

# LARA KAY TEBELIUS



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Lara Kay Tebelius, age 55, from McCandless Township, Pittsburgh, PA, formerly of Eden Prairie, MN, on December 17, 2024. Lara and her beloved dog, Piper, tragically passed away together from being hit by a car.

Lara was the cherished daughter of Charles and Sandra Tebelius; the loving sister of the late Marc Tebelius; and the devoted aunt of Morgan and Bailey Tebelius. She is also survived by many aunts, uncles, and cousins (Closes, Christiansons, Werres and Tebelius's)

Lara was born September 3, 1969, in Minneapolis, MN. She grew up in Eden Prairie, MN, and graduated in 1988, with honors from Eden Prairie High School. Her activities included band, choir, theatre, soccer and softball. Lara's interest in science and mathematics started in grade school, where she challenged her teachers with her abilities. This continued throughout her high school years, resulting in many college scholarship opportunities.

Lara was a proud graduate of North Dakota State University, earning a Master's of Science degree in Polymers and Coatings. She joined Phi Mu Sorority, becoming their house manager, which led to being elected President of the Greek Panhellenic Council at NDSU. After graduating in the Spring of 1996, Lara moved to Pittsburgh, PA, and began working as a research chemist in the R&D laboratory for Valspar Corporation, known today as The Sherwin-Williams Company. Her career at Sherwin-Williams spanned 28 years. Her self-motivation, dedication to detail, and willingness to accept challenges, both in the U.S and around the world, earned her many promotions in the Packaging and Coatings division of Sherwin-Williams. Her final position was Global Director Regulatory Affairs and Compliance.

Lara was involved in many activities during her life. She was an avid world traveler, often joining her parents on cruises and excursions throughout the world. She was musically talented at playing the piano and clarinet. She volunteered her time to charities, especially to her Phi Mu Sorority's local alumni group, and to their national fund-raising programs where she served at the director level. She established an annual scholarship in her name for Phi Mu college women. She had sweat equity in her parents' lake home in MN. Weekends in the spring and summer during the college years were spent at the lake holding this, fetching that, shingling, digging, and whatever else her grandpa needed. It was done with lots of laughter. She loved fishing and game playing, spending several weeks each year at the lake. Piper was always with her.

Lara got Piper as a puppy during COVID. Daily morning and evening walks produced a deep bond between them. They enjoyed participating weekly at training arenas, and travelling to area dog rallies, where Piper proudly won many ribbons. They will be buried together.

Lara's final Christmas letter, which went unsent concluded with the following:

"This is my wish for you: peace of mind, prosperity through the year, happiness for you and yours, fun around every corner, energy to chase your dreams, and joy to fill your holidays."

Friends and family are invited to a visitation celebrating her life AT **SIMONS FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 7720 Perry Highway, on Thursday, January 9, 2025, beginning at 11:00 am. The memorial service will begin at 2:00 pm, in the funeral home's chapel. Testimonials will be welcome.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to her scholarship program at Phi Mu Fraternity at [www.phimu.org](http://www.phimu.org) or Misty Pines Pet Company at [www.mistypinespetcompany.com](http://www.mistypinespetcompany.com).

Send condolences [post-gazette.com/gb](http://post-gazette.com/gb)