



## Amber Sue Bushbaum

May 21, 1984 - July 16, 2022

Amber Sue Bushbaum, 38, of Hampton, Iowa, passed away Saturday, July 16, 2022, at MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center in Mason City.

A visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 20, 2022, at Counsell Woodley Funeral Home in Hampton. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, July 21, 2022 at Hampton United Methodist Church, with burial in the Hampton Cemetery. Family requests casual attire for those attending the visitation and funeral.

Amber was born on May 21, 1984, in Iowa City, daughter of Vernon “Jay” and Diane (Hinders) Bushbaum. She attended Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School in Vinton. Amber worked for Access in Hampton for many years.

Amber was a member of the Hampton United Methodist Church, being very active in the church choir. She loved music. Amber was a wonderful piano and keyboard player, and had a beautiful singing voice. She also loved her phone and enjoyed calling friends and family to visit with them. On many occasions, Amber would contact KLMJ radio to talk with them or to request a favorite song.

Amber will be missed by her father Jay Bushbaum, along with several aunts, uncles, cousins, and all of their families, as well as a host of friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents and her mother Diane in May of 2022.

Counsell Woodley Funeral Home of Hampton is caring for Amber and her family.

# Cemetery Details

## Hampton Cemetery

Hampton, IA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 20. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Hampton - Woodley Funeral Home  
306 Central Ave. East  
Hampton, IA 50441  
(641) 456-3232

## Service

JUL 21. 10:30 AM (CT)

Hampton United Methodist Church  
100 Central Ave E.  
Hampton, IA 50441

# Tribute Wall

SZ

“ I worked at the Braille school and Amber was such a joy to be around. first time I heard her play piano I was amazed. Then I heard her sing with Josh and play piano and again, goosebumps. Such talent. One day she asked me to help her contact a famous country music dish jockey in Florida and I was able to reach out to him for him to dedicate a song for her on her 21st birthday. It was an amazing experience for me and for her! He sent me a sound file which I burnt with CD to send home with her as that was her last year at the school. So sorry to hear of her passing.

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**Samantha Zubak** - June 13, 2024 at 02:18 PM

MR

“ I remember in the dorm (Palmer 2 East) in 91 when Amber was ill I remember she cried and she was in her room and 1 of the students named Tasha Rhodes took care of her. I remember I was standing behind her room door and it was closed and I heard her cry and Tasha said "Amber U R going 2 be O K". I remember also in 91 Amber, Diane and Jay went shopping with Aunt Linda in Cedar Rapids and Diane and Jay took Amber back 2 the dorm and Diane said "Mom and Dad got 2 go", and Amber cried and I was with her in her room and the door was closed and 1 of the house parents named JoAnn opened the door and she said "Amber, do U want 2 go 2 bed early"? and Amber said "No", and JoAnn wanted Amber 2 stop her crying. Maybe JoAnn didn't want 2 understand that kids cry because they don't want their parents 2 go but that's how JoAnn was in 91. Evy was the main house parent and Amber and I had her since 91-92 School Year through 95-96 School Year. Evy was the house parent 4 Summer School 2. Amber didn't come 2 Summer School in 91 and I didn't come 2 Summer School in 92 because Mom spent the summer with me in 92. I remember I went 2 Summer School in 91, 93, 94, 95, 96 4 1 week and Mom came 2 get me on Friday June 21, 96, 2 week Summer School 97, 2 week Summer School 98 and 4 weeks of Summer School 99. I remember Amber and I came 4 Summer School 4 the 2 weeks in 93, 94, 95, 1 week of Summer School 96, 2 Week Summer School 97, 2 weeks Summer School 98 and 4 weeks of Summer School 99. Now Amber's in Heaven waiting 4 us and Diane her Mom is in Heaven waiting 4 us 2. "See U guys again someday in Heaven".

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Melissa Ritter - June 13, 2024 at 02:17 AM

MR

“ I remember Amber used 2 shake her head side 2 side when she sang and talked 2 everybody and the staff at the Braille School said "Amber Head Still". I remember going 2 Camp Courageous Of Iowa in Monticello when I was at school 4 the 96-97 School Year and it was on February 10, 97 and spent 1 night there and went back 2 school on February 11, 97 after Lunch. I remember Amber and I went there again in March 98 4 a class trip and it was Patricia Wardenburg a staff member, Amber and myself and then went back 2 school. Then I went there again in July 98 and it was my first year camping there 4 that Summer. I remember Amber played the Piano. She took Piano lessons in 91, 92, 93, 94 and she got better at playing the Piano. She used 2 play Christmas tunes on the piano all year round and some of the teachers at the Braille School didn't like that and Kelli Soquet a teacher didn't like Amber playing Christmas tunes all year round on the piano. Kelli started coming 2 the Braille School in 96 and she worked in Rice 1 East a small dorm in the evnings and then after 2 weeks of Summer School 97 she went 2 Ottumwa. In 2000 Kelli came back 2 the Braille School and she worked days and she was the T D L Teacher. Amber tried 2 fallow Kelli's dierections but Kelli wanted 2 scold at Amber and she ignored her. Kelli can be a little pain 2 some of the students but that's how Kelli was. Koster was Kelli's last name when she started coming 2 the Braille School in 96 and in May 2001 she got married and her last name became Soquet. "People uh we have 2 rejoice that Amber and her Mom Diane R in Heaven waiting 4 us and we'll see them again when God calls us 2 Heaven".

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Melissa Ritter - September 06, 2023 at 03:37 PM

MR

“ I also remember Amber and I went 2 Waverly Iowa and rode on the Star Clipper Dinner Train back in 91, May 92 and we were in the newspaper and on the KWWL news 2 and the last time that we rode on the train was on Monday April 11, 94. I remember Amber started listening 2 Country Hitmakers back in 97 and Hoss Burns hosted that radio program and I remember Hoss Burns called himself "The Hoss Man". I remember Amber and I would say things together like "O Lucy U Got Some Explaining 2 Do" and Hoss Burns said that 1st. Hoss Burns is now in Heaven. In 2015 God wanted The Hoss Man 2 go 2 Heaven and he's pain free, sorrow free, suffering free and he's all better and all new and Amber is having a good time with Hoss Burns. Amber was good at playing the piano and I remember Amber and I sang country music songs without the music. "Amber uh I'll see U again someday when God calls me 2 go 2 Heaven and I'll meet Hoss Burns (The Hoss Man)" someday in Heaven".

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**Melissa Ritter** - May 22, 2023 at 05:52 PM

MR

“ I remember Amber. Her and I went 2 the Braille School in Vinton back in 91. Her and I been friends since then. I remember she listened 2 Psalty The Singing Song Book tapes and I remember Amber and I were in class together. In the dorm Amber and I watched Rescue 911 and she and I remember William Shatner hosted that program and Rescue 911 used 2 be on Every Tuesday nights. Amber went 2 Camp Courageous back in 94 and been going there since then and I remember I went there back in July 98. Amber is a country music fan and Colin Raye is her favorite singer and she saw him in concert back on August 30, of 96 and she had a Colin Raye T Shirt and a Colin Raye pumpkin that year. Back in 2016 Amber called me and I remember talkin' 2 Amber and the last time that she called me was back in 2020 on my Birthday. On July 16 of 2022 (last year) God wanted Amber 2 go 2 Heaven. So God took her 2 Heaven. She's pain free, suffering free and she's all better and all new and new eyes and she can see now. Her Mom Dianne is also in Heaven. Back in May 2022 (Last year God wanted Dianne 2 go 2 Heaven so God took her 2 Heaven. Dianne is pain free, sorrow free, suffering free and she's all better and all new. I remember I met Dianne and Jay ever since 91. Back in April 10 of 96 my class went 2 Hampton and Amber and her perents met us there. I remember going 2 the City Hall, Daveys Factory where her Dad worked at, and the candle store, KLMJ Radio Station, Hardees 4 lunch, Square Creek store, the nursing home where her Mom Dianne worked and had bananas and played Bingo and the bank and went back 2 the Iowa Braille School. "I'll see U Amber and Dianne someday when God calls me 2 Heaven".

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Melissa Ritter - March 14, 2023 at 01:18 PM

DP

“ Sorry for your loss Jay Bushbaum and family of Amber Bushbaum, this is Derrick Palmer I used to go to school with her in Hampton back in the late 80s and then years later I worked with her at Access incorporated in Hampton I will never forget her asking me to tell my cousin Pat Palmer hi for her and I never let her down because I always kept my promise to her and she had the biggest smile when I told her I kept my promise to tell my cousin Pat hi for her. She was a hard worker and a good friend of mine and I will always remember when I told her I told my cousin Pat hi she always gave me a big hug and said thank you so much I owe you one and I said no you don't just being my best friend is more than enough for me and she said you sound like your cousin Pat and I said it's in the Palmer blood to sound like one another and she said that's true and she said if you weren't too far away I would date you and I said I know you would and I would you too and everything I am saying on here is true about what she said and I said. God bless the memory of Amber Bushbaum my best friend my former classmate and colleague at Access incorporated. I miss you Amber Bushbaum even though I didn't have the courage to say it then I will say it now I have always thought about you and I don't know how to say it but I'm saying it now I loved you then and I still love you now you will always be in my heart and you were my love even though we never dated I wish I had but know you were my girlfriend in my eyes even though I didn't date you. Thanks for being my best friend and my love tell my grandma and grandpa hi for me and tell your mom hi for me. Miss you so much and very very deeply.

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**Derrick Palmer** - July 27, 2022 at 04:11 AM

KT

“ Amber was always a joy to visit with. Never will forget that she could always pick out the wrong notes I would play during church. She liked to let me know if she heard something wrong. Always enjoyed this teasing with her. She will truly be missed!

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**Kelly Thorne** - July 19, 2022 at 07:06 PM

KH

*I am saddened to read about Amber's passing. We met her as a toddler at her grandparents house (Vern and Marion). She was such a happy gal and always loved to sing and perform with little encouragement. She became a friend of so many people. Such a joy. My heart goes out to Jay as he misses her as well as her mom. May she rest in peace and now sing with the angels!*

**Kathy Heard** - July 21, 2022 at 11:43 PM

KT

*“ Amber was always a joy to visit with. Never will forget that she could always pick out the wrong notes I would play during church. She liked to let me know if she heard something wrong. Always enjoyed this teasing with her. She will truly be missed!*

**Kelly Thorne** - July 19, 2022 at 07:05 PM

KM

*“ Amber was such a gift to everyone she met! No matter what happened, Amber always brought a smile to my face and will be missed greatly by many! She is an angel!*

**Kristin Miller** - July 19, 2022 at 04:01 PM

PH

*“ Amber was a very talented gal in so many ways. I always loved seeing her at FranklinPrairie Apts, to play piano and sing to the tenants. She was definitely a joy.*



**Penny Humburg** - July 18, 2022 at 06:46 PM

DS

“ Amber sang the National Anthem at the opening of the Franklin County Fair on Wednesday February 13. She did an amazing job. <https://youtu.be/UALooOMIHts>

Dale Schirmer - July 18, 2022 at 11:45 AM

JC

“ What a very special person Amber was! Her abilities to recognize voices and remember things was exceptional! Our thoughts and prayers to Jay and her loved ones.

Jill and Scott Conlon - July 17, 2022 at 09:52 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Amber



Mary Steere - July 17, 2022 at 08:41 PM

LJ

Thank you so much for sharing this! Doing what she loves.  
From her cousin Laura

Laura Joyce - July 17, 2022 at 10:56 PM

DP

*Sorry for your loss of your cousin Amber Bushbaum she was a good friend of mine and a hard worker and a great classmate of mine back in the late 80s. I'm missing her too she had a great voice and talent for the piano and keyboard. God bless her memory. Thanks for sharing what you said Laura Joyce and what you said is absolutely true she loved everything she did and she didn't let anything get in her way and stop her from doing what she loved the most. Tonight my heart is broken and I miss her like crazy and there will never be another woman like her again 🥹. Miss you Amber my best friend I love you as a good friend and I look forward to the day I see you again.*

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**Derrick Palmer** - July 27, 2022 at 04:22 AM

LB

*“ Sorry to hear of your loss Jay, Amber was a wonderful lady and I was always impressed how she could remember who you are by hearing your voice, even when you don't see her that often. God gained an Angel!*

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**Larry and Susan Bender** - July 17, 2022 at 08:08 PM

KB

*“ Amber would always say good morning to me and tell me about her weekend. I would always help her whenever she asked me too. I will miss her alot . RIP Amber until we meet again.*

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**Kb** - July 17, 2022 at 07:34 PM

PS

*“ Amber will definitely be missed. I didn't even have to talk to her just give a whistle and she knew who right away who I was. Will miss her wit. Prayers to you Jay. John and Patty Severs*

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**Patty Severs** - July 17, 2022 at 06:09 PM

BE

“ Betty & Ed Etnier lit a candle in memory of Amber Sue Bushbaum



Betty & Ed Etnier - July 17, 2022 at 05:03 PM

AK

“ Amber was a delightful young girl always knew who you were any where when she ran into you. I just got to visit with her Monday at the fair, thoughts and prayer are with her family 🙏

Ann Kulow - July 17, 2022 at 03:57 PM

TN

“ Amber was a shining star and full of the love of music 🎵🎵. She always greeted me with a huge smile. The heavens are filled with her song.

Theresa Nolte - July 17, 2022 at 03:35 PM

SH

“ Always enjoyed her when she came to play piano at our church, she was so sweet and so talented

Sheree Holmstrom - July 17, 2022 at 02:04 PM

MF

“ I am so sorry to hear this. We always talked about her uncle Larry as I went to school with him. She was a special young lady

Marianne Folkerts - July 17, 2022 at 01:41 PM