



## Mallory Lee-Cruza

September 4, 1986 - August 8, 2024

Mallory Lee-Cruza, age 37, of Hilliard, OH, passed away on Thursday, August 8th, 2024, leaving behind 30+ pairs of pink shoes, six half-eaten Arby's Mozzarella Sticks, and numerous other items presumably missing from the movie sets of Legally Blonde and Pretty in Pink.

Born on September 4th, 1986, at St. Ann's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, she was the daughter of Jackie A. Schirtzinger and Philip W. Lee. In addition to her parents, Mallory is survived by her daughter, Delaney (Laney, the light of her life); her sister, Erin (E, her favorite); and brother, Adam (Bubby, whose favoritism plummeted the day he chased her with a dead opossum when they were children). She is preceded in death by grandparents Patricia and Jack Schirtzinger; Marilyn Dodd (aka Grandma Moose) and Franklin Lee; an Aunt, Theresa Schirtzinger; a gallbladder and two tonsils.

Mallory attended Hilliard Darby High School, later graduating online when faculty deemed her beauty too distracting for in-person classes. In an attempt at normalcy and to escape her ever-growing fan base, she and her daughter moved to Mississippi for a short-time and then to Plymouth, MA, where they lived surrounded by like-minded individuals (whom she lovingly referred to as Massholes).

Much like her favorite color, Mallory was known for her bright, bubbly

personality – she knew no strangers and made even the shiest wallflower feel encouraged and welcomed. Mallory was happiest when coaching gymnastics, drinking an iced thin-mint coffee from Marylou's, or being mistaken for Delaney's older sister.

She died knowing 90s country music was superior, The Princess Bride was the best movie ever made, and there was no place better than the beach (Any beach would do, but West Coast slander is welcome and encouraged).

Mallory's immediate family would like to thank all of their friends and family; as well as Mallory's friends, co-workers, and the many gymnasts, who have reached out with support, meals, kind words, condolences, memories, pictures, and videos - you have all made it possible for us to celebrate Mallory's life in a positive way.

Tremendous and heartfelt thanks are also extended to the exceptional nurses, doctors and staff at Kettering Medical Center and The James Cancer Center. A special thank-you goes to Nurse Shannon, who provided empowering and compassionate care to Mallory throughout her treatment; gave her family the emotional support they needed at critical times; and took the time to truly become Mallory's friend.

A Celebration of Life viewing will be held from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Sunday, August 18th, at Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell, 450 W. Olentangy St., Powell, OH 43065 and a Mass of Christian Burial will be Celebrated the following day (Monday, August 19th) at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 313 N. State St, Westerville, OH 43082, beginning at 10:30 am. Everyone is welcome to attend either or both events

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to funeral expenses and Delaney's continued education by logging onto :

Donate to Help Jackie and Mallory Cherish Time Together, organized by  
Colleen Trzcinski

<https://gofund.me/a55e9fda>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 18. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell  
450 West Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065  
(614) 792-1471  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

## Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 19. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church  
313 North State Street  
Westerville, OH 43082

# Tribute Wall

LT

“ *Love the Alter Gymnastics Team purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.*



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**Love the Alter Gymnastics Team** - August 16, 2024 at 09:32 PM

YF

“ *Your Archbishop Alter High School Family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.*



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**Your Archbishop Alter High School Family** - August 16, 2024 at 05:03 PM

KG

“ *Kamna and Maneesh Gupta purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.*



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**Kamna and Maneesh Gupta** - August 16, 2024 at 04:55 PM

KG

“ *Kamna and Maneesh Gupta planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mallory Lee-Cruza.*

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**Kamna and Maneesh Gupta** - August 16, 2024 at 04:55 PM



“ *Divine Light* was purchased for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



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August 15, 2024 at 09:28 PM



“ *Larry and Marsha Horn* purchased the *Emerald Garden Basket* for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



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**Larry and Marsha Horn** - August 15, 2024 at 08:27 PM



“ *Larry and Marsha Horn* planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mallory Lee-Cruza.

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**Larry and Marsha Horn** - August 15, 2024 at 08:27 PM



“ *Jesica Ream and Tracy Miller* purchased the *Beautiful Heart Bouquet* for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



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**Jesica Ream and Tracy Miller** - August 15, 2024 at 12:04 PM

GT

“ Greg and Lilly True purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



Greg and Lilly True - August 15, 2024 at 11:30 AM

GT

“ Greg and Lilly True planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mallory Lee-Cruza.

Greg and Lilly True - August 15, 2024 at 11:30 AM

TF

“ The Weiland family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



The Weiland family - August 15, 2024 at 08:45 AM

TF

“ The Weiland family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mallory Lee-Cruza.

The Weiland family - August 15, 2024 at 08:45 AM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



August 14, 2024 at 03:04 PM

WC

“ Winsupply Distribution Centers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mallory Lee-Cruza.

Winsupply Distribution Centers - August 14, 2024 at 03:04 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



August 14, 2024 at 12:32 PM

MC

“ MDH - Matt Gregory and Drew Crawford planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mallory Lee-Cruza.

MDH - Matt Gregory and Drew Crawford - August 14, 2024 at 12:32 PM

BE

“ Ben Evans and Catherine Evans purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



Ben Evans and Catherine Evans - August 14, 2024 at 11:08 AM

JD

“ Jeff, Nikki, Jacob & Lucas Dice purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



Jeff, Nikki, Jacob & Lucas Dice - August 13, 2024 at 08:11 PM

JC

“ James & Lisa Crego purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



James & Lisa Crego - August 13, 2024 at 12:08 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Mallory Lee-Cruza.



August 12, 2024 at 04:07 PM

BA

“ Bruce and Karen Anderson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mallory Lee-Cruza.

Bruce and Karen Anderson - August 12, 2024 at 04:07 PM