



## Michelle Lynn Bathras

July 7, 1963 - February 24, 2014

Michelle Lynn Bathras died on February 24, 2014, at her home in Stevensville, MD, surrounded by her loving family. She was 50.

Michelle was born on July 7, 1963, in Annapolis, MD, the daughter of Robert Lewis of Denton, MD, and the late Dolores Howe Lewis. She graduated from Glen Burnie High School, Class of 1981. Michelle married Jeffery Bathras in 1983, and she began her career at Bello Machre in 1984, where she worked for 30 years. Her last 15 years with Bello Machre were spent as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, helping to enrich the lives of those with developmental disabilities. In 2013 Michelle was chosen as the year's honoree of the Disability Awareness Award from the Anne Arundel County Commission on Disability Issues for her work.

Michelle enjoyed time spent with her family on their boat, taking in the scenery of Maryland with her husband on their motorcycle, and travelling to exotic locations on cruises. She lived her life by a simple rule- carpe diem- seize the day.

Michelle Bathras is survived by her husband, Jeffery Bathras; daughters Sarah Sklanka and her husband Jason of Stevensville, MD; Kaitlyn Bathras of Baltimore, MD; sons Justin Bathras of Stevensville, MD; Josh Bathras of Stevensville, MD; Keith Bratley of Greensboro, MD; brother Martin Lewis of

Severna Park, MD; sister Kimberly Bolan of Apple Valley, CA; and grandson Brayden Moran.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, March 2 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A. in Chester, MD. A memorial service will be held at St. Christopher's Catholic Church in Chester, MD, on Monday, March 3 at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Bello Machre at 7765 Freetown Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060 or 443-702-3000.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 2. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619  
(410) 643-2226  
info@fhfuneralhome.com

## Mass

MAR 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Christopher's Catholic Church  
1861 Harbor Drive  
Chester, MD

## Reception

MAR 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Banquet Hall at St. Christopher's Catholic Church  
Chester, MD 21619

# Tribute Wall



“ *Michelle Lynn Bathras*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Michelle Lynn Bathras*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Michelle Lynn Bathras*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers for Jeff Bathras and family on your loss of loving wife, mother, grandmother and for Bob Lewis on your loss of an adoring daughter. With deepest sympathy, Rosemary Dunn*

**Rosemary Dunn** - March 11, 2014 at 11:32 AM



“ *Christine Jones lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras*

**Christine Jones** - March 03, 2014 at 02:17 PM



JE

“ To the family,  
I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences on the loss of your loved one, Michelle. The passing of a loved one can leave a person feeling lost and heartbroken. However, the bible is a sure source of comfort for those who have lost loved ones in death. I hope you find comfort in knowing that soon all those in the memorial tombs or grave will be raised up back to life in perfect conditions free from mourning, outcry, pain, and death (John 5:28,29; Revelation 21:3-5). These are just few of many comforting scriptures. If you would like to know more about how to cope with the loss of your loved one, please feel free to visit [www.jw.org](http://www.jw.org).

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**jessy** - March 03, 2014 at 10:03 AM

SW

“ It is sooooo hard to imagine this world without Michelle in it.....it will be a bit dimmer and heaven a lot brighter.....So sorry for your loss family ..... but she lives on through you....She was such a great inspiration to all those that she met.....I loved and will miss her as I am sure anyone that knew her will.....She earned her wings long before she left this world so I am sure her flight was easy as soon as she got to the other side.....fly free my beautiful angel.....with no pain or worries.....and bless those you leave behind.....as I am sure you will protect and watch over them!!!

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**Suzanne Watson** - March 03, 2014 at 07:58 AM

AY

“ It is so hard to imagine Bello Machre without Michelle. She was such a beautiful, kind and generous person. My heart goes out to her family.

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**Ayana** - March 02, 2014 at 02:19 PM

JH

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. This is such a difficult time. Hold tight to each other and live each day to the fullest.*

*Tim, Jody, Glenn & Kenneth Herb*



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**Jody Herb** - March 02, 2014 at 01:30 PM

M(

“ *Prayers for Michelle's family and friends. May their hearts have peace.*

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**Mary Herrin (Zito)** - March 02, 2014 at 01:13 PM

JU

“ *Thinking about all the members of the Bathras family today. Sorry for your loss. Stay strong.*

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**Julie** - March 02, 2014 at 12:23 PM

RC

“ *Thoughts and Prayers and Our Deepest Sympathy To Jeff Bathras and Family! Thoughts and Prayers and Our Deepest Sympathy To Bob Lewis and Family! Michelle was so Caring and Sweet and Always Had A Big Smile For Everyone! She Was Beautiful Inside And Out! She Loved Everyone and Everyone Loved Her! She Helped So Many! When she Walked Into a Room She Always Had a Big Smile On Her Face And gave You A Big Hug And Told You How Much She Loved You! Michelle Was So Special , She Was Our Special Niece Who We Loved So Much, She Will Always Be In Our Hearts Forever And We Will Miss her So Much! Love you Michelle , Love Aunt Rose and Uncle Jim Forever!*



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**Rosemary Curtiss** - March 02, 2014 at 10:18 AM

DG

“ *What a beautiful, wonderful, and caring loving person. Michelle you were one of the best angels on earth and I know you will be watching over everyone in heaven. I don't know what I would have done without the Bello Family they came to be my family in my time of need. I never saw Michelle without a smile even when times were so hard. Everyone will really miss her, but knowing that she is no longer suffering will help heal the loss in time. My thoughts and prayers are with her family. Everyone that ever met her was truly blessed by her compassion and kindness.*

*Diane Guthrie & family*

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**Diane Guthrie** - March 02, 2014 at 09:22 AM

 Diane Peters

“ *Diane Peters lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras*



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**Diane Peters** - March 02, 2014 at 04:41 AM



Diane  
Peters

*Carpe Diem !! Michelle was my niece, however she was older than me. When we were young and we bickered, I would tell her she better be nice to me or she would have to call me aunt. That would really get her goat. I always looked up to her and admired her talent and beauty. She taught me to shave my legs, took me to my first PG movie ( in 8th grade, hard to imagine in this day and age ) and went with me to buy my first pair of Levis. ( which was a big deal to me ) I remember her teaching me the piano, going babysitting to watch the twins down the street with her, playing flash light tag out front, singing the phone number song, gymnastics, powder puff football, Boones Farm, Donny and Marie, The Carpenters and the annual summer shows we put on which coincided with her and Kim's birthday. Of course we got into mischief but not too much. I will miss your smile and infectious personality, but most of all your kind and compassionate heart. Some of my happiest memories were at Bob and Dolores' house. I am glad you are no longer suffering and I know you are in heaven walking hand in hand with your equally exceptional mother, both watching over all of us. Help guide Jeff ( your soul mate ), your beautiful children, your grandson, your father, brother and sister through this very difficult time. I will always hold our memories together close to my heart. I will forever miss you and your brave and unselfish ways. Bob, you and Dolores did an exceptional job raising your kids. Just look at how wonderful they all are. Jeff and Michelle in turn did the same thing. What a beautiful legacy to leave this world. I love you, Michelle. Gone but never forgotten.*

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**Diane Peters** - March 02, 2014 at 05:20 AM

MR

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Bathras family!!!! have known Michelle since she was 9 years old. She was always a polite person with a big smile. She reminds me so much of her mom. My prayers go out to the entire family!!!*

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**Millie Revis** - March 01, 2014 at 05:42 AM

VC

“ *My deepest sympathy to Michelle's entire family. I will never forget Michelle reaching out to me last year to offer support to me during a particularly hard time. The compassion she showed me was truly inspiring and will always be a memory I cherish. I pray that you all will find comfort in your memories of time spent with her too.*

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**Vicki Callahan** - February 28, 2014 at 05:29 PM

BD

“ Dear Jeff and family. we wish we had delivered this message to Michelle:

We wanted to thank her for her many years of inspired work on behalf of our son, Barry and the many others served by Bello Machre.

We believe that Michelle was inspired by the vision of Dr. Ireland. His vision was and is to serve the developmentally disabled by providing homes in the community where they are respected, safe, nurtured, encouraged to grow, thrive, and become as independent as their capacities allow. We believe that his vision was to be implemented "leaving no stone unturned" and with heartfelt generosity of spirit.

Operationalizing Dr. Ireland's vision was/is challenging given the nitty gritty issues that need handling daily such as the concerns of parents, the concerns of DHMH, the compliance issues, the complicated health issues, the money issues and the complex staffing issues. Handling these sometimes seemingly conflicting issues is probably similar to juggling--one must keep eyes-on all at once because each one impacts the others and each one is of singular importance, and not one can ever be dropped!

As Chief Operating Officer she operationalized the values of human diversity, fiscal responsibility, human rights, caring for staff and all Bello Machre's participants daily, and, in the last several years, even while struggling with illness. She was the ultimate COO!

She leaves us with such sadness but a wonderful legacy of gifted, inspired, intelligent and heartfelt service. Her thirty year presence with Bello Machre will always be treasured. She was an inspiration to us all. Staff at Bello Machre will likely ask for a long time, when the going gets tough and complicated, what would Michelle do? Thank you Michelle and thank you to your family and your Bello Machre family who obviously provided you with much loving support.

With great respect,  
Bonnie and Fred Davis

**Bonnie and Fred Davis** - February 28, 2014 at 03:48 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Michelle Lynn Bathras.*



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February 28, 2014 at 02:55 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Michelle Lynn Bathras.*



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February 28, 2014 at 02:51 PM



“ *I'm not sure when I will come out from my shock but I am so grateful I had such opportunity to know Michele and be a part of her achievement at Bello Machre. Michele will be remembered for strength of purpose; Kindness, Unconditional love; patience, compassion for others and sweet smiling. Death is inevitable but your memory can never be wiped away in our hearths. Good night Michele.....I know you have gone to the Lord to rest. My heart goes out to her wonderful family. You are all in my prayers and thoughts always. She will be greatly missed.*

*Oyebamiji Jacobs*

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**Oyebamiji Jacobs** - February 28, 2014 at 12:06 PM

OJ

“ *Oyebamiji Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras*



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**Oyebamiji Jacobs** - February 28, 2014 at 11:44 AM

RU

“ *My deepest condolences to the Bathras Family...my heart just aches for all of you. Michelle was like no other woman I have ever met. She never lost her amazing smile and beautiful personality through out all her battles...She will always remain a WARRIOR in my thoughts and memories!!! Stay strong and find some comfort knowing that she is now with our Lord. ...God Bless you all...And may peace be with you and your family.*

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**Regina Usilton** - February 28, 2014 at 09:59 AM



“ *Rebuilding Together Caroline County reaches out to the family of Michelle – to extend our sympathies on your loss. Michelle has been a friend to our organization. All of us hope Bob Lewis & Michelle’s family can take comfort in their many happy memories of her life well lived.*

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**Patrice Morrison** - February 28, 2014 at 07:45 AM

KT

“ *My deepest sympathy to Jeff and family. Michelle was a wonderful and caring woman. We have had so many good times together. I have a lot of memories to cherish. She has touched many lives and helped so many people. Michelle earned her place in heaven. No more pain or suffering. I love you Michelle!*

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**Kim Twele** - February 27, 2014 at 08:05 PM

CN

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Bathras family. I have great memories of Michelle back in high school. She will be missed. Praying for your healing and peace.*  
*Cindy Lear Neall*



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**Cindy Lear Neall** - February 27, 2014 at 04:29 PM



“ *In Memory Angel was purchased for the family of Michelle Lynn Bathras.*



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February 27, 2014 at 09:23 AM

LA

“ *Dear Jeff and Family,*  
*David and I am so sorry to hear of Michelle's passing. Heaven has gained a beautiful person and she will be missed by her family, friends and co-workers.*

*Leslie and David Aschemeier*

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**Leslie Aschemeier** - February 27, 2014 at 04:20 AM

TR

“ *Dear Jeff and family,*  
*Sending prayers and love to you all on the loss of Michelle. She was such remarkable, strong woman.*  
*Terri Riddle(Turner)*

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**Terri Riddle** - February 26, 2014 at 07:48 PM

TR

“ *Terri Riddle lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras*



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**Terri Riddle** - February 26, 2014 at 07:45 PM



“ *My support and prayers to the rest of the family we love you celebrate life life she did!*

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**Nancy Wray** - February 26, 2014 at 07:20 PM

MF

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Marsha Foringer** - February 26, 2014 at 07:02 PM

RH

*Dearest Jeff and Family, we are so sorry for your loss, we fell in love with Michelle, the first time we all met with her and her lovely family, I'm just so sorry we did not get more time with her, We have heard some really wonderful things about her and all the love she shared with many people, we will continue to pray for strength and much love for you and your family, Keeping you close at heart, The Howe's Jim and Rona. God Bless You and may "HE" help ease your pain.*

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**Rona Howe** - February 27, 2014 at 07:04 PM



“ *Laura Painter-Johns lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras*



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**Laura Painter-Johns** - February 26, 2014 at 06:33 PM



*Prayers for your family, Jeff. God bless you all.*

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**Laura Painter-Johns** - February 26, 2014 at 06:34 PM



*Prayers in memory of Michelle Bathras. Wanda Morat*

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**Wanda Morat** - February 27, 2014 at 08:37 AM



“ *She was the best god-mother I could ever have.*

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**David Turner** - February 26, 2014 at 05:51 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers for your family. Michelle was a very nice person and she always had a smile whenever I ran into at the office. Shewill be very missed. God Bless.*

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**Lisa Miller** - February 26, 2014 at 05:31 PM



“ *Lorene Davis lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras*



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**Lorene Davis** - February 26, 2014 at 05:09 PM



*Michelle you will be missed prayers for your family. Carpe Diem.*

**Lorene Davis** - February 26, 2014 at 05:17 PM

AC

“ *We are so very sorry for the loss of Michelle. She was a wonderful mother who was a huge influence on her children's lives as well as other people's lives. Always a kind, caring, loving person. The Chouinard Family ~ Kenneth, Annemarie, Kristen, Kassandra, Katrina*

**Annemarie Chouinard** - February 26, 2014 at 03:32 PM

KM

“ *Kimbra Marsh lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras*



**Kimbra Marsh** - February 26, 2014 at 02:56 PM

KM

*Thinking about Michelle and her family. RIP*

**Kimbra Marsh** - February 26, 2014 at 02:58 PM



“ I worked with Michelle at Bello Machre some 28 years ago. She was always a beautiful person who was willing to share a moment. One of my favorite memories is how she roller bladed the walk a thon. I am so sadden to hear of her passing as the world is definitely a sadder place. To her husband and children take heart in knowing that her pain and her fight is over. She made the world a better place just by being in it.



*Prayers for the family's peace and comfort.*  
*Lisa Rasinski-Green*

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**Lisa Rasinski Green** - February 26, 2014 at 02:54 PM

MH

*My sincere sympathy and prayers to the family. Mary Hildebeidel*

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**Mary Hildebeidel** - February 27, 2014 at 09:43 AM

KC

“ Michelle was a awesome lady. Her and Jeff worked very hard on helping me with getting to know my Michele who is now my wife and the love of my life. We also had a great motorcycle trip to octerberfest in Daytona, FL. which was the best times in my life. Michelle RIP!

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**Kenny Corkell** - February 26, 2014 at 02:47 PM

FC

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Michelle's energy and spirit is great loss but we can learn from it and pass it on. We entrust Michelle into the hands of God who loves her. May we know that through Christ we gain that everlasting dwelling place. May we know God's peace - Fr Norm Carroll

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**FR. Norm Carroll** - February 26, 2014 at 02:37 PM

KM

“ Kirk & Donna Marks lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras



Kirk & Donna Marks - February 26, 2014 at 02:28 PM

SC

“ I feel so sad about Michelle's passing and I know what a loss it must be for her family. I met Michelle when I volunteered at Bello Machre and grew to admire Michelle tremendously as a caring professional and as a woman struggling to beat cancer. I offer my heartfelt condolences to Michelle's family and to her colleagues at Bello Machre.



Susan Carmon - February 26, 2014 at 02:24 PM



“ PH Tinsley lit a candle in memory of Michelle Lynn Bathras



PH Tinsley - February 26, 2014 at 01:24 PM



Jeff and Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I hope that you find peace and comfort through your friends and family. My thoughts and prayers are with you always. Paul Tinsley(Jeff's co-worker)

PH Tinsley - February 26, 2014 at 01:26 PM



“Michelle and I first became friends many years ago as PTA officers when our boys were in kindergarten or first grade. Who knew then that our families would become such great friends. Michelle has inspired me to be a better person and the world was definitely a better place for her having been her. I loved her greatly and will miss her terribly. To Michelle's family you know I love you all very much and I wish you peace. You are always in my thoughts and prayers. Cyn

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**Cynthia Edris** - February 26, 2014 at 11:05 AM



“I have known Michelle since around 1991 or so, when I worked with her to automate Bello Machre's accounting system. Michelle was the first client that I got when I started my own consulting business that year. She was always a pleasure to work with, bright, funny, and hard working. I was deeply saddened to hear that she was no longer responding to her chemo and, shortly after that, that she had passed. Though I no longer worked directly with Michelle, I enjoyed seeing her on occasion and will miss her, as will her family, colleagues, and friends.



Godspeed Michelle, be at peace, free from pain and sickness.  
Love,  
Carol Lord Openhym

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**Carol Openhym** - February 26, 2014 at 10:28 AM

KM

“ *When I was diagnosed with breast cancer in '09, Michelle was one of the first people to call me and ask if I needed anything or just someone to talk to. We hadn't seen each other in a while, since our kids wrestled together. She was one of the kindest, strongest people I know. Her courage and strength were like no other. Rest in peace, my friend. Your strength and courage will live on in the lives you have touched. God bless the Bathras family during this time and the days ahead.*

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**Kendra Marvel** - February 25, 2014 at 07:32 PM

VB

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Valerie Von Den Bosch** - February 25, 2014 at 02:13 PM