

**Fitzgerald, Melissa J. (Verner)**

1975-2025

[By Julyssa Cantu](#)

on June 02, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Melissa J. Fitzgerald, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, who departed this world on May 29, 2025, at the age of 50. Melissa was born on Feb. 18, 1975, in Decatur, and spent her life dedicated to her family and the field of education, shaping young minds at Bridgeport Middle School.

Melissa graduated from Bridgeport High School in 1993, and took her love for learning to Texas Woman's University, where she earned her Bachelor's degree. She later completed her Master's degree at the University of North Texas, a testament to her commitment to education

and the students she cherished.

On Dec. 11, 1993, she married the love of her life, Monty Fitzgerald. Together, they built a beautiful life filled with laughter, love, and shared dreams. Melissa was a proud mother to her two daughters, Makenzie Torres and Makayla Fitzgerald, and her heart truly blossomed as a grandmother to her grandsons. Melissa adored spending time with them, creating cherished memories that will be held close by her family forever. She is survived by her loving husband, Monty; her daughters, Makenzie Torres and Makayla Fitzgerald; her treasured grandsons, Ezekiel Torres, Tate Davis and Eli Martinez; her mother, Trula Verner; her sister, Michelle Gregoire; and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends who will miss her radiant smile and warm spirit. Melissa is preceded in death by her father, Danny Verner, and her in-laws, H.S. Fitzgerald Jr. and Edna Fitzgerald. While her absence leaves a void that cannot be filled, the love she shared and the lives she touched will live on in everyone who had the privilege of knowing her.