



## Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro

November 7, 1967 - December 31, 2023

BLISSFIELD- Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro, 56, of Blissfield, MI died Sunday evening, December 31 2023 at Flower Hospital surrounded by her family

Shelly was born on November 7, 1967 in Pensacola, Florida the daughter of Brian and Susan (Ashley) Coss. She attended Springfield High School in Holland, OH and graduated with the Class of 1986. Shelly went on to earn her bachelor's degree in political science from Muskingum University and her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Toledo. She worked as a staff attorney for the 6th District Court of Appeals in Toledo for many years.

On October 7, 2000 Shelly was united in marriage to Salvatore "Sam" Molaro and this union blended two special families. During their 23 years of marriage, Shelly and Sam shared much joy and laughter.

Shelly was a member of Light of Christ Parish, St. Peter's Catholic Church in Blissfield, where she sang in the choir. Shelly found opportunities to be involved with the fine arts; for many years, Shelly and her mother belonged to the Berkshire Choral Society and the Toledo Choral Society. If her children were involved in a school play or musical, Shelly would volunteer to help with the set or costumes, where her sewing skills were put to good use in costume designing. Not wanting to miss out on the fun, Shelly was a Girl Scout leader when her daughters were young.

In addition to her husband, Sam, Shelly is survived by her mother, Susan; daughters, Emily Molaro and Abigail Molaro; stepdaughters, Katie Molaro

(Mike Castellon) and Nicole (Chase) Olsen; grandchildren, Luke and Claire Olsen; Uncle James; and Aunt Margie (Ward) White. She was preceded in death by her father, Brian; and brother, James Coss.

There will be a funeral mass on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at the Light of Christ Catholic Parish, St. Peter the Apostle Church in Blissfield with Rev. Jeffrey Poll as celebrant. Visitation will take place on Friday, January 5, 2024 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home, Tagsold Chapel, Blissfield with a scripture service beginning at 7:00 p.m. On Saturday there will be visitation again, one hour before the service begins at 11:00 a.m. at the church.

Memorial contributions in Shelly's honor may be made to Hickman Cancer Center at Flower Hospital or the Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit, MI. Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com](http://www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 5. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home Tagsold Chapel (Blissfield)  
301 S. Lane St.  
Blissfield, MI 49228  
(517) 486-2133  
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

## Scripture Service

JAN 5. 7:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home Tagsold Chapel (Blissfield)  
301 S. Lane St.  
Blissfield, MI 49228  
(517) 486-2133  
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

## Visitation

JAN 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Light of Christ Catholic Parish, St. Peter the Apostle Church  
Blissfield, MI 49228

## Funeral Mass

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JAN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Light of Christ Catholic Parish, St. Peter the Apostle Church  
Blissfield, MI 49228

# Tribute Wall



“ Carolyn D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

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**Carolyn D.** - January 06, 2024 at 02:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

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January 05, 2024 at 06:48 PM



“ Brenda S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

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**Brenda S.** - January 05, 2024 at 04:59 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



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January 05, 2024 at 02:23 PM

UJ

“ Uncle Jim planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

Uncle Jim - January 05, 2024 at 02:23 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



January 05, 2024 at 01:48 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



January 05, 2024 at 10:14 AM

PS

“ Pat and Lilli (Patricia Sanborn) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

Pat and Lilli (Patricia Sanborn) - January 05, 2024 at 10:14 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



January 04, 2024 at 09:14 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



January 04, 2024 at 07:16 PM



“ Judge and Carole Poer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

Judge and Carole Poer - January 04, 2024 at 07:16 PM



“ Sal, we are so sorry to hear the news of Shelly's passing. Please know you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Amy and Judge Joseph Costello

Joseph Costello - January 04, 2024 at 03:24 PM

DS

*I am so very sorry Sam and Girls,  
You all were her world and gave her the greatest joy she could ever  
have. I will miss our catch-up phone calls and reminiscing of our law  
school days. Shelly, my friend you touched all of our lives and you will  
never be forgotten.*

*Much Love Always,*

*Chris & Danessia Warren*

*Sam or Girls, if you need anything please don't hesitate to reach out  
(716) 628-2486*

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**Danessia Scott-Warren** - January 15, 2024 at 08:11 AM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of  
Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



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January 04, 2024 at 02:29 PM

A'

“ Al Richards ZB-OX '86 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle  
"Shelly" Molaro.

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**Al Richards ZB-OX '86** - January 04, 2024 at 02:29 PM

LO

“ Lenawee County Public Defenders Office planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in  
honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

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**Lenawee County Public Defenders Office** - January 04, 2024 at 01:53 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



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January 04, 2024 at 01:53 PM



“ Sam  
Sorry to hear of the passing of your wife.  
Jay Wolcott

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**Jay Wolcott** - January 04, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



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January 03, 2024 at 07:13 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



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January 03, 2024 at 05:18 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



January 03, 2024 at 04:44 PM



“ Gwendolyn H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

Gwendolyn H. - January 03, 2024 at 04:35 PM



“ Ward and Margie White planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

Ward and Margie White - January 03, 2024 at 03:51 PM



“ Ward and Margie White purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



Ward and Margie White - January 03, 2024 at 03:51 PM

RR

“ Roger, Heather, Brianna, Katie and Roger purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



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**Roger, Heather, Brianna, Katie and Roger** - January 03, 2024  
at 02:22 PM

KK

“ Shelly was always so kind and helpful to me during my time at the Court of Appeals. She was never without a welcoming smile and a funny story to share. We kept in touch after I remarried and moved to Florida with my new husband - thanks to Facebook. I am so thankful to have known Shelly. My condolences to her family. You were so fortunate to have her in your lives.

*Kathy Kahler-O'Dell  
Lake City, Florida*

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**Kathy Kahler-O'Dell** - January 03, 2024 at 02:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



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January 03, 2024 at 02:03 PM

RL

“ *My Heart is Broken for you Sam. GOD be with you and your family as he keeps your Shelly in peace and comfort. Rod*



Rod Leon - January 03, 2024 at 12:32 PM

SS

“ *Stan, Barb and Catherine Sala planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.*

Stan, Barb and Catherine Sala - January 03, 2024 at 10:50 AM

SS

“ *Stan, Barb and Catherine Sala purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.*



Stan, Barb and Catherine Sala - January 03, 2024 at 10:50 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.*



January 03, 2024 at 10:39 AM

DM

“ Dewey and Kathy Maynard purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



Dewey and Kathy Maynard - January 03, 2024 at 09:37 AM

LG

“ Love, the Gray's (Bill, Kim & girls) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.

Love, the Gray's (Bill, Kim & girls) - January 03, 2024 at 06:43 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



January 03, 2024 at 06:43 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.



January 03, 2024 at 06:23 AM

DW

“ Sam ... so saddened by the news of Shelly's passing. Prayers from the Winklers

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**Douglas M Winkler** - January 02, 2024 at 11:03 PM



“ *Shelly was as kind, confident, courageous, intelligent, and beautiful as they come. And yet what so many of us will remember her for is her sense of humor. Her laugh was contagious, loud, and it let you know without a doubt that life was worth living. It just sucks that she has left this world way too soon. At the same time, I can't count the ways I will continue to carry her with me.*

*Shelly was a college student at Muskingum when I was in high school in the same town. She was my mom's student assistant when my mom was Manager of the Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra. We were already good friends when she came along on a tour of Spain with my family when my parents led a tour of 40 people or so in 1987. One evening, while others headed out to Valencian nightclubs, Shelly stayed back at the hotel with me. We spent several hours mastering a bonkers synchronized swimming routine. She encouraged me to be silly and bold, and I like to think it stuck.*

*She called out rude behavior when she saw it. She showed me the importance of being respectful and kind to people you don't agree with -- but also that it was okay to clap back when they tried to bowl you over with their privilege and their arrogance. She was actively involved in campus politics, and helped me think through and refine my progressive political leanings, boosting my confidence in a world where my high-school teachers wouldn't take my views seriously.*

*Shelly drove down from Michigan to visit each of my parents when they were dying (eight years apart), and it meant the world to them and to me. After my mom died on January 3rd (2010), it was Shelly who reminded me and my family that it had been over a week since we'd visited my Grandma, who was 99 and living in a local nursing home. My grandma had dementia and likely didn't notice that we hadn't been with her celebrating the holidays, but we felt bad. Shelly showed us the way through our guilt, gathering us off our couches and leading us in a ten-days-late Christmas singalong for my*

*Grandma and all her neighbors. Shelly's voice, perfect and joyful, perked Grandma right up. It was the last time I saw Grandma smile. Shelly saw my family at our best and at our worst, and she never judged. She just loved.*

*It's devastating to realize I won't be able to hear her laugh again. My heart aches for her family, and for her dear college friends whom she shared with me, and whom she loved so much.*

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**Greg Brown** - January 02, 2024 at 09:18 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.*



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January 02, 2024 at 08:41 PM



“ *Kathryn L. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Catherine Michelle "Shelly" Molaro.*



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**Kathryn L.** - January 02, 2024 at 08:13 PM



“ *. Y name is : Douglas De Haas*

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**Douglas De Haas** - January 02, 2024 at 07:13 PM

DH

“ Jimmy and Shelly were both childhood friends of mine and I have the fondest of memories with them and sue. I can remember just laughing constantly and playing at their house often. I'm deeply saddened that they have both left this world. The world will be a bit more empty without them.

Douglas De Haas - January 02, 2024 at 07:12 PM

CO

“ Please except my condolences on the loss of Shelly...specially directed towards “Aunt” Susan. My heart goes to all of you in this time of grief!



Chris Orphey - January 02, 2024 at 06:14 PM

FR

“ We are so sorry to learn of this. She was a great person.  
Frank & Donna Riley

Frank & Donna Riley - January 02, 2024 at 06:09 PM

PA

“ Heartbreaking news that sweet little girl I used to take to the Toledo Zoo with her brother Jimmy has passed on so happy to have shared some of your childhood with you RIP

Patricia Arena - January 02, 2024 at 05:31 PM