We believe that all the ties of friendship and affection which knit us as one throughout our lives do not unravel with death.

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# Christina Marie Lavergne

June 5, 1991 + March 19, 2019

#### **GREETING AND BLESSING**

As a reminder of Christina's Baptism, her casket has been sprinkled with Baptismal water. Then, a pall, recalling the white garment of her Baptism, is placed on the casket. "If we have died with Christ, we are also to live with Christ in glory."

#### ENTRANCE PROCESSION

**Processional Song:** 

"Be Not Afraid"

We Celebrate #875

OPENING PRAYER

### **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading

Jeremiah 29:11-13

RESPONSORIAL PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 25

"To you, O Lord, I lift my soul."

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1a, 3-5a

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN
[John 14:1-3]

**HOMILY** 

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Response:

"Lord, Hear Our Prayer"

## **COMMUNION RITE**

Our Father + Lamb of God

Communion Song: "On Eagle's Wings"

We Celebrate #887

Meditation Song: "I Can Only Imagine"

Final Commendation

Recessional: "Amazing Grace"



Christina Lavergne, 27, of Beaumont, died Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston. She was born on June 5, 1991, to Angela "Angie" Marie Lucarelli and John "Bubba" Edward Lavergne, in Beaumont. Christina was from the St. Anne Class of 2005 and graduated from Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School in 2009. She received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Human Resources from Lamar University. Christina was employed at C.E.D in the sales department and was a longtime bartender at Thirsty's.

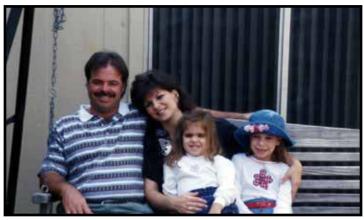
Survivors include her parents, Angie and Bubba Lavergne; sister, Elise Shellenberger and her husband, Collin; brother, Luke Lavergne; godson and nephew, Weston Shellenberger; niece, Sophie Shellenberger; maternal grandmother, Claire Lucarelli; grandmother, Jo Ellen Lavergne; grandfather, Jim Judkins; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her paternal grandfather, John Lavergne; maternal grandfather, Robert "Bob" Lucarelli; and paternal grandmother, Nancy Judkins.

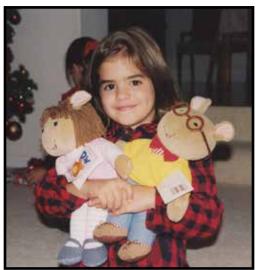






















To all of Christina's friends and family, we write this note to briefly explain Christina's journey and fight for the past 18 months.

It is extremely difficult to put words to paper in explaining what she has fought through, but her bravery has made us all stronger and more able to accept that she is now in a better place. Her passing is devastating and difficult to understand; after all, no parent should outlive their children. However, we hope that Christina's life story and her fight for the past 18 months makes you proud of her and impacts your lives as significantly as she has impacted our lives.

Christina had a rough 2017. She was fatigued, had unexplained fevers, and became short of breath at times. After numerous visits to medical providers, her condition deteriorated very quickly at the ER causing her heart to stop. For seven minutes. We called out desperate prayers – knowing that she had the strength to survive, and our prayers were answered. Soon thereafter she was life-flighted to Houston, diagnosed with an infection of the heart, and underwent emergency surgery (where she was given a 10% chance of surviving) to replace two heart valves. Christina survived the surgery. However, she faced many more surgeries and battles in the next months, and at times it seemed as if the bad news would not end. Nevertheless, she persevered and was eventually released to return home on November 17, 2017.

Christina took the months of recovery at home in stride, and because of her strength, she had no ill feelings about what life had dealt her. She worked hard to gain independence, move back into her own place, and get a new job. She was on top of her new world.

Around the time we celebrated her "second birthday" (the anniversary of the initial surgery that saved her life), she began feeling ill again. She was transferred to Houston where she was once again diagnosed with a heart infection, only this time the infection—one common in people who have heart valves replaced—was more advanced and harder to treat. She was given a poor prognosis, and again needed emergent surgery with a low chance of surviving. Christina survived the eight-hour surgery, but unfortunately the infection persisted, and complications caused several strokes.

As usual, Christina fought hard and made improvements, and our prayers

were once again answered when she was discharged on February 2, 2019, as the medications appeared to be resolving the infection.

Unfortunately, the fevers – signaling an infection – returned within a few weeks, and she was sent back to Houston for treatment. The diagnostic tests showed that the infection remained/returned to her heart and that there were other issues that needed to be addressed, but the heart doctors immediately told us that heart surgery was out of the question. The infectious disease doctors resumed an intensive medication regime to kill the infection, but none of the medications were working. The team of doctors had also been balancing an issue with her blood – it needed to be thin enough to prevent clots (the replacement valves were prone to cause clots) but also thick enough to not cause a hemorrhage or stroke. Despite the medical providers' efforts and Christina's strength, Christina had a massive brain bleed, underwent emergency surgery, and eventually died on March 19, 2019.

It has been difficult to accept God's will, but we are understanding now his plan to end her suffering and our suffering. It felt like a ticking time bomb that anything could happen at any moment. Her stroke could very likely have been severely disabling, but she was spared of that. We thank God she had very brief pain and awareness of this injury. We realize it was always God's plan to take her young, and through the power of prayer, faith and love, we were given second and third chances to have her with us a little longer. Our immediate family, extended family and friends became closer the past year and a half dealing with her illness. We gained a strong appreciation for each other and reminded ourselves often of the miracles we have witnessed and signs that Jesus was with us. We thank numerous medical staff, doctors, surgeons, nurses, therapists, whom we became close with and cared deeply for our Christina. We thank everyone who offered care, concern, and support. We thank everyone who prayed during this unbelievable journey, whether it was continual daily prayers or one quiet moment sending positive vibes her way. We are grateful for 27 years with our precious, funny, sassy, loving, moody, happy, smart, hard-working, compassionate, beautiful Christina Marie, and will hold her very close, always in our hearts and with loving memories.

Angie and Bubba Lavergne

























Deacon and Homilist: Frank Maida

Placing of Pall: Angela "Angie" and John "Bubba" Lavergne

Elise Shellenberger, Luke Lavergne

Lectors: Elise Shellenberger, Luke Lavergne
Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon of the Mass, Linda Craanen
Music Ministers: Lacey Truncale Mabry, Denise Truncale
Pallbearers: Collin Shellenberger (Brother-in-law)

Shane Johnoff (Cousin)

Robert Lucarelli, Jr. (Uncle)

Michael Lucarelli (Uncle/Godfather)

Steven Lucarelli (Uncle) Frank Lucarelli (Uncle) Gary Lavergne (Uncle)

Saint Jude Thaddeus Catholic Community

Beaumont, Texas – March 25, 2019

#### **Family Committal**

Broussard's Crematorium Beaumont, Texas

#### **Memorial Contributions**

Cardiovascular Foundation of Southeast Texas 2680 McFaddin Street Beaumont, Texas 77702

"Never let anything so fill you with sorrow that you forget the joy of the resurrection."

Mother Teresa

