



## Melissa Ann Fritzman

March 3, 1965 - February 27, 2020

Melissa Ann "Missy" Fritzman, 54, of New Kent, VA, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Thursday February 27, 2020. Melissa worked as a dedicated public servant for over 28 years with the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the States Medicaid program that serves over 1.5 million people annually. During this time, Melissa impacted millions of Virginians through her work to support individuals in need of health care services. Melissa was known as a national expert in long-term care services, often being called upon by many for her help with their loved ones needs. Melissa was beloved by all who worked with her in and outside the agency. Her passion to care for people was well known and she was always ready and willing to help anyone. She had the biggest smile, and her giggle was infectious to those around her. She was one of the brightest stars in the agency, and will be deeply missed by her friends and colleagues. Missy is survived by her two Fur Kitties, Pidgey and Poliwag; her loving sister, Melody Homa and devoted brother-in-law, Danny Homa; and by her mother, Mary Ann Bixler (Paul).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the New Kent Humane Society, P.O. Box 104, Providence Forge, VA 23140.

\*\*\*\*\*CHANGE OF ARRANGEMENTS: Memorial Service will be private.\*\*\*\*\*

In response to the Covid-19 crisis, the celebration of life for Melissa will now be a private service. We are sorry for the inconveniences this health crisis is

posing for everyone, but we truly believe that serving others and loving them well is sacrificial work. Right now, the sacrifices we make to keep our distance, even when we desperately want to comfort others in person, could potentially save lives. If you aren't going to be attending a service, as you would during other circumstances, make the extra effort to reach out through phone calls, emails, cards and letters, and especially remember those grieving in prayer. Grief is a process that is unique for each individual and it has no timeline. Please continue to reach out to these families in future weeks and months.

# Tribute Wall

GB

“ I was working late last night and had to date something March 3. I thought to myself, this is Missy Fritzman's birthday. It didn't leave my mind all night. I have known Missy since the 8th grade in Brookland Middle School. We worked together in the front office. I had a deep crush on her (no, really I loved her, at a very young age). She was so bright, funny, and beautiful. She gave me so much encouragement at a young age. We later went through high school together and parted ways not long after. Our paths would cross again once or twice in the years after school but we never really re-connected.

*This morning I Googled her name only to find she passed away a year ago. I am devastated. I wish I could reach out to her surviving family to offer my sympathy. I really did love Missy. She was a wonderful girl in our youth, and I'm sure she became a wonderful woman later in life, touching so many people.*

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**Gene Brunson** - March 03, 2021 at 07:21 AM

MB

*Gene, I do not know how to get in touch with you and I just read your remember today.. What a joy to read,I am Missy's mom an d even after all this time you gave me comfort. Thank you for remembering her.*  
*Mary Ann Bixler*

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**Maryann Bixler** - July 02, 2023 at 04:39 PM

LH

“ *Melissa was such a pleasure to work with - she was always ready to help, to try something new, to look for the good in others.*

*Melissa, thinking of your easy laugh makes me smile now...you will be so missed! Rest In Peace, friend.*

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**Lacy Heiberger** - March 24, 2020 at 08:08 PM

AD

“ One morning I went to Melissa's office to see how she was feeling. She had been home with a cold and had just come back to work. We spent a few minutes chatting about our cats, our families, and Kate Spade purses! She showed me some pictures on her phone of items she had ordered. Then it was time to go back to work- I said "See you later, Melissa!" and I left. That was the last time I saw her. She became ill that afternoon and was rushed to the hospital. I'm so glad I have the happy memory of that morning.

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**Alyson DeSalvo** - March 18, 2020 at 09:07 AM

BS

“ I have so many memories of Melissa. She was so helpful to so many at DMAS and others outside the agency. She had patience with me whenever I would bug her with my many detail questions; she used to tell me she was going to throw me off the island... well that one got a lot of milage! She touched so many lives and will be missed so much. I can't count the times I've come across information at work with her name, then it hits me...she's gone. I believe our heavenly Father has big plans for her; a very special angel! May you Melody and your family, including the four legged ones know the love of her shared by many and be witness to God's love through the people surrounding you during this very difficult time. My husband passed away at age 55 and I can honestly say I questioned why but my faith is what got me through it, my trust in God and the amazing outpouring of friends, co-workers, church family, and even strangers and ppl from yrs past. We really are all God's children. God bless and cover you and the family.

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**Barbara Seymour** - March 17, 2020 at 10:31 AM

DC

“ *Melissa, I will miss sharing kitty stories and photos with you. Rest well my friend. Diane Campbell*

**Diane Campbell** - March 10, 2020 at 09:11 PM

SV

“ *Melissa was one of the first people I met at DMAS. She was smart, kind, funny, and generously shared her knowledge. She didn't hesitate to bring you in and make you feel welcome. She had a beautiful spirit and a personality that matched it. Please accept my deepest condolences to everyone grieving at this very difficult time.*

**Susan Vacula** - March 09, 2020 at 02:34 PM

CK

“ *Melissa was always friendly and kind. She was a wonderful asset to the world. She is truly missed.*



**China Kierson** - March 09, 2020 at 01:26 PM

WD

“ *Melissa was always willing to help, teach and mentor. I looked up to her, her vast knowledge and deep passion for our Commonwealth's Medicaid population. She was inspirational, always a bright smile and shining light! May she shine on!*

**Whitney Davis** - March 05, 2020 at 07:27 AM

JL

“ *Melissa was a kind soul who treated everyone with respect. Even when you didn't feel like laughing, hearing her laugh would make you laugh. She will truly be missed.* ”

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**Jacqueline Lee** - March 02, 2020 at 04:49 PM

DG

“ *Divya G. lit a candle in memory of Melissa Ann Fritzman* ”



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**Divya G.** - March 02, 2020 at 11:18 AM

SM

“ *I am so very sorry for your loss. It seemed like Melissa knew everyone at DMAS and was always there to help with anything we needed. I can think of so many times that my coworkers and I would be pondering some issue related to long-term care, and we'd say "Let's ask Melissa! She'll know." She always did. Even if we were just sharing an elevator or passing in the hallway, her smile brightened my day. We will miss Melissa so much.* ”

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**Susan Martin** - March 02, 2020 at 11:13 AM

KE

“ *Melissa was always so warm and sweet. I remember when I first meet her at work, she was so open and inviting. I learned so much from her and she never hesitated to take her time to show me how to do a job function better or where to find information. She was always patient and giving of her time. I remember saying to Melissa one day, "I love your gray hair, you should never color it again, no one can do gray hair like you"!! We were passing in each other in the restroom as we so often did. She gave that big smile and said thank you". She will forever be a shining light for us all!*



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**Keshawn** - March 02, 2020 at 11:07 AM

KE

“ *Keshawn lit a candle in memory of Melissa Ann Fritzman*



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**Keshawn** - March 02, 2020 at 11:02 AM

TD

“ Sending my deepest sympathy on your loss of Melissa. We worked together for nearly 27 years. She was one of the first people I met when I started work at DMAS. She was a hard worker and made a positive difference in the lives of so many. She was also a ray of sunshine to her coworkers; we will miss her dearly. I'll cherish many happy memories with Melissa. Here is a picture of her, with her beautiful smile, holding my daughter, over 19 years ago. Sending prayers for peace and comfort to Melissa's loving family. Tammy Driscoll



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**Tammy Driscoll** - March 01, 2020 at 10:35 PM

ME

Tammy I love this picture and I remember those days so well too. Thank you so much for sharing this!

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**Melody** - March 02, 2020 at 07:34 AM

TT

“ *Thelma Thomas lit a candle in memory of Melissa Ann Fritzman*



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**Thelma Thomas** - March 01, 2020 at 08:36 PM

RE

“ DMAS won't ever be the same w/out her wonderful laugh and her answer to any question. She taught so many of us so much. She always lit up the room she was in. We know how much she loved her mother, sister an brother-in-law bc she always talked about them. Such a wonderful person can only come from a wonderful family. Please know your family will be in our thoughts an prayers. Let God comfort you w/His Peace wh passes all understanding.



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**Rebecca** - March 01, 2020 at 03:33 PM

LW

“ May care and love of those around you provide comfort and peace to get you through the days ahead. My most sincere condolences.



*LaVerne C. White*  
*DMAS Receptionist*

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**LaVerne C. White** - March 01, 2020 at 10:28 AM

BN

“ Melissa had the biggest heart and always loved her kitty pictures and stories. Famous for her cute little pocketbooks. Her sister n Melissa shared their home bake cookies each holiday. She loved her Sister n Danny. You will be missed dearly.



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**Betty Norris** - March 01, 2020 at 08:38 AM

TT

*Melissa will truly be missed by her DMAS Family. I knew Melissa when she worked at Beth Shalom Woods. She was always willing to help the residents. When I began working at DMAS our paths crossed again. We both were a little older but still the same, willing to roll up her sleeves and do whatever needed to be done for the good of our recipients. My sincere condolences to the family. Praying that your memories will bring you comfort during these difficult days.*

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**Thelma Thomas** - March 01, 2020 at 06:35 PM

CE

*Melissa was a sweet & outgoing lady. She shared her knowledge as well as her friendship. Her "children" were so special to her. She loved her time with her sister & Danny. I will miss her so much. My heartfelt love and sorrow to you and your family. My prayer is God will comfort you and give you peace.*

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**Chris Elliott** - March 02, 2020 at 11:02 AM

AW

*I haven't known Melissa long but man will I miss seeing her face when I come to VA. She was so pleasant to be around, never hesitating to offer a helping hand (or head) and she made me laugh all the time. Her beautiful smile is etched in my mind. She will be greatly missed and time with her cherished. Praying for her dearest friends and family during this most difficult time.*

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**Aubrey West** - March 09, 2020 at 08:57 PM