



## Diana Gaither

December 4, 1967 - May 14, 2022

Diana Marie Bledsoe Gaither passed away on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at her home in Topeka, Kansas. Diana was born in Beeville, TX, December 4, 1967, the daughter of Susan Bledsoe Gaither and Max Gaither, while her father was in pilot training.

Diana is survived by her father; her brother, Robert Gaither; her aunts, Charlotte Adair and Peggy (David Griffith) Adams; cousins, Lee (Paul) Baker, Jeff (Elaine) Adair, Mike Bledsoe, Mac (Barbara) Bledsoe, Dick Perkins, John Perkins, Katie (Vaughn) Olson; great-aunts, Juanita Keeling and Janice (Tom) Crissman; and many other close second cousins. Her mother, Susan Gaither, passed away in March, 2020.

At Topeka West High School Diana excelled at basketball and tennis and was inducted into the Topeka West Sports Hall of Fame in 2003. At Kansas University she played varsity tennis. Her sophomore year she was voted most improved player. She graduated in 1990 with degrees in Communications and Spanish. Her master's in marketing was from KU.

Diana worked for Payless ShoeSource in Topeka, Waddell & Reed, Inc. in Kansas City, then was Vice President for Communications for Franklin Templeton Investments in San Mateo, California. She worked briefly for Chevron before moving back to Topeka. She served on the board of directors

for the Boys and Girls Club of San Mateo and the Angie Barry Run committee in Topeka. Diana loved her friends and relatives and was generous with her gifts and time attending many sports events and activities.

A memorial service will be held at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd, Topeka, KS 66614, Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 4:30 pm followed by a gathering for family and friends until 6:30 pm.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Boys and Girls Club of Topeka, 550 SE 27th St., Topeka, KS 66605.

Condolences may be sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY 25. 4:30 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

## Following the service a gathering of family and friends

MAY 25. 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

# Tribute Wall

CV

“ How sad to hear that Diana is no longer on this earth. I worked for Diana in San Mateo and found her to be one of the most productive and generous leaders of my career. I heard that Diana left for home some time ago but was not able to find any way to contact her. Diana's contribution to this life was great and she will continue to live on by the works of her generous spirit to every life she touched.  
Carole Virgin

---

**Carole Virgin** - March 20 at 10:55 PM

AB

“ I just learned today of Diana's passing. Diana was my next door neighbor when she and I lived in San Mateo. I considered her a close friend and we had a fun going to the beach, to local restaurants, and talking about career and dating, and life in general. I remember her high school reunion, we shopped together for her outfits and she was so excited to tell me the stories of that reunion. I know she loved her home town so very much. I remember when she moved back to Kansas; I really missed her. I tried through the years to get back in touch but I didn't have contact information and couldn't find her on social media. I was thinking of her this morning and then found this sad news. I am really glad this photo is the one being used for this wall -- she always told me that this was the best photo that was ever taken of her. Diana is beautiful, she was a good friend to me, and I am so sorry to hear. Thinking of you Diana.

---

**Aparna Behari** - September 03, 2024 at 04:39 PM



“ *Diana Gaither*

---

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM

JR

“ I loved Diana. She was my sorority sister and friend. She was always so funny and quick to laugh. We had many very funny moments, and I am so sad to read about her passing. Sending love and prayers. Julie Maher Reid

---

**Julie Maher Reid** - May 31, 2022 at 11:35 PM

MG

“ We are so very sad to hear of the passing of one of the most caring , positive , beautiful young lady I ever knew and had the pleasure of coaching. She was an incredible athlete with a incredible work ethic and such an amazing teammate Diana was a born leader but more important that being an athlete she had such a big heart and was always doing her best to make everybody around her feel special. I was blessed to have known Diana Gaither. We are praying for her family. You will always live on in our hearts Diana Mike &Patti Goehring

---

**mike &Patti Goehring** - May 22, 2022 at 09:57 PM

JM

“ To the Gaither family,  
Remembering Diana as a member of the Topeka Chapter DAR.  
Charlotte, sorry for your loss.  
Julia Tucker Marsh

---

**Julia Marsh** - May 21, 2022 at 09:25 PM

JS

“ Lovely Diana,..your kindness and sweet spirit will always be remembered. Safe journey home.

---

**Joanne Smelser** - May 21, 2022 at 01:54 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diana Gaither.*



---

May 21, 2022 at 01:42 PM



“ *Max and Rob, the Cain family sends heartfelt condolences to both of you. Growing up with Diana on Plass Street was a special time. Please know that all the Gaithers are in our hearts and prayers during this difficult time.*

---

**Bridget Cain** - May 21, 2022 at 01:37 PM



“ *Max,  
We are so sorry to hear of Diana passing. Your whole family is in our thoughts.  
Tom and Marsha*

---

**Tom Madl** - May 21, 2022 at 09:42 AM



“ *Harry and I send our heartfelt sympathies to all the Gaither family. Diana was a beautiful young lady who will be sadly missed. Kay Craig*

---

**Karen Craig** - May 20, 2022 at 11:05 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Diana Gaither.*



---

May 19, 2022 at 08:39 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Diana Gaither.*



---

May 19, 2022 at 04:21 PM