lives on through the children she cared for, who are who they are because of her, and had the honor of receiving their roots and wings from her directly. Everything Melissa did was to bring joy to the hearts of others, including her love of cooking, baking, and crafting gifts. She also had a profound love of music and would regularly enjoy songs surrounded by her loved ones. She was also a very active part of her community, largely through her strong Christian beliefs and was a faithful member of the Christian Faith Fellowship Church.

Friends and family may pay their respects on Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at

9:30 a.m. at the Christian Faith Fellowship Church, 3188 NJ-94, Franklin, New Jersey with services to honor Melissa starting promptly at 11 a.m. at the church. To keep within Melissa's wishes, the family will not be having a repast at this time and plan to host a celebration of her life in the future. Melissa wanted everyone to gather to share memories, laughter, and love while they have fun celebrating her life. A date will be announced in the near future. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Melissa's memory to Celebrate Recovery, the check is payable to Lafayette Bible Church/Celebrate Recovery, 180 Rt. 15, Lafayette, NJ 07848.

Melissa will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered eternally by all who knew her.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, NJ. Online condolences may be offered to the family on www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Private Cremation Services

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **23**. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Faith Fellowship Church
3188 State Route 94
Franklin, NJ 07416

Service

DEC **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christian Faith Fellowship Church
3188 State Route 94
Franklin, NJ 07416

Tribute Wall



“ Michael A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Michael A. - January 02 at 09:59 AM



“ Michele L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Michele L. - December 26, 2025 at 12:30 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melissa Beth White.



December 23, 2025 at 05:17 PM



“ Rachel Wilson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Rachel Wilson - December 23, 2025 at 05:17 PM

TF

“ The Collins Family purchased the Southern Magnolia Tree for the family of Melissa Beth White.



The Collins Family - December 22, 2025 at 09:36 PM

TF

“ The Collins Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

The Collins Family - December 22, 2025 at 09:36 PM

LS

“ Lisa S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Lisa S. - December 22, 2025 at 07:15 PM

CS

“ I am so saddened to hear of Melissa's passing. Kaitlyn, Luke, my heart breaks for you and your family. May God comfort your hearts and allow you to find peace in the weeks ahead. While the Christmas lights will feel too bright and the Carols too merry, please know that Mom is in glory with the angels, singing over the celebration of that first Christmas.

Carol Speck - December 22, 2025 at 06:12 PM

JD

“ Felicia posted such an eloquent statement about her sister, Melissa, on Facebook, that pretty much sums up the person that she was. For once in my life I am without words to add because I am stunned by the events that took Melissa’s life so quickly and unjustly. Perhaps that is why I am at a loss for words. Rest in peace you beautiful girl and know that the world will miss you. Aunt Judy DePalma

judith I. depalma - December 22, 2025 at 05:20 PM

AN

“ Annie purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Melissa Beth White.



Annie - December 22, 2025 at 02:41 PM

AN

“ Annie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Annie - December 22, 2025 at 02:41 PM

AN

“ Anthony & Ashley Nevelle purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Melissa Beth White.



Anthony & Ashley Nevelle - December 22, 2025 at 02:03 PM

AN

“ Anthony & Ashley Nevelle planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Anthony & Ashley Nevelle - December 22, 2025 at 02:03 PM

CJ

“ Carole J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Carole J. - December 22, 2025 at 12:16 PM

MW

“ Mindy Wollmuth purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Melissa Beth White.



Mindy Wollmuth - December 22, 2025 at 12:11 PM

TF

“ The Mendoza Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

The Mendoza Family - December 22, 2025 at 12:09 PM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Melissa Beth White.*



December 22, 2025 at 12:09 PM



“ *Justin Breen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.*

Justin Breen - December 22, 2025 at 08:15 AM



“ *Justin Breen purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Melissa Beth White.*



Justin Breen - December 22, 2025 at 08:15 AM



“ *The Vatalaro Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.*

The Vatalaro Family - December 22, 2025 at 07:47 AM

TF

“ *The Vatalaro Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Melissa Beth White.*



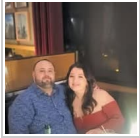
The Vatalaro Family - December 22, 2025 at 07:47 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melissa Beth White.*



December 21, 2025 at 11:48 PM



“ *Melissa was truly the best nanny I could have ever wished for—an earth angel in every sense of the word. My boys quickly became her world, and the bond they shared was something so rare and so beautiful. From trips to Space Farms, library adventures, baking at her house, to music and laughter, she always nurtured what they loved and who they were becoming. She was their favorite pal but also she was my right hand, my constant, and someone our family trusted completely. We are forever changed by her love, and I will be forever thankful for the gift of knowing her.*

Stephanie Walsh-Simpson - December 21, 2025 at 02:46 PM

MK

“ *Mason K. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.*

Mason K. - December 21, 2025 at 02:38 PM

TY

“ Theresa Yeager planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Theresa Yeager - December 21, 2025 at 10:56 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Melissa Beth White.



December 21, 2025 at 10:56 AM

GV

“ Remembering Melissa as a sweet 3 year old in long beach island where our families shared time in summer. Melissa had our families in stitches while dining out. So aware and curious of the world around her.



Gary vaccaro - December 21, 2025 at 10:34 AM

JP

“ Joan P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Joan P. - December 21, 2025 at 05:20 AM

KM

“ *The Mahabir Family is sending their deepest condolences ❤️. We are deeply saddened but know that Melissa will live on in her children and every one who was touched by Melissa’s love and care. May Melissa rest in peace.*

Katja Mahabir - December 20, 2025 at 06:20 PM

FA

“ *From All your friends at All Access planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.*

From All your friends at All Access - December 20, 2025 at 03:47 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Melissa Beth White.*



December 20, 2025 at 03:47 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Melissa Beth White.*



December 20, 2025 at 01:58 PM

YF

“ Your State Park Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melissa Beth White.

Your State Park Family - December 20, 2025 at 10:55 AM

YF

“ Your State Park Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Melissa Beth White.



Your State Park Family - December 20, 2025 at 10:55 AM

LD

“ I will always remember what a good friend you were and your amazing pumpkin bread. Thank you for sharing the bond of sisterhood with me for all of these years. *Esse quam videri*

Lisa Davis - December 20, 2025 at 09:31 AM

TC

“ Melissa was a very good friend of mine she loved doing everything that she loved doing she a good hugger and listener. Will miss her smile and her personality. she never judge and one

Tammy Carodenuto - December 20, 2025 at 09:03 AM



“ Melissa was a mother first and foremost, am so sad to hear :(

Fiona Connolly - December 20, 2025 at 10:23 PM

CM

Melissa was a very thoughtful, caring and loving person. She always liked to make people happy with her thoughtfulness. She will be truly missed. Though words can not explain the pain and devastation her family is going through, I pray that the Good Lord will give them strength to endure their sorrow, the Lord's presence to give them peace in their hearts and loving memories to sustain them during this most difficult time in their lives.

Christine Malkowicz - December 21, 2025 at 11:04 AM

DK

But the souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was judged an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their visitation they shall shine and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; they shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: because grace and mercy are with his chosen ones. Wisdom 3:1-9

Dian Koster - December 22, 2025 at 12:31 PM