



## Nicole "Nicki" Duarte

December 13, 1978 - October 30, 2023

Nicole "Nicki" Duarte, 44, of Peoria Heights, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 30, 2023, at Carle Health Methodist Hospital in Peoria. She was born in LaPorte, IN, on December 13, 1978, to Rodney and Margaret (Flagg) Koch. She married her best friend, Mikey Duarte, in Knox, IN, on July 7, 2017; he survives.

She is also survived by her parents of North Judson, IN; her sister, Kimberly Wright and brother, Derek (Leah) Koch, both of Galesburg; and her niece and nephews, Jaklynn (Dylan) Klingler, Khristian Wright, and Seeley and Oliver Koch.

Nicki worked as a computer programmer for Health New England.

A beloved wife and second mother to many in the family, she will be greatly missed.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria is assisting the family. A Celebration of Life will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 18, 2023, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Knox, IN.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Nicole's name to the PKD Foundation at [www.PKDcure.org](http://www.PKDcure.org). Online condolences may be left at [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

NOV 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
1600 S. Heaton St.  
Knox, IN 46534

# Tribute Wall

CS

“ Nicole was an amazing friend and colleague. She had the best sense of humor. She loved to make a party out of all our get togethers. She brought pink and sparkles with her always. At work she was always able to help find solutions either on her own or by locating additional sources of knowledge. She was always patient with those of use that didn't know IT speak. I will miss her always. Gone but not forgotten.

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**Colette Sheehan** - November 07, 2023 at 05:04 PM

JV

“ Nicole, you will always be my Yoda. I will miss hearing your voice... so much. Thank you for always being so kind, thoughtful and willing to help. I am so sad we were never able to meet in person for lunch like we talked about doing. I hope wherever you are that you know just how special you are to all of us and the lasting impression you left on us.

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**Jasmine Vazquez** - November 07, 2023 at 04:09 PM

VI

“ Dear Nicole, I lost my mentor, guru and idol in you. You taught me how to be brave and face the issues and never left us alone. My hearty condolences to Nicole's family and HNE family. You will always be with us in the form of excellent memories and beautiful work that will never demise.

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**Vijay** - November 07, 2023 at 03:09 PM

DR

“ I, along with so many of her colleagues, were deeply saddened to her of her passing. Nicole was truly one of a kind and I was honored to have known her and seen the magic. I aspire to have her grace, strength and spirit. Diane

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**Diane Rinehart** - November 07, 2023 at 01:41 PM

SO

“ Nicole was an absolute pleasure to work with. She was highly skilled at her job and always figured out a solution to even the most complex challenges. Through all of that, her warmth and charming personality shone through.

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**Steve O'Day** - November 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM

JB

“ Jack & Linda Jasmine & Ryan Elliott & Evienne, Britt & Braedan purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Nicole "Nicki" Duarte.



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**Jack & Linda Jasmine & Ryan Elliott & Evienne, Britt & Braedan** - November 05, 2023 at 01:09 PM

JH

“ Although I I personally know Nicole, I feel I knew her through Rodney and Margaret. I am so sorry for the loss you all are enduring. I am sending prayers and hugs and love to all of the family.

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**Joan Herd** - November 01, 2023 at 07:46 PM

SM

“ Nicole was such a joy to work with. No matter what was going on with her personally she came to every conversation with a smile and a “get r done” attitude. I will miss so many things about Nicole and especially Saturday lunch at PF Changs.

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**Sandra Mayock** - November 01, 2023 at 03:39 PM

GM

We were so sad to hear about Nikki's passing, she was so dear to us, and did so many nice things for us, we will always keep her in our hearts and her soul is in our prayers now and will continue to be every time we remember her. She was such a blessing to so many and she deserves every blessing Afforded her.

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**George and Dory Morley** - November 06, 2023 at 12:34 PM