

Marissa Lynn Tegtman-Ford

August 4, 2025



It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Marissa Lynn Carolann Tegtman-Ford, age 23, and her unborn son, Luca James Tegtman, 24 weeks, who passed away on July 23, 2025.

Marissa was born on July 28, 2001, to Matthew Ford and Victoria Walker. She graduated from Del Norte High School in 2018 and earned her associate's degree in early childhood development in 2022.

Marissa dedicated several years to working with developmentally disabled adults and children, a career she loved until her health challenges forced her to stop. In 2016, at the age of 15, Marissa was diagnosed with Ehlers Danlos Syndrome (EDS). Despite living with daily pain that most could not imagine, Marissa faced her illness with incredible strength, resilience, and a positive spirit, always striving to uplift those around her.

On June 9, 2022, Marissa's life was blessed with the birth of her son, Asher James Ford, who became the center of her world. Marissa was an extraordinary mother, showering Asher with patience, kindness, compassion, and unwavering love, dedicating herself to nurturing him into the remarkable young person he was becoming.

Marissa was united in marriage to Nathaniel Tegtman on November 17, 2024.

Marissa found joy in artistic expression, particularly drawing, sketching, and painting. Her creativity knew no bounds, and the gifts she created for her family were truly breathtaking and uniquely hers. While enduring pain from her condition, art served as a cherished outlet, allowing her to express herself and find solace. She was already pouring her love into preparing for Luca's arrival, creating beautiful crocheted outfits for him. Both of Marissa's pregnancies were challenging due to her EDS, yet she navigated them with remarkable strength and determination.

Marissa was incredibly intelligent and knowledgeable about her illness, often understanding more than many of the medical professionals she encountered. As a 23-year-old woman, Marissa found it incredibly challenging to navigate the medical system. She wasn't always treated with the respect or attentiveness she deserved, and often felt the need to carefully time and phrase her words when speaking to doctors to avoid being judged or dismissed.

Marissa brought warmth and joy wherever she went. Whether gathered with family or simply sharing a moment with friends, her laughter and light were unforgettable. She loved the Lord deeply, expressed it through worship, and carried His love everywhere she went. Though our loss is great, we find peace knowing Marissa and Luca are together, and her love continues to shine through us.

Marissa was preceded in death by Her Grandfather Harley Campbell, Grandmother Robin Campbell, Stepfather Vince Crandell, Sister Morgynn Ford and Brother Joshua Ford. She is survived by Father and Stepmother Matthew and Melissa Ford, Mother and Stepfather Victoria and Bill Walker, Brother's Dakota Ford and Dillon Sargent, her Sister Mattilynn Ford, Grandparents Jim and Cindi Ford, Aunts and Uncles, Chris and Brenda Ford, David and Kelsey Ford, Mickey and Dawn Pickard, Ron and Rebecca Simpson and Donald Campbell.

A celebration of life service will be held at Redwoods Family Worship Center 2900 English Ln in Crescent City CA on August 9, 2025 at 12:00 pm.