We've lost our sister Cherie Ann Essig after only 43 short years. She put up a great fight against cancer for 8 long years but finally was succumbed to it. What a champion for all of us to follow. Why did God let her get this? No one knows but we are so thankful to God for letting her be with us these last 8 years. I'm sure that without prayers from family and friends and her strength and faith in God, she would not have been able to get through the 3 operations and countless radiation and chemo treatments. It was a true blessing for my family to be able to be with her on her 43rd birthday on December 14th and we were so fortunate to have her make the long drive up to Michigan for Christmas Eve. I miss her already but I have many fond memories of her. I can see her now at her wedding singing Madona's Vogue with niece Lori and Tracy and the dads playing the Blues brothers, what a great time by all.

Mom, I know you grieve, for parents are not supposed to bury their children but she is with Dad, Robert and Mrs Essig now.

I want to thank my sisters Joyce, Debbie and Carrie and my nieces Dawn and Lori and Jennie and countless friends such as Beth, Trisha, Pam, Anne, the soccer moms and the Bible study group and Hospice for taking such good care of her, for my brother Bill and I weren't much help especially since we had such a hard time stopping the water purifier from leaking. But most of all, I want to thank Steve for taking such good care of my sister since their wedding day on July 27th 1991.

My heart goes out to you Steve, Matthew and Christopher. I know Cherie carried a cross these last 8 years but Steve not only carried a cross these same 8 years, he carried one for 17 years prior with his mother. He must have strong shoulders.

We are here for you Steve, Matthew and Christopher not only today but forever.

With love, your brother, uncle and god father Mike.