

Memorial Book



In Loving Memory of

Keara Lynne Hart

(September 4, 1975 - April 5, 2006)



Do not stand at my grave and weep. I am not there, I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow. I am a diamond glint of snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain. I am the gentle autumn rain. When you awake in the morning hush, I am the swift uplifting rush of quiet birds in circling flight. I am the soft star shine at night. Do not stand by my grave and cry I am not there... I did not die.

This memorial website was created to remember our dearest Keara Lynne Hart who was born in Boulder, Colorado on September 4, 1975 and passed away on April 5, 2006 at the age of 30. You will live forever in our memories and hearts.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

You may view and print [Keara's Memorial Book](#)

It is impossible to express in words what Keara meant to us. She was and will always be our loving Mother, Daughter, Sister, Aunt, Niece, Cousin and above all else, our friend. We lost her way to soon. She leaves behind a piece of herself in all of us that love her and we will carry her with us always.

Keara was a special person with an enormous heart and kind spirit. She met many obstacles in her life, but she was strong and managed to always pull herself up. We are all so proud of what

she was able to accomplish and the positive attitude she always seemed to have no matter what. She even began helping others to achieve what she had managed to achieve in her life.

She came into this world with her big beautiful blue eyes, adorable face and mischievous look. As a toddler she spent some time as a cat. She would crawl around on the floor meowing at everyone. Whenever we spoke to her during that time, we received a meow in return. It was so cute! She eventually returned to being a person and started growing so fast that her brother Wayne nicknamed her "Weed". We all thought she would be the tallest one in the family.

Keara and her little sister Leigh were constant playmates growing up. No matter how many times they moved, they always had each other as friends. They loved to play outside together in their tree playhouse and hide out. They were inseparable. They had totally different personalities, but always got along together. As they got into their teen years, they started gaining their independence but Keara still let Leigh tag along with her even on dates.

Keara was also very close to her big sister Lauren and Lauren's husband Karl who she has known since she was nine years old. She considered him a big brother. She came to live with them the summer she was 15 and got her first job. She was a bridesmaid in their wedding and even caught the bouquet. The old wife's tale must be true because she was the next one to get married! Keara also spent time with them in California living with them as she began her recovery.

Keara also loved her big brother Wayne. He went off to college when Keara was only eight, but she always had fond memories of him. She loved to play with his big collection of Hot Wheels cars when he wasn't looking. He always knew she had been into them because he always found her hair wrapped around the wheels. Even though she didn't see him as much, she always talked about wanting to be closer to him. I know Keara would be so happy to see the way her big brother is taking care of her now.

We are so grateful for the fact that we got to see Keara come back from her rock bottom of 3 years ago to who she became. It is truly amazing that she was able to accomplish that and all with a loving heart and the smile she always wore. She had just begun her journey of giving back what she had been given in her second chance at life. In the process, she also gave those of us that love her a precious gift which was the gift of her love.

We never had to question Keara's love for us. She told us in every conversation we had and there were many. Keara loved to talk! I'm sure for most of us, the last words we heard from

her and the last words we said to her were "I love you". We can take great comfort in the fact that those words were never left unsaid.

Keara also knew that she was loved. No matter where life took her, her family was there even when she probably wished we weren't. We did not let her go through her struggles alone and never gave up on her. Keara made sure we knew how she felt about that. She told many of us several times over the past couple of years how much she appreciated us and, although unnecessary, she apologized for what she felt she had put us through.

We are not yet sure how to get through this life without Keara in it. Without chatting with her on the phone and hearing her voice and seeing her perpetual smile. But we know that even though we can no longer see her or hear her that she is always with us.

We take great comfort from her two precious children Justin and Tori. I know that they are part of Keara. You only have to look at their faces and know their personalities to see Keara in them. And she loved them with everything she had in her. She talked about them all the time and was so proud of them. We know she would want all of us to reach out to them and let them continue to feel her love through us. They are the gifts that Keara has left us.

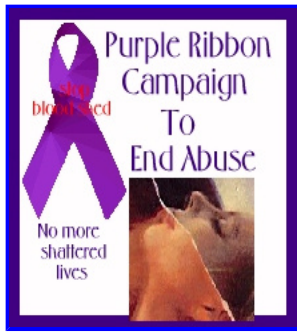
Donations:

Justin and Victoria Hart

C/O BB&T Bank

2111 S. Main Street

Goldston, NC 27352



Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The rose on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. They are set against a mottled, olive-green background that has a subtle, aged texture.

Gallery

so sweet, so unforgettable...



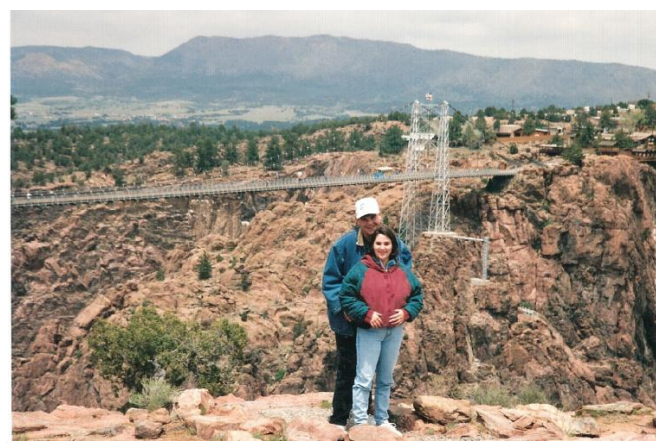
Keara & Tori



Keara, Justin, Tori



Beautiful



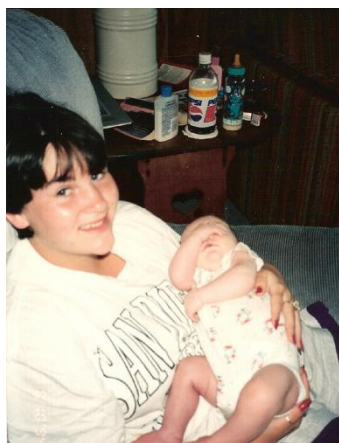
Keara & Jason in Colorado



Keara & Justin



Keara & Tori



Keara & Justin



Keara & Shrek 2003



Cutting Silhouettes1



Keara, Seanie, Olivia



Keara & Heather



Keara & Monkey



Keara & Anthony



Cutting Silhouettes2



Keara & Baby Tori



Mom



Lauren & Leigh



Tori



Lauren's House



NC State Fair 2004



Keara & Lauren in Pasadena



Oct. 1, 2005



Keara, Lauren, Wayne and Leigh



Baby Keara



Oct. 1, 2005



Christmas 2004



Christmas 2004



3 Sisters 1994



Keara



Little Keara & Leigh



Lauren & Keara



Leigh & Keara



Keara, Tori & Jusin



Keara & her kids





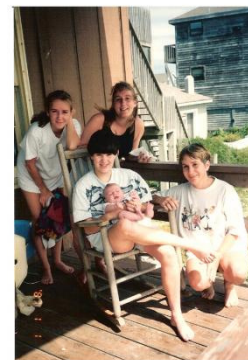
Keara & Lauren



Keara & Justin



Keara, Justin & Seanie



Beach 1994



Beach/baby Justin



Keara, Justin, Tori



Keara, Leigh, Mom





Keara, Justin, Tori



Keara, Lauren, Karl



Keara and Leigh



Keara, Jordan, Lauren Disneyland 2003



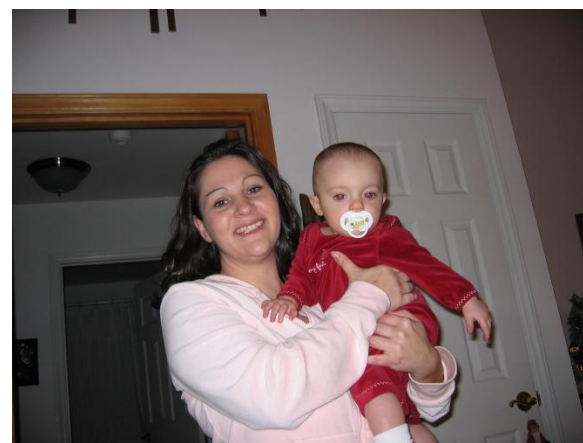
Keara & Tori



Keara & Lauren



Keara, Lauren, Leigh



Keara & Sophie



Christmas 2004

The background of the entire image is a textured, mottled olive-green or taupe color. In the upper right quadrant, there is a faint, artistic illustration of two roses. One rose is smaller and more tightly curled, while the other is larger and more open, showing its petals. They appear to be rendered in a light, sketchy style that blends into the background.

Memorial Candles

our words, your light...

04/18/2007

Lauren

*I woke up tonight in tears
missing you. We loved
having the kids here. I know
you would be so proud of
them. They are so like you.*

04/12/2007

mandy

*God bless you and your
family*

04/11/2007

A Stranger Who Cares!

*May God one day bring you
back with your family. The
love within your circle will
be restored one day! God
Bless you and yours!*

04/09/2007

Lynette

*Hi Keara I know Heaven is a
better place w/u there. God
was jealous so he came and
rescued u. Heaven has a
beautiful Angel...)*

04/08/2007

Janet Spencer

*Keara, I talked to your Mom
on the phone the other night.
We talked about you & how
much you're loved and
missed.*

04/07/2007

Suzi Miller

*I know that the wonderful
memories of her will live
forever in your hearts and
give you peace and strength.*

04/06/2007

Linda B

*In memory of Keara.
Wishing your family &
friends peace and healing in
the love, laughter and
memories that you gave
them.*

04/06/2007

Bill & Terry

*Darien, Our prayers are
with you Always. May God
bless your path thru this next
Year. We Love You All, Bill &
Terry Calif*

04/06/2007

Denise

Be filled with peace and love

04/06/2007

Lauren

*I miss you so much. I can't
believe it has been a year. It
is so hard. I love you,
Lauren.*

04/06/2007

Seanie

*I miss you and I really love
you. I wish that you would
still be here so we could play
together and you could help
me with things.*

04/05/2007

LibbyAnn Capaldi

*I send you Prayers and
Love... Peace be with YOU...*

04/05/2007

kathy and wayne

We just wanted to send our thoughts and prayers to very loving keara and family, may god bless each and every one

04/05/2007

Terry

To Keara & Family~ My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

04/05/2007

Donna

Lift us up as you are lifted. Shine on us in this now year-long grieving. Guide us in love & peace until we meet again. XXXOOO

04/05/2007

Victoria

I love you very much

04/05/2007

Stephanie & Ray

Our prayers are with Keara in Heaven and her family here on earth today. Love Stephanie & Ray

04/05/2007

Salinda Dahl

I want honor Keara's memory, and send prayers of hope, strength, and peace to her loving family.

04/05/2007

Jackie Strouble

I light this candle in honor of the beautiful spirit who touched down here among us for a time and was known as Keara.

04/05/2007

April

May your family and community find peace and consolation in one another.

04/05/2007

Marie

May the world one day be filled with peaceful homes for all future generations.

04/05/2007

Jane Allen Wilson

To Keara~ I light a candle in memory of you & the kind white light around you, of your beautiful spirit & love for others

04/05/2007

Michelle Manns

I remember your gentle, kind soul and your infectious smile. May God forever comfort your Mom and your children.

04/05/2007

Troy Manns

Thank God for the time I got to spend with you! Your smile will forever be in my heart!

04/05/2007

Gail Schneider

Just honoring Kera with my thoughts and prayers as I write this.

04/05/2007

David

Thinking of you in this time of sorrow.

04/05/2007

Mom

I am hugging and kissing you today. I hope you can feel that. I am crying too. How I miss and love you, my beautiful Kera.

04/05/2007

Kate

Thinking of your family & keeping you in my prayers.

04/05/2007

Martha Wolf

*I never met you but somehow I can imagine you smiling now and at peace. Tell the angels I said hello.
;^)*

04/05/2007

Kim Caraganis

I send strength, hope and light to the family to the family to carry on.

04/05/2007

Karen

Thinking of your family during this difficult time.

04/05/2007

David & Rebekah

Remembering Keara today. We're praying for you.

04/05/2007

Leigh

It is so hard to believe that you have been gone a year today. It is just not fair...I miss you so much.

04/02/2007

Mom

You came to me in a dream the other night and you very firmly told me that you were not dead. That was good to hear. I love you.

04/02/2007

Mom

I went to Freedom House to do some groups tonight. I felt you there. I am trying to carry on some work that you wanted to do.

03/22/2007

Mom

Today I went to get the jewelry you were wearing when you died. It was so hard and I had a masjor meltdown. I love you and so do o

03/19/2007

Fran Bumgarner

*May God give your family
His peace and hold them
close to Him in His
wonderful loving arms. You
are with Him now and
forever.*

03/16/2007

Mom

*Today is Lauren's Birthday
and we miss you so much. A
year ago today you were still
here with us. I love you!*

03/16/2007

Aunt Marie

*Times have been rough lately
for Uncle Tom and I, but we
know that you are watching
over us along with Gram
and Great Gram.*

03/14/2007

Lauren

*You are always in my
thoughts and I miss you so
much. You are a part of my
soul and always will be. I
love you my little sister!*

03/05/2007

Mom

*Tori and I spent the day
together Sat. She is really
missing you. We picked
jonquils and brought them to
your grave. We love you*

02/27/2007

Mom

*I try to take comfort in
believing that you mom and
grandma are together and at
peace. I wish I could join you
and be rid of pain*

02/26/2007

Leigh

*Lauren's white shoes dream
really made me feel like you
are still with us somehow. I
miss you and love you so
much!!*

02/23/2007

Gregory Burnette

*I miss you so much Keara. I
will always love you. Rest in
peace my dear friend!*

02/23/2007

Roxie Edwards

*I light a candle in Keara's
memory. I was not able to be
in court but my heart was
with you and your family. I
love you!*

02/10/2007

Mom

*Losing you and my Mom
within a year hurts so much.
You will both be in my heart
forever. I hope you she, and
Grandma are together.*

02/10/2007

Daniel Campbell

*In a month to years, i would
never picture this indicating
you. i just want to know you
will always be in my heart.
love, daniel.*

02/09/2007

Lauren

*This candle is for you &
Grandma. I hope she is there
with you now. I love you
both! Lauren*

02/01/2007

Kori

Keara, It's still hard to believe you're gone and given the outcome..it's still just not fair. I miss you and love you

02/01/2007

Lauren

I miss you every day. None of this has brought you back to us. Being with J&T is like being with part of you. That was good.

01/31/2007

Lynette

So I guess it is finally over. But Keara I am worried about mom. She is n great torment. Please let her know that u r at peace now

01/30/2007

Mom

Court was yesterday and he got life without parole. I am glad but it doesn't make losing you hurt any less. I love you Keara.

01/24/2007

Lynette

Hey finally u will be able to rest n peace. It is almost over. I say to u rest u deserve it.

01/16/2007

Liz

I light a candle for Keara. Another precious angel that is now soaring high.my prayers are with you and your family.

01/15/2007

CathiAnn

I light this candle for Keara and her family, love is a light that can never be extinguished. You will never be forgotten

01/15/2007

Stacey

I light this candle for Keara. May others learn from your story. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

01/15/2007

Dorothy

I light a candle for Keara and all who have been in her situation. May you find peace and never give up.

01/15/2007

Dawn (Lil)

I light a candle for Keara and all others lost to DV...My thoughts and prayers are w/ this family!

01/15/2007

Donna Scagnelli

I will light a candle for Keara, my prayers are with you and your family. Be strong and God bless you all.

01/15/2007

Tracy Hommel

I light a candle for Keara and all of those Angels taken by DV. Survivors will continue to carry on their voices.....

01/08/2007

Sister

You are going to be an Aunt again! You already know that. I miss you more than ever. My child will know you through me. I love You

01/04/2007

Brenda Hart

A new year is here and the hurt is still there. I pray for Darien, Leigh, Lauren, Carl, Justin, Tori and Anthony. God bless you all.

01/01/2007

Mom

This is the 1st day of the New Year and my heart hurts to know that you are no longer on this earth. I will always love you Keara

12/30/2006

Mom

Getting through Christmas without you was so hard. I know you want me to be ok but I know you also understand how difficult it is.

12/24/2006

Stephanie

Even though those left behind are very sad, I know that you are having Christmas by our Father's side. Merry Christmas Keara.

12/19/2006

Mom

Tonight I went into my bedroom and the candle with your name on it was already lit and not by me. Did you light it? I think so.

12/01/2006

Mom

It was so hard to spend Thanksgiving without you. I was with Lauren and Karl so that was good but I miss you so much. I love you.

11/27/2006

Phaedra

The holidays are even thicker with memories of you. Thank you for watching over me. I miss you so much. I love you deeply.

11/23/2006

Lauren

I am thankful that you are my sister and will always live in my heart and my memories of you. I love you always. We miss you.

11/13/2006

Mom

Keara I will be in court Wed. to face your murderer for the first time. Please help me to have strength. I love you.

11/09/2006

Phaedra

There isn't an hour that passes that you aren't on my mind. I love you so much and miss you terribly.

10/28/2006

Mom

Another day of crying. I have an endless supply of tears and I cry everywhere and anywhere. It just floods me in endless wave

10/27/2006

Lauren

I was in NC and you were not there. I miss you so much. This is harder then I thought possible. I miss you so much. Love, Lauren

10/27/2006

Mom

The missing you never stops. You are a part of my heart and soul and always will be. I love you Keara

10/07/2006

Shagun

A thousand years from now When my body shall be dust & rain, But if I hear U whisper my name Ill stir again

10/07/2006

Ruth Figueira (visitor)

I'm so sorry for your loss. God bless Keara & her family and friends. Her spirit carries on with you.

10/07/2006

Mom

I watched a DVD the other day with Tori. You were riding a ride that would make me sick but you got out smiling. I miss you so.

10/05/2006

Your sister

Keara you are always on my mind and in my heart where you will live on forever. I love you and miss you so much. Lauren

10/03/2006

Lynette

Keara I read your website everyday u r such a beautiful person. I am so sorry. I know that heaven is a better place with u there!

09/29/2006

Leigh

Some days it is just so hard to believe you are gone. I miss you so much. I love you always.

09/22/2006

Mom

I wish I could hug and kiss you again, hear your voice, giggles and laughter. I hope you are stil aware of how much you are loved.

09/22/2006

Mom

Keara I am with you every hour of every day even in my sleep. I feel the essence of you, but it can't replace your being here.

09/13/2006

Maura James

Watch over your family sweet angel! I hope that you and my Melissa are friends in heaven.

09/13/2006

Lauren

You are in my thoughts every minute of every day. I miss you so much and love you with my whole soul. Part of me is with you.

09/08/2006

jackie

*I didn't know you Keara, but
your beautiful smile speaks
of you, I will pray for you
and your family,*

09/05/2006

ella and gerard laude

*Light this candle to our loved
one who is a angel watching
over all of her family may
her happiness be always
near your heart.*

09/05/2006

Daphne

*Lighthing a candle to help
you find your way through
the darkness. May you have
light.*

09/05/2006

Sheriann and Brett

*Keara, I didn't know you but
I will keep your children in
my prayers. Will keep the
candle burning in your
remembrance.*

09/05/2006

Margee

*Keara, for your incredible
courage and beautiful
spirit, I wish your mom the
light of you're smile and
warmth of your hugs alwa*

09/05/2006

Kay

*Happy Birthday Keara, such
a wonderful smile, I hope my
Josh is there to make u
laugh. [www.joshua-delaney
y.memory-of.com](http://www.joshua-delaney.memory-of.com)*

09/05/2006

Janet

*Although I don't know you, I
wish your spirit peace and
that your children will
always carry you in their
heart.*

09/05/2006

Randi

*Happy Birthday Keara,
Wishing you happiness and
a beautiful day in Heaven.*

09/05/2006

**Jeannette and Vincent
Taylor**

*Happy Birthday Keara.
Much love/sadness/ange r
continues to be felt by us and
many friends of Darien.
Peace/Joy/Love/Fo rever.*

09/05/2006

Carol

*Thank you for the gifts you
left us.....Justin and Toni. We
miss you and will never
forget your smile and love.*

09/05/2006

Tracey and Sal

*Tody we are lighting a
candle in your memory. We
will celebrate your life, your
courage and your memory.
You are missed and loved*

09/05/2006

jean

*Peace & Light today &
always..*

09/05/2006

Karla

Keara, my thoughts are with you. Your life and passing have touched many, and you will be remembered always.

09/04/2006

Diana

*Happy Birthday Keara!!
Love and miss you always
and forever <33*

09/04/2006

Justin and Victoria

I am writing this for Justin and Tori. Happy Birthday Mom! We love and miss you!

09/04/2006

Wayne

Happy Birthday Keara, I love you and wish you were here. I've been thinking about you alot today and how much I miss you.

09/04/2006

Patt

*Blessings be to all of your loved ones, esp. on this day.
We all miss you, love you
and hold you in our hearts.*

09/04/2006

kim rocha

Keara I was visiting the website again tonight

09/04/2006

Jude

*You are so loved and so missed. I hold you in a place of peace and joy, smiling.
Happy Birthday, Keara!*

09/04/2006

Phaedra

There is rarely a moment you are not on my mind and never a time you are not in my heart. I miss you more every day.

09/04/2006

Glenn

Hey Keara. Just letting you know we are all thinking of you on your birthday and every other day that passes.

09/04/2006

Donna

Happy birthday, Keara. I hold you in my heart. Fly close to your Mother today and wrap her in your heavenly love. We miss you!

09/04/2006

Karl

Happy Birthday sweetness. I love you!

09/04/2006

Glen & Isik

We light a candle to honor Keara on her birthday, praying that the love and light of God may always surround her and her family.

09/04/2006

Joan DeSio-Rizzo

Thinking of you on your birthday. We all will remember you forever.

09/04/2006

Bobbie Humphreys

May God be with you & your family as you travel down this road. Bobbie Billy Lee's mom

09/04/2006

Eileen & Vic Kersten

Thinking of you on your birthday. We'll always remember you and your beautiful smile. Much love

09/04/2006

Aunt Marie and Uncle Tom

Our wish is for comfort to all who mourn your passing

09/04/2006

Aunt Marie and Uncle Tom

We light a candle today to celebrate your birth and know that the brightest star in the sky is your ever present beautiful smile

09/04/2006

Lorre (of MOMS)

Wishing you a beautiful birthday in Heaven and comfort for your children and family on Earth. You are remembered with love...

09/04/2006

Susanne

Keara, Hope you are resting in the arms of an Angel today and always. My prayers go out to you and your mom on this day.

09/04/2006

Amily McCool

Keara, My thoughts are often with your mom and family and are especially with them today, on your birthday.

09/04/2006

Aunt Myra

Keara, I'm with your Mom today sharing our love and memories of you and our family.

09/04/2006

Mom

Keara, I remember when I carried you inside me, and then you my beautiful child was born. You will always be part of me I love you

09/04/2006

Heather Brown

Happy Birthday to a woman whose life was too short, but was full of more love than most. We miss you & love you always.

09/04/2006

Stephanie & Ray

Thinking of you and your family on your birthday.

09/04/2006

Tamara

Keara, you and mom are always in my thoughts and prayers.

09/04/2006

Neil

Darien, may you find peace in it's time and joy in your memories.

09/04/2006

Tina Johnson

Happy Birthday Keara. I know that your family is missing you but your memories will live forever in everyone's heart.

09/04/2006

Lauren

Keara, today is a day to celebrate the day you were born. I will do my best, but I miss you so much. I love you with all of me.

09/04/2006

Anthony

Keara, Happy Birthday, i miss you and cherish the times when you and the kids would come over to have sleepovers with us,we love u

09/04/2006

Holly

Keara is loved by all of you, and love is the greatest gift of all. My prayers are with you in this difficult time.

09/04/2006

Leigh

Keara I miss you today on your birthday. I love you.

09/04/2006

Jane

Thinking of you on your Birthday. Love to you all

09/03/2006

Kayt Fossler

Shine on dear one and know how much you are missed by your mom.You will live on in her heart always

09/03/2006

The Kerstens

Sometimes all the words in the world fall short of expressing the profound grief that now fills that void.

09/03/2006

sulema Garcia

we remember you

09/03/2006

Ray & Kathryn

We will forever cherish the memories of our friendship. Justin, Tori and all your family are in our prayers.

09/02/2006

Victoria Tackett

*For Darien-- may the beauty
expressed here be with you
always*

09/02/2006

Beth

*I never met you, but if you
were anything like your
mother and your sister, that
is truly my loss. May you live
on in memory.*

09/01/2006

Ken Kolb

*Your story has touched
many.*

09/01/2006

Karl Johnson

*I think of you every day. I
love you!*

09/01/2006

Lauren

*Unable are the Loved to die
For Love is Immortality. Emi
ly Dickinson You are so loved
Keara and will always be.*

09/01/2006

**Bill & Terry Brennan /
CA.**

*Keara, I feel as I know you
thru your mother. She is a
fine Lady. I wish your family
Peace and know you are
LOVED by all. Bill*

09/01/2006

Gracie

We remember you.

09/01/2006

rebekah

*Keara, we are thinking of
you and your family today
and holding all of you close
in our hearts...*

08/27/2006

Mom

*Keara I went to the beach for
my b day and it was
bittersweet. I remember the
times there with you and
your love of the ocean.*

08/26/2006

k2006

God bless you & your family

08/24/2006

**Aunt Marie and Uncle
Tom**

*Today is Mom's Birthday
and as you know, she is
going to the beach with her
friend Janet. We hope she
finds some peace there w*

08/17/2006

Janet Spencer

*Keara, I knew and
remember you most as a
little child, age 6 to 12. So
precious, loving, and curious
about everything! I love U.*

08/16/2006

Deborah

*May this candle be a beacon
of hope for those that lost
you and help them
remember to celebrate your
light and life.*

08/15/2006

Tina Johnson

*I didn't know you Keara, but
may you find peace!*

08/08/2006

Mom

*Keara both our birtdays are
coming up and I feel so
sad.How can we have our
birthdays without each
other? I miss you so! Love
ya!*

08/06/2006

Leigh

*Keara I miss you so much.
Love your little sister.*

08/05/2006

Maggie

*A beautiful site, a beautiful
child. Another candle sadly
litten but will burn eternally
like her memories!*

08/02/2006

Mom

*Tori wanted to show my new
friend Daphne your
headstone. I told her I would
cry and I did. She and Justin
hugged me tightly.*

07/27/2006

Mom

*It's 4 a.m. amd I am awake
thinking of all the memories
I have and so sad. Your
cheerful calls every day so
abrutly stopped!*

07/26/2006

Lauren

*You do live on in your kids. I
loved the time they spent
with us. It made me realize
you are still here. I miss you
always. Luv U*

07/25/2006

Peggy

*I saw Justin and you come to
mind, I pass the old house
and you come to mind. You
are all around us, for this I
feel a comfort.*

07/24/2006

Rebekah and David

May you find peace.

07/07/2006

**Beverly(Harley Walls
Mom)**

*My prayers n condolences R
with U 4 the loss of UR
Beloved Keara."The worse
loss in life is the loss of of a
child."*

07/07/2006

Kim Rocha

*Keara, May God be with
your family especially your
children.I know we did not
know each other well, but
you were a good person*

07/06/2006

Bonnie Gilliom

*Keara, may this candle light
your way and the way of all
who love and miss you.*

06/30/2006

Justin

*I love you and I miss you. I
hope to see you again
someday*

06/27/2006

Mom

*Keara, we continue to hear
from people who you
inspired and whose lives you
touched. So many people
love and miss you.*

06/26/2006

Kori

*Keara, You were always
there and I will miss you
deeply. You are a true angel.
Love You!*

06/25/2006

Jillian M.

*Keara, you were so good to
me at FH in Chapel Hill. May
the peace and presence of
Christ our Lord be with you
for eternity.*

06/22/2006

Debbie and Will

*Keara-even though you are
no longer here you are
touching lives. Because of
you we have a very special
friend-your mom. Thank
you.*

06/22/2006

Isik Cotten

*Dear Keara, We never met in
this world, but you and your
family, especially your mom,
are in my prayers.*

06/20/2006

Mom

*I think of you when I wake in
the morning, when I go to
bed at night and all the
hours in between. The tears
continue to flow.*

06/20/2006

Glen Cotten

*Clearly your light is shining
Keara from "the sea of light
in the world of mysteries"!
God bless you & your family.*

06/17/2006

Victoria

*I miss Mom I hope she is
safe. I love Mom. She is the
first Mom of my life. I hope
your Mom doesn't die. I love
you. Victoria*

06/09/2006

Lynette

*Keara you don't know me
but I have heard about you
for a long time. I am so
sorry, God just wanted one
of his angels sooner.*

06/06/2006

Roxie Edwards

*Keara, I miss you so much.
The only way I can deal with
you not being in my life is to
know that God choose a very
special ANGEL.*

06/06/2006

Marilyn Young

June 6,2006 Dear family members. My heart is with you always. I lost my Jessica murdered by her husband March 2,2002. Keara

06/05/2006

Jan Cheek

May your light shine in the memories you created in all the hearts, souls, & minds you touched. Rest in PEACE.

05/28/2006

Mom

I miss everything about you and my heart just aches. I miss your beautiful face, heart , and voice. I love you with all my heart.

05/27/2006

Myra

Keara I will always have you in my heart and remember the wonderful times our families spent together. I love you.

05/21/2006

brenda Hart

Keara you will always live in our hearts and through your precious tori and justin

05/21/2006

Sandy

Keara you once asked me if i believed in god,I said YES, your questions are now answered you are with him because you are a angel!

05/20/2006

Wayne

Keara,I Love and miss you so much.I will always remember your big smile, kind heart and the memories of our childhood.Love you.

05/20/2006

Mama Donna

Since you moved on, I have seen the good work you are doing from the other side. Thank you for being our guiding angel. Peace!

05/14/2006

Seanathon

I love you Aunt Keara and I wish that you have a happy mother's day and I hope that I will see you there in heaven. Sean

05/14/2006

Lauren

Happy Mother's Day Keara. I miss you so much. Love, L auren

05/11/2006

Pam

As long as memory lives, Keara cannot die, for in your hearts she is living still as the passing time goes by.

05/10/2006

Keely

Keara I know you will make sure Tori and Justin are ok. We will do the same until we can all be together again. I love you, Keara.

05/07/2006

Jacob

I hope you know how much you mean to all of us. I miss you so, and love you always.

05/04/2006

Bart

In my memory, you're a sweet girl flying on a swing that is strung on a high, high branch as you kick your feet into the wind.

05/04/2006

Kayt Matheson Fossler

Just know that she is with you, now and always. Shine on dear one. Your family needs your bright light now.

05/04/2006

Robin

*I will never forget the day I cut your hair when we were about 6. I will always hold a piece of you in my heart.
With Love, Robin*

05/04/2006

Patt

*Blessed be all the memories of you, and the love you brought to this world. Peace to your family. love, always,
Patt*

05/01/2006

Johanne

Healing light for the family and those left behind. Never forget.

05/01/2006

Leah from AWW

God bless you and your family.

05/01/2006

Didi

I am truly sorry for your loss. I never got to meet Keara but her story of recovery touched my soul at a time when I needed it!

05/01/2006

Leslie

Keara, new guardian angel, please watch over those who loved you and were left behind. Take good care of them, they are hurting.

05/01/2006

aunt marie and uncle to

Pray for you and think of you always. so proud of you and all that you have accomplished in your recovery we love you

05/01/2006

Stephanie

You are well loved and many will miss you. God bless.

04/30/2006

Stacey & Rob

We had only met once Keara, but once was all we needed to see how wonderful a person you are. You will always be in our thoughts.

04/30/2006

Karl

I will miss you forever. I close my eyes and think of you and I see you smiling. Always smiling. I love you little sister.

04/30/2006

Phaedra

There is an ache that can't be eased. I miss you so much. I don't know how to do this... I love you.

04/30/2006

Lauren

You will live in my heart forever until we are together again. I love you and miss you so much. LOve your big sister.

04/30/2006

Leigh

I love and miss you more than I can even express in words. I will hold you forever in my heart. Love your little sister.

Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The rose on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. They are set against a mottled, olive-green background that has a subtle, paper-like texture.

Condolences

from the deepest of our hearts...

Mom

***for Wayne, Lauren, Leigh , Justin, Tori ,
Keara***

April 6, 2007

Yesterday was the the first anniversary of your death Keara. It seems so unfair that your life was taken and especially in the brutal violent way it was. The last time I spoke to you , you were so excited about having found what you thought would be your life's work and your purpose which was to help other women in recovery. I go back in my mind and think of all the things that I wish I knew so I could help you. I hope you know that I would have moved heaven and earth if I could to keep you safe. I also want to tell your brother and sister's and your children that I am so sorry that they are having to live without you. I am trying to believe you are in a place where you finally can get some peace and comfort. I also hope that we all will be together again You are such an important part of this family and now the void is difficult to bear. I hope you can feel all the love we are always sending your way and always have.

Lauren

for Keara

April 4, 2007

This condolence is for you Keara. I'm so sorry that your life ended in this way and when you were only 30 years old. I would have done anything to help you if I had only known. I'm sorry that you did not get the love you deserved in life. I'm sorry that you will miss seeing your children grow up. I'm sorry that life seemed so hard for you. I hope you knew how much you were loved, still are and always will be by they people who truely cared for you and there are many. I hope you are in a better place and that you can still see how much we all love you. Probably more than you ever knew or imagined. I promise that I will give Justin & Tori the hugs and kisses I know you would have given them when they are here next week. I hope that one day I will be with you again. I love you always, Lauren.

Claudia Sinkule

i hurt too

January 15, 2007

I am so sorry for your and your family's loss ...I can understand the incredible pain and great insanity...

for we too had a great loss...

our daughter (25) was murdered by her boy friend Oct. 2005... he beat her w/ a hammer in her sleep... and

she had a broken leg on top of it...

you can e-mail me gcsinkule@msn.com

or see <http://nicolesinkule.org>

I am here to listen and to share... may God heal us...

claudia sinkule

Karen and Mike

Peace to you

January 15, 2007

To the family of Keara Hart

May the Lord bless and keep you..bring comfort to your souls in those times of deepest sorrow..and peace in the midst of turmoil...May He guide Keara's children into lovely, abundant life...and may You be blessed with the sweet assurance of reunion at the end of this temporal world.

May your hearts be guarded in Jesus' Name..

In His Strong Love,

karen and mike

Gracie

My Prayers

January 15, 2007

My thoughts & Prayers go out to you & yours, such a shame losing such a beautiful person esp at the hands of a horrid monster.

God Bless

Dorothy Grandy

Never Gone

January 15, 2007

I truly believe she will live on by her family. She seems very loved. I wish I could tell you that losing someone gets easier, but it doesn't.

I am a sufferer of abuse, I am still living, but taking each day one day at a time. Something needs to be done. It feels like more is being done for rights of criminals than for victims.

If there is anything I can do, please call me at 1 252 384 1428, and ask for me, because I live with a roommate. Even if you just want to listen to someone. I know I can always use company, because I always feel so lost.

May God Bless Each And Everyone Of You.

Love Dorothy Grandy

Carla

She will never be gone.

January 15, 2007

I am so sorry for your loss. This is so tragic. I do all I can to help stop this sort of thing, but God knows

that we just don't have enough help to stop such tragedies. I can't express enough how heartbroken I am over this and to know the pain and heartache that you are feeling is just overwhelming. Just know that she will never be forgotten, she will live forever on in our hearts. We will always carry a part of her with us.

I feel so bad sometimes being a survivor, I think we all should survive and this sort of thing should never happen. You are all in my heart and prayers and forever will be. May you all always be blessed in every way possible and may you find peace in your heart and know that your Angel lives on in all of our hearts. God Bless You.

Justice will prevail in one way or another.

Nancy Hammond-Shaw

Mrs.

January 15, 2007

I just want you to know that I will keep your family in my prayers. I am so sorry for your loss.

Dawn (Lil)

Deepest Sympathies from a survivor...

January 15, 2007

My deepest sympathies are sent out to this family for their loss...ALL DV survivors will carry on Keara's voice... My prayers and thoughts are w/ this family and their friends to live on in Keara's memories..

Elizabeth Brown

Condolences from a Survivor

January 15, 2007

I am very sorry to hear of your daughter's passing. Please know that her spirit is always near, and that fellow survivors shall give her a voice and carry on her legacy. My thoughts and prayers are with you and yours always.

Hugs

Elizabeth

Tracy Hommel

From a Survivor.....

January 15, 2007

To Darien and her family, you touched me deeply at the SOAR meeting when you shared your pain and Keara's story. Please know that my heart and prayers are with you and your family, and know that the Survivors will carry on Keara's voice. Thank You for giving me the permission to share her story, which I have done by putting it up on UAADV.org under [Remember Our Names](#), and I have also shared it with my groups of Survivors.

Darien, stand strong and know that many are here for you. I hope through the SOAR group to get to know you better.

My spirit and Prayers are with you during this time, as are so many others.....

Angel Hugs!

Tracy Hommel

Co-Owner/Web Developer of [UAADV.org](#)

Grandma

To JJustin and Victoria

October 28, 2006

I know that it is hard for you to let yourself feel the pain and anger that your mom's death has caused but it is normal to feel those feelings and to tell people and let it out. We all feel so angry and think terrible thoughts about Damego. It doesn't mean that you are a bad person. I hope especially for you Justin that you can let yourself cry and be angry> we all feel that and it's ok. I know that you wouldn't act on those feelings but I hope you can learn to let them out because they are there and it's not good to pretend that you don't feel them. It is better to deal with it now so you don't have a lot of problems later. I hope you know that I only say this because I love you very much and I want you to be Ok. I know that it is easier to pretend this didn't happen but it did and I know you are hurting inside. I love you both very much. Love, Grandma

Mom

To My Children

October 27, 2006

I am so sorry that you are having to deal with this nightmare in your life. It hurts so much to know how you are suffering. I wish that I could have saved Keara and saved you from this terrible pain. I not only grieve for Keara but also for how much you have been hurt. I love you all and wish that I knew a way to make it better but I don't. Just know that I love you all very much and you are always in my thoughts and in my heart. Love, Mom

Lynette

Peace!!!!

October 3, 2006

I know right now it is very hard for you to get peace. But I am going to do all I can for you to have the peace that you deserve. Nothing I can do will bring you back but I am going to make sure that your living with that devil was not in vain.

You are always in my thoughts. Although I never met you but I have spoke to your mom and sisters. I know that you are wonderful just like they are.

Soon there will be peace!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

For some reason I feel like you like to joke and have fun. I know that God is so happy to have you there with him. You probably have him in cracking up laughing.

With your beautiful smile....

Until we meet in Paradise :)

Lynette

Ray & Kathryn

Justin, Tori and the entire family

September 3, 2006

God has blessed your family with an abundance of wonderful memories to reflect on. Keara will forever live in our hearts and our memories as well. Justin and Tori have that same bright smile that Keara shared with everyone she met. We are proud to have known Keara and will forever miss her. You all are in our thoughts and prayers. GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

Janet Spencer

To Justin and Victoria

August 17, 2006

After I wrote my previous prayer for your mother, I realized I had not included you two in my prayer that she watch over us. I deeply regret that and apologize for the oversight. I knew your mother when she was just 6 years old! She was such a little dynamo...always running and jumping and just curious about

everything. I will never forget seeing her and Leigh playing together all the time; those are the memories I have of her, and I treasure them. I just want you to know my heart is with you as you go through this very difficult time in your lives. Much love, Janet

Janet Spencer

You are in my prayers

August 17, 2006

Keara, I pray that your passage to the other realm, where we'll join you one day, was filled with the gentle, welcoming open arms of angels, ancestors and friends who have gone before; I pray that you now feel safe and loved, and far from the mundane struggles and fears of this earthly paradigm. I pray that in your newfound heavenly peace you will send us loving energy (as we do to you) and watch over us, especially your Mom (my dear friend), your siblings and their loved ones. They so much need to know that you are safe and at peace. I pray that the spiritual reason for all things will one day be made clear. Even though I haven't seen you for many years, I love you dearly, as I always have. Your friend, Janet

Heather Brown

Seeing you..

July 20, 2006

Dearest Keara,

I come to this website often and although I have been unable to speak here, I know that you are aware of how often I think of you and see you. The true beauty and wonderfully kind person that you are is reflected in so many ways each and every day. I see you in the little kittens I work with. I see you in the spirit of the volunteers I work with, who like you, are making the world a better place because they actually believe that they can do it!

Much of the family gathered recently, as Myra & the kids were in town and so were some of Grandpa's relatives from Florida. I was SO happy when your Mom arrived with Justin & Tori! Although it was painful to be there without you physically; I know you were there. As I swam with Tori, she spoke of you and wore your smile. As I sat watching Justin and Tori having fun with their cousins, splashing and laughing, I saw you everywhere and it brought me much comfort.

I miss you and love you very much and I thank you for shining your light in my direction when I momentarily loose my way.

Love, love, love, Heather

Jeanene Crawford

My Friend

July 2, 2006

Keara was a special person in my life. She was my roommate at Freedom House and we remained friends until the end. I lived not far from where Keara worked and so periodically I would stop in to see her and there was never a time that she wouldn't tell me that I just didn't know how special I was to her and how much she loved me. My heart aches for her MOM, Justin and Tori. We had many talks about the love she had for her family. There heavens are a brighter place because of Keara and my Heart goes out to her family. God Bless and keep you

Grandma

Justin and Tori

July 1, 2006

I am so sorry that your Mom had to die. I know how much you miss her and I know she misses you every minute. She always talked about you and was so excited when she knew she was going to see you. She loved you with all her heart and still does. I believe that she is in heaven because she was such a good person and she is still watching over you. She is proud of how kind and thoughtful you both are. She loves you and so do I.

Mom

Wayne, Lauren, Leigh

June 29, 2006

I am so sorry that you have to suffer this agonizing sadness terror and pain. No one should have to live with this nightmare. I know how much you all loved Keara and she knew it too. including you Karl & Anthony. I also want to thank you for the way you honored her with her beautiful and moving memorial service. You did what I would have wanted to do but was incapable of. I know that she is alive in all of us and always will be. I know that people tend to forget that i am not the only one grieving and want to

acknowledge that I understand the depths of your loss pain and despair. I love you all,
Mom

Kitty Griffith

***Leader, Chapel Hill Area Compassionate
Friends***

June 27, 2006

Daphne Hill, of our Compassionate Friends members, has shared with me her efforts to extend her love and compassion to you. She did so for all of us.

When you are better, physically and emotionally, you may want to join us on the third Monday of each month at the Evergreen Methodist Church on 15-501. I'm not sure where you live, but if this is too far, I know one of us would be glad to meet you in Pittsboro to give you a ride.

All of the Compassionate Friends members have lost a child. Your loss is particularly sad because it involved domestic violence, a plague that you have been working so hard to stop.

If there is anything I can do, either email me or call me at 595-1010 (our voice mail). If you leave your number, I'll return your call. Be sure to say you want to talk to me.

Kitty Griffith

jillian m

Keara was loved

June 25, 2006

Lynette

I am so sorry!!!

June 10, 2006

Although you don't know me, we have alot in common. I was a victim of Domestic Violence by the same person. My heart weeps for you and your family. If there is anything that I can do please contact me via email blessed_handz@yahoo.com

When I heard of this tragedy I could not do anything but weep. My heart was so heavy. But then I prayed I figured that God was having a hard time trying to run Heaven without you so he called you home. Although it happened in a tragic way you saved a lot of peoples lives. In my heart I know that you are a sweet genuine person. You deserved better than what you were receiving down here on Earth so God gave you your reward which is Heaven.

God Bless this wonderful family.

Weeping May Endureth For A Night But Joy Cometh In The Morning.

Keara sleep now and get your rest your family loves you but God loves you best.

Lynette

Roxie Edwards

Special Friend

June 6, 2006

Darien even though I have never met you, my heart hurts everyday for your loss. Keara was very special to me and my family. She was a comfort to my son when he was "going through". I loved her special beautiful smile and I hear her voice as though she was here. Keara will always remain in our hearts and my family and I will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. There is a very special song that I listen to all the time ("**Just A Prayer Away**") and cry out for Keara because I know that she is **Just A Prayer Away. God Bless You.**

Jan Cheek

With my love to you

June 5, 2006

With my love to you I write, but I know not what to say. Leigh, I am in awe of this tribute you have put together for your beautiful sister. I cannot fathom the anguish that you and all of your family must feel from day to day as you continue to grieve this unthinkable loss. Please know that I try to send healing energy your way...I hope you are able to receive it....take things one day at a time--even one minute at a time when necessary, but just keep moving forward much as Keara taught us all to do during the hardest of times! My love and warmest wishes for your well-being and that of your family are sent your way...Jan

Jane Hart Aschenauer

Try to think of the good times

May 18, 2006

What a beautiful web page, I just want you know I think of you all everyday. Please know that I will do my part to Help Justin & Tori remember the good times that they

shared with Keara. She was a part of our family for 9 years and gave us Justin & Tori. What a wonderful gift.

We took her flowers for mothers day. Leigh I will never forget us waiting for Justin to be born. I am still surprised that you had children after watching Keara's LONG childbirth.

God be with you all . We all have to stick together to help be the Mom that Keara can't be now.

Take care of your mom and each other

Love Always

Jane Hart Aschenauer

stacey fay

I am so sorry

May 10, 2006

It is with a heavy heart that I find myself at this beautiful Memorial Web-site. I learned about it from an on-line support group that Keara's sister posted on. Keara and my own sister had something in common. They were both victims of domestic violence. I lost my sister just 5 months ago and I can't even imagine (though I sort of can, actually) what Keara's loved ones are going through. I hope Domestic Violence is eventually snuffed out and I pray that you are all taking care of each other and yourselves the best you can at this time. Much Love!

Stacey (Tater-Fay)

Joe & Wendi

family friend

May 10, 2006

to Lauren & Karl, much love & strength to you. Joe & Wendi.

Leigh

I wish I could be there.

May 1, 2006

I wish I could be there with you. Its so hard to lose a loved one. Especially such a kindred spirit like Keara. Plese know you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I love you sweetie!!! Just remember now she's above watching and protecting you guys!!

Namaste' "The spirit in me honors the spirit in you"

Love

Didi

aunt marie & uncle tom

keara

May 1, 2006

dear leigh, hard to express the devastating feelings of loss we are all experiencing now. we wish you peace in this time of sorrow and know that we will all be together some day. please stay in contact with us. can't wait till anthony return s safely from iraq so that we can all be together to celebrate all that was keara. what a grand celebration that will be love aunt marie and uncle tom

Keara

Do Not Weep

April 30, 2006

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am a diamond glint of snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awake in the morning hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circling flight.
I am the soft star shine at night.
Do not stand by my grave and cry
I am not there...
I did not die.

Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The rose on the left is smaller and more tightly curled, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. They are set against a mottled, olive-green background that has a paper-like texture. The overall lighting is soft and diffused, creating a gentle, nostalgic atmosphere.

Shared Memoirs

all the gray you turned into colors...

Mom



It is the middle of the night and I can't sleep. I was at Freedom House and another woman knew you and D but didn't know you were murdered. Telling the story is so hard and emotional but I hope I can help somebody. Tionight I was remembering how you would start most conversations with me by saying " Hey Mama what's up?" It was so endearing and you were the only one that still called me mama. I miss that and I miss you so much. On Sunday your kids and I started planting a memorial garden for you. I got flowers that would attract butterflys and hummingbirds. I know you would like that. I miss you so much. Even though a year has gone by since you died I sometimes still can't believe it and just want to wake up and find out that this has all been a dream. Your personality still lives on in Tori. She is so much like you. Justin has your sensitivity and Tori has both your sensitivity and your exuberance. The tears I cry seem endless. I read that the extent of your sadness and tears is a measure of the love you feel. I have so much love for you that I imagine there will be tears of missing you for the rest of my life. I love you Keara. Your Mama

Mom



When you were little and we lived in Arkansas you always liked to run aroun naked. We went to NY to do a show and you went to Robin's baby shower with Grandma. They dressed you up in a pretty dress and fancy shoes and and I guess you were not comfortable so you went back to the bedroom and took off all your clothes and came back to the shower naked. They kept dressing you and you kept getting undressed. Everyone got a kick out of it except Grandma wondered about my parenting skills and thought I was raising a real hillbilly. It was so funny!

Seanie



I remember when we used to go to the park and you would push me and Tori on the swings. And you played with me alot.

Love,

Mom

April 5th 2006 was the last time I spoke to you. I talked to you twice that night. I remember you telling me that you had called Grandpa and I said that I was glad you were keeping in touch with him since he was old and we didn't know how long you would be around. Every time you called Grandpa he would later say " I love that kid" On that same night you also told me you didn't know how long you would be around either. In retrospect I have wondered if you knew that you would not live much longer. Your life was taken 1 1/2 hrs. later. I am so grateful that we had been talking every day, and the last words we were "I love you" Today is April 5th 2007. I can't believe it's been a year since your death. Today the kids and I got flowers to plant at your grave and spent time at my house and out to dinner. Whenever I am with them I see so much of you. This week has been incredibly hard. I miss you more than it's possible to communicate but I hope you feel all the love that I have for you and always will. There is nothing that will ever fill the part of my heart that belongs to you . There is a collage of pictures here in front of me and you are in all of them. i am glad of the time we had together and I cherish every memory. I do wish that we had gotten the time to build more of them. I never expected for you to die before me. It seems so unfair. I would have gladly given my life to have you spared but that is not what happened so instead I will hold you in my heart and do everything I can to honor you and I will try my hardest to help some of the people you wanted to help.

Justin

I remember when we ecorated this Christmas tree last yearwith the ornaments we made. I love you and I miss you.

Love,

Justin

VICTORIA

Dear Mom,

I Miss you very very very very very very very very very much. I love you. I misss you. I hope you're happy. I hope you make friends. I remember going to Chuckie Cheese with you.

from Victoria your daughter

Lauren

I was just remembering today the last conversation I had with you. It was on April 3, 2006. You had called and we talked about Justin & Tori coming out to visit us for their spring break in April. You were very excited about them coming. We also mostly talked about Justin and how concerned you were about his grades in school. You told me you were going to meet with his teacher on the 5th and wanted to know if I had any suggestions. You also asked if Karl & I could talk to him when he came out and I told you we would. Of course, we ended the conversation just like we always did by saying "I Love You". I'm so grateful for that! You did go to meet with Justin's teacher a couple of days later and that turned out to be your last day here. I want Justin & Tori to know just how much you loved them and how much you talked about them, worried about them and loved being their Mom.

Mom

Tonight I went to Freedom House and did a couple of groups. I felt you there and in the Women's House. They have a picture of you from your memorial service. It was so emotional for me remembering visiting you there. I know that you wanted to work there and help people and I am so glad to have the opportunity to do this for you. You are still helping people Keara and everyone there that knows you talked about how much they loved you. When I told your story everyone cried and so did I and they lined up to give me hugs. In doing that I know they were hugging you too.

Your light is very bright and I know that it shines in my heart and in everyone's that knew and loved you. I carry you with me every second of every day.

Lauren

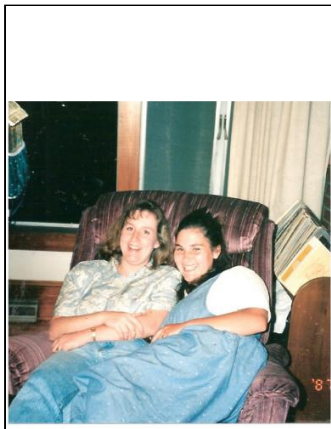
I remember how last year on my birthday you called me to wish me a Happy Birthday and to see if I had gotten anything from you yet. I said I hadn't. The next day I got two birthday cards from you and one of them had money in it that you told me to spend on something nice for myself. I just remember how sweet that was and how happy you seemed to be able to do that for me. I cherish that memory and especially today as I realize that you will never call me again on my birthday. You are with me in my heart though and I know that. I love you!

Don't worry...be happy!

I was watching a movie the other day with Seanie and this song was on it. It reminded me of when we were kids and this song came out. You used to love both the song and the saying. You would write it on all the notes that you wrote to me, I think you even had a t-shirt that said it. It made me smile to think of you singing "Don't worry, be Happy".

~Leigh

Lauren



I was thinking last night about the birthday party you had for Justin at the church when he turned 2. He was so cute and you were such a good Mom. I can picture you there in your blue dress with your hair pulled back running around making sure everything was good. It was a fun party! Justin had a pinata outside and I remember you laughing as you watched him and the other little kids try to hit it. What a good day and a happy memory that was. I think this picture might have been taken later that day.

Mom



I remember all the Christmases that I spent with you. When you were very young, the first Christmas after Leigh was born we got you a robot and I remember your sitting on the couch looking at it in fear. There were not many things you were afraid of after that which was sometimes a good thing and sometimes not. As Christmas approaches I miss you more and more. I still can't wrap my mind around the fact that someone took your life from you and from us. I thought I would spend many more Christmases with you. I have been asking for a sign that you are still around me and tonight when I went in my bedroom the candle that I got at a gathering of parents of murdered children was lit and I didn't light it. Did you? There is such an emptiness in the chain of our family that has been broken. Everything feels different and I find myself questioning the meaning of life and what I'm supposed to be doing now. I want it to be something that honors you and helps other people. Right now though I am just trying to get from one day to the next. I miss you more than I know how to express in words. I hope that you know that and knew it while you were here. I love you Keara. You were beautiful inside and out and I hope you are truly in the arms of the angels and have found some comfort. Love, Mom

Mom



It is getting close to Christmas and again I want to be with people who understand this terrible grief. I am not sure I can go to family get together I don't feel like celebrating. It just isn't the same without you here. My heart is broken in so many pieces. I need to find a reason to continue to go on. I love you so much.

Halloween



I remember how much you always loved to get dressed in costumes every Halloween even as an adult. I think you got a bigger kick out of it than the kids! You came up with some really scary outfits! I miss your playfulness and fun loving spirit.

Mom

Rock City 1988



Here we are at Rock City! Don't we look thrilled?

Keara & Leigh 1988



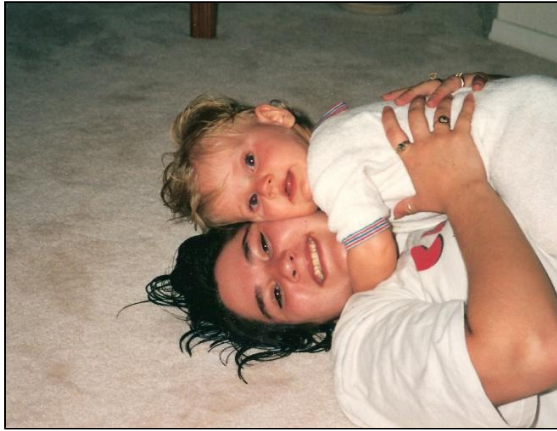
This was at my apartment in Chattanooga, Tn. Mom, Keara & Leigh came to visit Karl & me there when I was a freshman in college. Leigh had on her little sailor suit and looked so cute. We all went to Rock City on Lookout Mountain that day.

Keara, Tori & Seanie



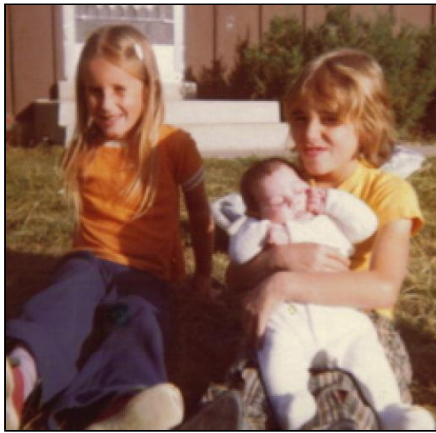
Another picture at our house in South Carolina of Keara with Tori & Seanie. Keara just loved kids. She was always holding them and playing with them. Tori & Seanathon were inseperable when they were together!

Colorado Springs 1995



I love this picture! This is from the trip that Keara, Jason and Justin took to visit us in our new house in Colorado Springs. Their luggage all got lost, so Justin would fall asleep every night with one of Uncle Karl's socks since his blankie was in the lost suitcase. They were there for 2 weeks and we had a great time sight seeing all over the state. When I took them back to the airport, they missed their flight! I don't think Jason has flown since.

Boulder 1975



This is Wayne, Keara & I in front of our house on Edinboro in Boulder when Keara was a baby. I remember being so protective of Keara when she was a baby. I didn't want any of my friends to hold her. I just wanted her all to myself. We even shared a bedroom right from the start. She was so cute!

Keara & a pile of kids



This is a picture of Keara, Justin, Tori & Seanie taken at my house in South Carolina. The kids were all so cute and Keara always seemed to have at least one of them on her lap with a big smile on her face!

Keara, Justin, Seanie



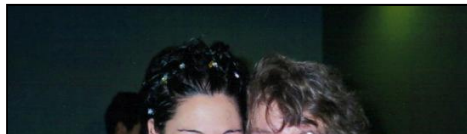
This was taken on one of your many visits to our house in South Carolina. I have so many great memories of the times we all spent together there. I love you and miss you everyday. Your big sister, Lauren

Mom Sept. 4th 2006



Keara, when I think of your Birthday so many images and different birthdays come to mind, it is impossible to pick just one. Right now I am thinking of your 3rd birthday in Arkansas. You wanted to have your cake outside and insisted on wearing a cap on your head. I didn't want you to wear it when taking your picture because your hair was so beautiful but it was YOUR birthday so you got to wear it. This is the first birthday without you and I miss you so much. I am here with Myra and her family and that has been good. I wouldn't be honest if I said I was able to celebrate today but I did go to the beach which was comforting. I feel honored to have had the privilege of being your Mom and have so many memories that I will cherish. I will always cherish you and believe that we will be together again. I love you Keara, Mom

Aunt Marie and Uncle Tom



Today is your 31st Birthday and your first Birthday in heaven. What a celebration God and all his loved ones must be having. We will celebrate this day, but it will be tempered with our loss of you here on earth. The

memories are many. We especially remember Christmas in our house with you and your family and the whole gang. Most, I will close with the words "We Love You", remembering your beautiful smile and the last words we always said "I love You"

Your Birthday



Today I celebrate the day you were born. I lit the candle for you that Seanie got me while I was in Germany. He told me it was to light for you, so I thought today would be the perfect day. Today I will remember your sweet smile and how you were always glad to talk to me. I will remember all the good times we had together and all the conversations on the phone when we could not be together. I will remember how stubborn you were as a kid and how you drove me crazy! I will do as Leigh said and honor you by living enough for both of us. I love that! I love you! - Lauren

Your 31st Birthday



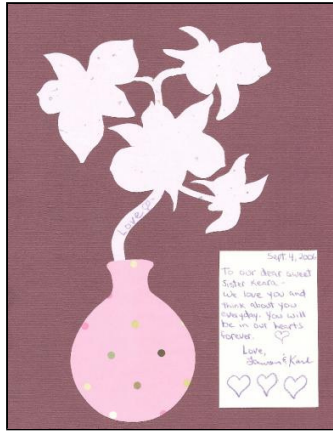
I read somewhere that one of the best ways to honor your loved one that you lost is to live enough for both of you. Honestly, I didn't want to get out of bed this morning because I really didn't want to face this day, and the fact that you aren't here to celebrate your 31st birthday. But then I started to think about what I read and realized that is what I want to do today to celebrate your birthday. Today is about your life, not about how you died, today I want to think about the years I did have with you and all the wonderful memories that we DO have. Keara I love you and miss you so much! Today I'm going to hug my

kids a little harder, play outside, enjoy life, and kiss those babies for you (what you always said when we got off the phone). Happy Birthday. I love you!

your little sister,

Leigh

September 4th



Thinking of all the birthdays we celebrated with you on this day. I still celebrate the day because it will always be the date you were born, but now I also miss you more than words can express.

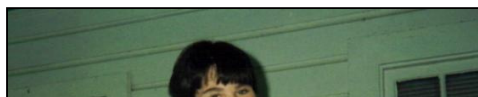
I love you,

Lauren

Lauren

I remember one winter when Justin was a baby that Karl and I came to visit you & Jason. A big snowstorm hit when we got there and we were all stranded at your house for 4 days. Leigh was there too. I just remember all the fun we had. One night we were going stir crazy and we all went outside and pulled each other around on a big tire or intertube or something in the snow. We were laughing and having such a great time! Justin slept through the whole thing! Even though we were all crammed together for all that time and couldn't even go anywhere and had to sleep in the living room, I have such great memories of that. It always brings a smile whenever I think about it.

Leigh



I remember when you were pregnant with Justin and Jason had to work 3rd shift. I stayed at your house every night, just in case you went into

labor. We used to play hearts for hours, and just talk and laugh and have such a good time. One night we were certain you were in labor, so we called Jason and off we went to the hospital. It turned out not to be the real thing but I believe it was about a week later & your water broke, all over the couch cushions. You were in labor forever, and I decided then & there never to have kids (although I obviously changed my mind). You were such a great mama, and you loved Justin and Tori so much! I know that you must still be there looking out for them. I love you!!

North Carolina 1987?



I think this was in 1987 or so. We were all at Mom, Keara & Leigh's house. Grandma & Grandpa were visiting and so were Wayne, Karl & Lauren.

July 10, 1993



Keara & Leigh were the bridesmaids in my wedding and they both looked so beautiful in their dresses. In our wedding video you can see Leigh fidgeting all over the place and it turned out that she had a spider on her! Keara caught my bouquet and sure enough she was the next one to get married when she & Jason got married 6 months later.

Lauren's House in SC



When we still lived in South Carolina, Keara used to visit us a lot with Jason & the kids. We always had Thanksgiving at our house too. This picture was taken during one of those visits. Keara is holding Seanathon, I'm holding Tori and Justin is hiding behind his Daddy. Grandma is taking it all in and smiling.

Asheboro Zoo



This was a day that we all went to the zoo. Tori was a baby and Justin was 4 years old. We (Lauren & Karl) met everyone there and we all spent the day together.

Mom

Keara loved April Fools day and could fool me every time. One year when I was still working at the shelter Keara called the sheriff who she didn't even know and asked him to participate in playing an April Fools joke on me. He was a little reluctant and wanted Kear's assurance that I wouldn't have a heart attack. I received a call from the sheriff's dept. saying that the sheriff wanted to see me. I figured it was about a

client and was busy-could it wait till later. I was told "no" so I went. The sheriff called me in to his office looking grim and told me he had called to discuss a complaint about me. He said "don't you make pictures with real flowers?" I said yes. Well he said that someone called to say that I was collecting flowers on their land. I was wracking my brain and starting to get nervous. I told him I always got permission to collect from private land. He was scowling at me and I got more nervous and then I hear "April Fools Mom" coming from the speaker phone, and Keara and the sheriff laughing and laughing.

Mom



When I was pregnant with Leigh you loved to put your hand on my belly and feel her move. I was worried that you might not treat her well because you were the "baby" but you were so gentle with Leigh. Sometimes you "acted out" to let us know you were around and wanted some attention but the two of you got along well and always played together easily even though your personalities were so different. It was so obvious that you loved each other. One time when we were doing a show in a mall and I left you with your Dad for a few minutes, I came back to find you, Leigh and the stroller gone. I was running around frantically trying to find you. In the Penney's store someone told me you were headed to the bathroom. You had gotten Leigh and the stroller in there but couldn't hold the door open and get her out. So you left her and ran to find me. By the time I got in the bathroom there were a group of women crowded around Leigh, thinking she'd been abandoned. It is funny to think about now but at the time I was frantic!

Picture by Tori



Mom



I have so many memories I don't know where to start. When you were born I thought you were so beautiful and exotic looking with your dark hair and blue eyes. You were always adventurous and weren't afraid of anything. When you were 5 and had just barely learned how to swim you dove off the high diving board at the pool. I remember when you were about three you went up to an old man in the mall where we were doing an art show and started brushing off his pants with the old horse hair brush we used to clean pictures. He said you were such a beautiful child and you were and grew to be a beautiful woman. I am so proud of you for what you were able to accomplish and for what a good mother you were. You live on in Justin and Tori and they are sweet, sensitive and goodhearted like their mom. I will do my part to keep you alive in their

memories. I love and miss you so much

Hike in Hollywood



Keara came to see us in California and one of the first things we did was go on a hike near the Hollywood Sign. It was a beautiful day and we had a great time. We even made it to the top eventually!

March 2004



I planned a visit to North Carolina to see Keara & Leigh. Leigh & I decided we should surprise Keara. She thought Leigh was coming

with the kids to spend the weekend, but when we got there to pick her up I was hiding in the car. She was surprised and we had a great weekend. Mom was gone on a cruise, so Keara, Leigh, Justin, Tori, Seanathon and I all took over her house.

July 4th 2003



Keara, Karl & I went to the Rose Bowl to watch fireworks and we got there very early thinking we would get a good seat. We sat there for hours before the fireworks finally started, but just had fun joking about it and being together. We left before they were even over to avoid the traffic jam!

2003



Keara and I loved to watch American Idol together and I'm sure that is probably what we were doing when Karl took this picture of us.

Beach Whale 1994



We used to go to the beach for a week every summer. We would always build something in the sand. I remember one time we made a mermaid that had on a shell bikini. We had so much fun on our beach trips.

~Leigh

Footy Pajamas



Keara & I loved our footy pajamas. I remember when we were little we used to pull the covers off really fast and watch all the static electricity sparks come off our pajamas. One of the last times I talked to Keara, we were talking about our footy pajamas, and how we wished they made those for adults.

~Leigh

Keara & her Cats

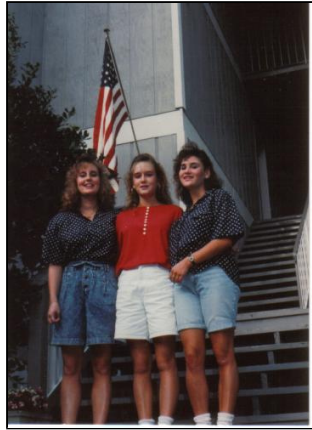


Keara loved cats! It must have carried over from when she used to be one as a little girl. She would get at least one thing having to do with cats for every holiday. I remember she had a shadowbox full of cat figurines for the longest time. And at one time, she had so many cats

living under her house that she had to call animal control.

~Leigh

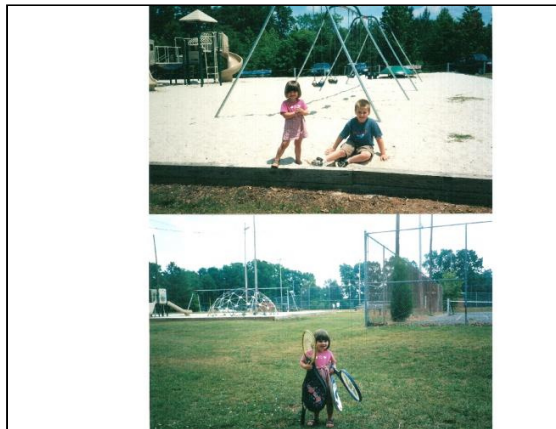
July 4th 1991



This was the summer that Keara and I stayed with Lauren & Karl in Tennessee. We all wore our patriotic red, white & blue! Matching sisters. We went to get KFC and watched fireworks that night. We had so much fun that summer. Keara had her first job at Krystal. We swam in the pool almost every day.

~Leigh

Park in Goldston



While we played tennis, Justin & Tori played on the playground. Tori was our little racquet girl. It was just a beautiful day and we always all had fun together.

Tennis in Goldston



We all went to the park in Goldston to play tennis on this day. Leigh & I were obviously not dressed for the occasion at all. I even had sandals on and Leigh was barefoot! Keara looked like a tennis pro. She was so beautiful. It was a fun day.

Visit to Colorado



In 1995 Keara, Jason and Justin came to visit us in our new house in Colorado Springs. It was the first flight Jason & Justin had ever taken and the airline lost their luggage! We had a wonderful time during the 2 weeks they spent with us and we saw a lot of Colorado including the wildlife. Justin would lay on the floor every night using one of Karl's socks as his blanky. When it came time for them to leave, I took them to Denver for their flight and we were to late so they missed the flight and had to wait for the next one. I really missed them when they went home and remember crying my eyes out. It wasn't long before we moved to North Carolina so we could be closer.

Beach 1994



The summer Justin was born, we all rented a house at the beach in North Carolina. We had a great time just being together and playing with brand new Justin.

Lauren

I just remember hearing your voice on the other end of the phone all the time and how you would say "It is so good to hear your voice". I miss hearing your voice. I can hear you so clearly every time we were about to hang up saying "Tell Karl I love him" and then we would always tell each other "I Love You". I cherish all the phone calls that we had during the times that we couldn't see each other in person. We had many years of those conversations, but not nearly enough.

Leigh



I remember this day like it was yesterday. It was a warm spring day in Arkansas. We were playing the game "red light, green light" in the front yard with our friends. We used to love to play that game....

The 4 of Us



This was one of the Christmases that we spent with our Grandparents on Long Island. We used to love doing that because we got to celebrate both Christmas and Hannukah.

Seanathon



Dear Aunt Keara,

We had fun with you at the park. I liked when we played the game trouble. I wish that you could stay. I wish this would have never happened. I wish that somebody wouldn't have done this to you.

Love, Seanathon

Patt Milam



It's been too many years since I saw Keara. She was a teen, full of life and had that ever present grin. But, always, I see her, playing with Robin, on our sidewalk, in a pinafored dress, mary jane shoes. She was sweeping, with a child's broom. Both of them, with their lives ahead of them, were just having fun.

I mourn the loss of this most precious, beautiful young woman. I mourn for you, her close family and friends.

Wayne, Lauren, Leigh.. Darian.

May you be blessed with beautiful memories of her.

With love,

Patt

Lauren



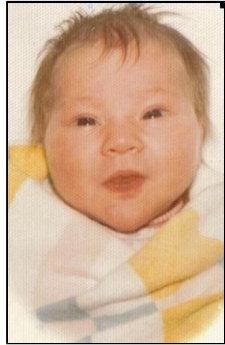
The last time I saw my sister Keara in person was when she visited us at the NC State Fair in October. We are there every year and she always came to visit us and brought Justin & Tori. This year was different because she spent a lot of time with us. She came 3 different days and stayed for hours each time just sitting with me and talking to me. I will always cherish that.

Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The rose on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. They are set against a mottled, olive-green background that has a subtle, aged texture.

Life Story

every hour, every thought, every smile...

September 4, 1975



Keara was born on September 4, 1975 in Boulder, Colorado. When she was born, she already had a sister Lauren who was 6 years old and a brother Wayne who was 8 years old. She was an adorable little baby with lots of brown hair and blue eyes.

April 22, 1978



Our family moved to Arkansas when Keara was 1 year old and her little sister Leigh came along when Keara was 2 1/2. Keara loved Leigh, but it took her a little time to get over not being the baby of the family any longer. Keara & Leigh became constant playmates and were very close.

December 1, 1985

Keara, her sisters Leigh & Lauren and their Mom all moved to Sevierville, TN where they lived for the next 1 1/2 years. Keara, Leigh and Mom then moved to North Carolina.

July 10, 1993



Keara was a bride's maid in Lauren's wedding. She caught the

bouquet...the old wives tale must be true, because she was the next to be married.

January 9, 1994



Keara married her high school sweetheart Jason. They remained married for 9 years.

June 10, 1994



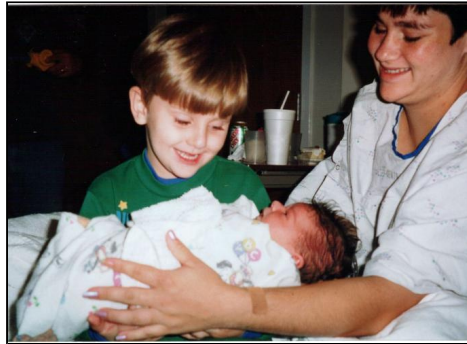
Keara graduated from Chatham Central High School. She went on to attend Central Carolina Community College and studied Veterinarian Medicine.

July 3, 1994



Keara had her son Justin. She loved being a new mommy. He was a beautiful baby with blond hair and blue eyes just like his mama. He also had her pointy little chin.

September 23, 1998



Keara had her beautiful daughter Victoria. She was so happy to have a little girl to put in dresses and little pigtails. She was born with lots of dark hair just like Keara, and her mama's blue eyes.

April 5, 2006

Keara passed away on **April 5, 2006** in **Chapel Hill, North Carolina**. She is loved and will be missed by her son Justin and daughter Tori, mom Darien, sisters Lauren and Leigh, brother Wayne, dad Mark, brother-in-laws Karl and Anthony, grandma Ruth and grandpa Bob, aunts Marie, Robin and Myra, uncles Tom, Scott and Larry, nieces Kaylee and Olivia, nephews Jordan and Seanathon, cousins Heather, Bonnie, Keely, Jacob, Jared, Leah, Glenn, Diana, and David, and numerous friends whose lives she touched.

November 6, 2006



It is impossible to tell the whole story of Keara's life. There are so many memories and so many people who cared about her. We have just added a few highlights here. Keara was a wonderful person. She had her struggles but through it all she kept her smile and her great personality. She was so strong and stubborn! One of the things I remember most about Keara is how much she loved kids. Whenever she was around them they seemed to gravitate towards her. We have so many pictures of Keara with kids piled all over her! Keara was fun and so positive even when times were hard for her. She had a really strong will. Keara loved her kids Justin & Tori so much and they are a lot like her in many ways. Keara loved her family and always kept in touch. She loved to talk! I will always remember her outgoing personality. She could talk to anyone. One thing that I know for sure is that Keara loved us

and she knew we loved her and will always love her. She is always in our thoughts and our hearts and she will live on all of us that love her.

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