



Deborah Kistler Gemmel

May 22, 1952 - December 8, 2018

Deborah Kistler Gemmel, 66, passed away Saturday, December 8, 2018 surrounded by her family at her home in Newnan. Debbie was born May 22, 1952 in Allentown, PA to the late Merritt Kistler & Lois Gift Kistler. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by son Richard John Gemmel, Jr, and sister Denise Martin.

Mother Teresa's quote "Speak tenderly; let there be kindness in your face, in your eyes, in your smile, in the warmth of your greeting. Always have a cheerful smile. Don't only give your care, but give your heart as well" perfectly describes the life of Debbie Gemmel. Debbie gave her heart to many children in Coweta County during her years as a pre-kindergarten teacher at First Baptist Preschool, Shenandoah Daycare, Newnan Presbyterian Preschool and at Newnan School of Gymnastics Preschool. Her love of children also led her to minister to them as part of the Good News Club at Thomas Crossroads Elementary School. Debbie's faith was an important part of her life. She was a member of the First Baptist Church where she was active in her Sunday School Class and a Bible study. Her family was the center of her life and she could always be found cheering for her grandchildren at gymnastics, football, and baseball games.

The funeral is Saturday, December 29, 2018 at 2 o'clock at the First Baptist Church of Newnan with Rev. Sam Colvert and Dr. Jimmy Patterson officiating.

The family will receive friends at McKoon Funeral Home Friday evening December 28, 2018 between 5:00-8:00. Rather than flowers, the family respectfully requests memorial contributions to First Baptist Church Front Door Ministry, 15 West Washington Street, Newnan, GA 30263.

Condolences can be expressed online at www.mckoon.com

Survivors include husband, Richard "Rick" Gemmel; daughters, Jessica (Andre) Alford, Chelle (Dano) Korytoski, Nicole (Jason Hardegree) Gemmel; siblings, Kevin Kistler, Peggy Hutter; grandchildren, Richard Bryce Gemmel, Jeremiah Zaccheus Gemmel, Isaiah Andres Alford, Shelby Lynn Hardegree, Gabriel Korytoski; numerous nieces and nephews.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 28. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com

Service

DEC 29. 2:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Newnan
15 West Washington Street
Newnan, GA 30264
(770) 253-0797
info@fbcnewnan.org
<http://www.fbcnewnan.org>

Tribute Wall

JK

“ Rick, I so lovingly remember our days at Pinehaven Apts in Hattiesburg when you and deb received Richelle into your lives and how cute she was with Saul who lived across the breeze way. I am so sorry we lost touch. I can still hear debs laughter.

jona Keeton - January 23, 2019 at 11:25 PM

VC

“ Rick, Please know you and your family are in our hearts and prayers. Debbie was such a fine person who touched so many lives. She taught my son, Cliff in preschool and I will never forget her sweet gentle nature. She was a very gifted educator who will always be remembered for her love of children and her kind heart.

Val and Cliff Cranford

Val Cranford - January 04, 2019 at 10:57 PM

 Kristin Newman

“ Coach,
We are so very sorry for your loss and are praying for you and your family.
Sincerely,
The Newmans
(Kaden- former TCE student)

Kristin Newman - December 31, 2018 at 12:26 PM

KW

“ Coach Rick,

We are so sorry for your loss. We are praying for you and the girls during this difficult time. May God bless you and give you peace and comfort.

Karenda (Gresham) Willson

Karenda Gresham Willson - December 29, 2018 at 03:36 PM

PC

“ *Debbie was a beautiful person--inside and out! Loved knowing her and working with her at Newnan Presbyterian. It was always a lovely pleasure to be with her. I am grateful that our paths crossed. Her kindness and warmth and roll-with-the-punches outlook will always be sources of inspiration for me. My heart goes out to all of you in this huge loss.*

*With love and prayers,
Patti Cross*

Patti Cross - December 29, 2018 at 02:16 PM



“ *Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Deborah Kistler Gemmel.*



December 28, 2018 at 03:33 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Deborah Kistler Gemmel.*



December 28, 2018 at 03:28 PM



“ *I am so sorry that Debbie has passed away. I worked with Debbie at Shenandoah Development for years. Had not seen her for years, but thought of her often. May God be with all of you and see you thru your sorrow. Linda Williams.*

Linda Williams - December 28, 2018 at 12:54 PM



“ *Rick and Family, I was so sorry to hear about Debbie. My thoughts and prayers are with you all!! Debbie was such a wonderful person, and was such a big influence in my kid's lives when she taught them Pre School and Gymnastics at NSG!! Liz and Eddie Blume, Christy Angsten and Robert Angsten*

Liz Blume - December 23, 2018 at 01:51 PM



“ *Debbie was a delight to know in the 7 years I worked with her in Good News Club. Her heart was with the kids - she wanted them to know Jesus as their Savior. Not only were there serious moments in club, but we had silly times as well - all very fond memories. She will be missed. It was a blessing to hear her proclamation of peace by knowing she would be with her Lord and Savior. What a glorious meeting that must have been! May God comfort and strengthen the family now and in the days ahead. Sandra Moody*

Sandra Moody - December 19, 2018 at 06:42 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Deborah Kistler Gemmel.*



December 17, 2018 at 06:42 PM



“ *"Miss Debbie" came into our lives when my two children attended Newnan school of gymnastics preschool. Her light and love for others continues to be an inspiration in our lives. I would see her in town and she never failed to ask about my family. Her smile never failed to light my day. I'm so proud of all she shared with my family. We lift her family up in prayers.*

Leslie Carroll - December 17, 2018 at 12:00 PM

CG

“ Coach Rick, I am saddened to hear this news of Debbie's passing. May all your fond memories sustain you in the days ahead. Many prayers for God to hold you close during this time.

Carol Gable - December 16, 2018 at 01:57 PM

LS

“ Rick I'm sorry to hear about Debbie. Such a sweetheart. Hold your friends and family close! Always remember the love.
Larry Schaller

Larry Schaller - December 15, 2018 at 10:12 PM

TT

“ I remember Debbie as such a sweet person in high School and so sorry to hear of her passing. My thoughts are with you Ricky and family.

Telene Thomas - December 15, 2018 at 10:04 PM

HD

“ Mr..Gemmel I am so sorry to hear of Mrs.Gemmels death.I taught Nicole in Kdg.Mrs Gemmel was one of the sweetest people .She always had a smile on her face.Praying for your family.

Hazel Dominick - December 15, 2018 at 09:43 PM

PL

“ Chelle,
So very sorry to hear about you mother's death. She was an incredibly kind person. I know you will miss her terribly. Memories of her will live forever in your heart.

Peggie Lawson - December 15, 2018 at 01:18 PM

RM

“ Thoughts and prayers for the entire family. She was always an inspiration to me. I am thankful that I knew Debbie. I'm so sorry for your loss.



Robin Mann - December 15, 2018 at 10:30 AM

Vicki Sewell

“ Coach Rick, sending you and your family prayers for comfort and thoughts of good memories.

Vicki Sewell - December 15, 2018 at 10:04 AM

KS

“ Kathi Sumner lit a candle in memory of Deborah Kistler Gemmel



Kathi Sumner - December 15, 2018 at 09:27 AM

JD

“ Such a precious angel on this earth to so many! I can't begin to imagine all the lives she forever touched~ including mine. I am so blessed that Jeremiah was in my 1st grade class so many years ago and "Grammy" was so involved with everything we did. Such wisdom, love, support, and encouragement came from this very special lady. My prayers are with each of you~ Coach Gemmel, her precious children, and those treasured grandchildren~ how deeply she loved you all! What a powerful legacy she has given to each of you.

Jamie Dettmering - December 15, 2018 at 09:04 AM

SW

“ Dear Coach Rick and family:
I am shocked and saddened to learn of the passing of your lovely wife. I think I met her once when I was sub teaching at Thomas Crossroads. I'm going to be praying for you and all of your family now and in the future. It's very sad to lose a loved one during the holidays and I'm sure that you have gained a guardian angel in heaven. God bless all of you.

Susan Weegar - December 15, 2018 at 05:44 AM

DJ

“ Ms. Debbie, how many children adored you, my children love you! God's love was so reflected in your life. May God's love surround your sweet family and give them comfort.

Dianne Jackson - December 14, 2018 at 08:01 PM

KB

“ I remember when she wrangled all the kids in the neighborhood into her back yard one summer and taught us all how to cross-stitch. There must have been a dozen of us, all with needles and thread. I still have that scrap of cloth that I clutched for days. The lessons we learned that summer went way beyond learning how to sew, but more about never giving up and finding success no matter how big or small the task. She was a big part of my childhood, and I will hold her fondly in my heart, forever.
Praying for you all, Kathy Olszewski Brown

Kathy Olszewski Brown - December 14, 2018 at 06:59 PM

VB

Chelle and Dano, we are so sorry for your loss. We are praying the Holy Spirit will comfort you. Love, Vickie and Tommy Buelterman.

vickie buelterman - December 15, 2018 at 10:04 AM

DB

Remembering Debbie with the love of children that is such a blessing to have witnessed. I loved working with her at the Good News Club because she gave the good news like no one else did and the kids responded to her so well.

She is missed, but I know I'll be seeing her again soon.

May the good Lord comfort the rest of us that are left behind for a short while longer.....

Debby Bishop - December 17, 2018 at 09:27 AM

BE

When I think of Debbie the term 'Godly Woman ' comes to mind. You could see the love of Jesus in her beautiful eyes. I'm so lucky and honored to have known her and to be able to call her my good friend.

So many memories of our lives together growing our families in 'Shenandoah'! Crazy, wonderful times. My daughters Kim and Katie loved going to the Gemmels house to play. Debbie, along with Ms. Diane Jackson were their second mothers. So fortunate to be able to spend a year with the Gemmels a few years ago when Dave rented their duplex. We would talk and talk while she brought her laundry over!!!!

I love you, Debbie and so am grateful I told you that and you knew how important you were to me. I know you're up in the presence of your Savior now and with your son, parents and sister. May that comfort all of us. Till we meet again, my friend, Rest In Peace.

Barb Elmore

Barb Elmore - December 17, 2018 at 10:29 AM

BS

Rick, I am so sorry to hear of Debbie's death! Wow, we go so far back that I can't remember when we met! She was always the same no matter how long it had been since I saw her last! She was a very precious lady! You were so blessed to have her as she was you! Loved her so much! Praying for you and your Family!

Barbara Hay Spradlin - December 18, 2018 at 01:01 PM

BB

Remembering my neighborhood and high school friend! Sending my love to her family. Barbara Sheska Baird-

Barbara Sheska(Grason) Baird - December 22, 2018 at 01:38 PM

LD

To the Gemmel family....I got to know Debbie at NPC, where I worked in the office and she was a preschool teacher. A great lady, we talked and shared some of the things going on in our lives, and drew strength from each other from that. I was shocked to see that she had passed away, didn't realize she was ill. You had a jewel in her, hold her memory close and may God grant you love and grace in the coming days. Linda Denney

Linda M Denney - December 28, 2018 at 08:09 AM