



Brooke Raines "Sunshine"

October 31, 1979 - May 2, 2010

A special service to honor Brooke's life will be held Saturday May 15, 10:30 AM at the Colleyville First United Methodist Church, 5601 Pleasant Run Road, Colleyville, TX 76034, (817-281-5254). Brooke requested that no one wear dark clothing to the services. In lieu of flowers or memorial gifts Brooke has requested that a donation is made to the Children's Tumor Foundation @ www.ctf.org to help fund continued research and cure for Neurofibromatosis. The family will receive friends Friday May 14, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM at Lucas Funeral Home Hurst, 1321 Precinct Line Road in Hurst Texas. Brooke was born to the late Elvoy Raines, her father and loving mother Deborah E Raines at 7:30 pm on "Halloween Night" October 31, 1979 at the George Washington Memorial Hospital in Washington, DC. Brooke always remarked that it wasn't until her 8th or 9th birthday that she realized all these people in costumes weren't celebrating her birthday! Raised by her wonderful mother Deborah, a US Airways employee, they shared such great times together in the DC area picnicking, biking, great school programs and weekend plane trips to various cities. Her mom was transferred to Winston-Salem, NC in 1988 where Brooke completed her elementary education and went on to attend West Forsyth H.S. in Clemmons. In 1992 her mother and stepfather Tony Rossi married and the family moved into their new home in Lewisville, NC. In 1995 Mentor, Ohio became the next family destination; Brooke attended Mentor HS participating on the track team, member of the Spanish club, President of the Law club and faced with all her difficulties she managed to graduate with honors in 1997.

She entered and completed her first year of college at Kent State University, during this period the family relocated back to Mooresville, NC. North Richland Hills, TX became the family's new and present address in 2000. Brooke tried to continue her college studies attending the University of North Texas in Denton, TX but with failing health could only manage part way. Always the ferocious reader, Star Wars nut, Jeopardy "know it all," poet, killer at scrabble and jokester, Brooke could also be called upon in a moments notice to recite Bible verses and special prayers she had written. Her favorite books, those dealing with mythology or science fiction, inspired her to write a novel. With over 11 chapters complete some of her "special cousins" and family will try to complete the book and publish it in her honor. Brooke has touched so many people in her life and always remarked about the friends and acquaintances she has made over the years, so many whom are still so close to her. Many of the medical team members in several states still communicate with her, the family and send blessings. Family members and friends from all levels of her schooling continue to visit and make her day just a bit easier. The family is surrounded by the love and ministry of their blessed church family, ministers and support groups at Colleyville First United Methodist Church, whose compassion over the years cannot be measured in a mere thank you. Brooke wants you all to know that this was her greatest love, having been surrounded by people like you. To honor her Brooke's memory she asks that any memorial gift or contribution be forwarded to the Children's Tumor Foundation to help fund and find a cure for others afflicted with Neurofibromatosis. www.ctf.org Brooke is survived by her sweet and loving mom, Deborah E. Rossi, her stepfather "Staddy" Anthony L. Rossi, her Grandparents and many beloved Aunts, Uncles wonderfully close cousins and cherished friends. She will be missed by ALL who knew her!

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I worked with Debbie at US Air. I left the company when it moved to NC. Prior to quitting I flew out on vacation to the west coast, with an overnight in Winston Salem. Debbie and Brooke were kind enough to put me up for the night. I remember riding in the car and listening to Brooke singing the Bobby McFerrin song "Don't Worry, Be Happy" which was popular at the time. That was the last time I saw the two of them (1988). Debbie was, and I'm sure still is a wonderful, down-to-earth person. I know she loved Brooke dearly. I am sad to see that Brooke has passed away at such a young age. My heart goes out to the whole family, and to all who knew and loved Brooke.

Mark Stattelmann - September 22, 2024 at 04:50 AM

SB

“ Brooke was good friend with my late daughter Nadia Bishara , I remember going to visit Brooke at RBC in UH Cleveland Ohio because I was afraid to let Nadia drive alone on MLK road , whenever she came to our house for dinner or sleepover she asked for blackened chicken tenders and side of fresh cooked green beans and my specialty rice , Brook and Nadia were inducted into the national honor society at the same time , they were officers in the law club at Mentor high school , now they are in heaven being good friends again , Tow lives cut short by the dreaded cancer . You both were angels on earth now you are guarding angels to many , love you both
Mrs Bishara

samia bishara - June 11, 2020 at 09:22 PM

ED

“ Brooke was one tough cookie. She was a patient I always looked forward to spending time with. She always gave 100% even on her hard days. Never did I leave her that I didn't kiss her bye and tell her how special she was. Brooke, I know you are in heaven in your high heel shoes just dancing around. Thanks for touching mine and my girls lives. You will be greatly missed, but heaven is one lucky place to get a jewel like you:-)

Edie - May 18, 2010 at 01:21 AM

WL

“ Brooke was such an inspiration to so many people! We were blessed to be able to attend her service, which gave us a renewed perspective on our life here on Earth and our everlasting eternal life. Thank you Brooke!

Wade and Kristin Lewis - May 16, 2010 at 10:42 PM

TM

“ I was in Winston-Salem when Debbie and "Brookie" lived there. She was such a joy to be around and I loved Debbie so much. We worked together at USAir.

I have lost touch with them through the last 20 or so years, but I remember well.

God Bless Your Souls!

Debbie please send me an email. I know she was your baby and I have only one child and thank god for "her". No one knows when it is the time of calling.

Teresa Byrd McMillan - May 16, 2010 at 07:58 AM

MS

“ Our Dearest Sunshine,
We miss getting to learn so much from you. Your love and gentleness exceeded all understanding-especially knowing how you were suffering. I'm sure you saw all the people at your visitation that loved you so much and today will also be about you**but as requested WE'LL MAKE IT MORE ABOUT JESUS.

LOVE YOU OUR ANGEL aaaaaaaaaooooo FOREVER

Mama & Staddy - May 15, 2010 at 09:42 AM

JB

“ Our family has so many memories of Brooke Ellen that we will cherish forever. She has been a part of our family from the very first time that we met her. You can be so proud that you raised such a sincere, loving and caring daughter. We believe that there is some reason for our lives to have interlocked and we look forward to finding that key. We love you and with God's love, we will get through this together.
May God be with you.

John, Chris, Justin & Bubba - May 15, 2010 at 03:35 AM

AW

“ I remember her as a very gentle fun loving spirit. She had many positive things about her. I know she will add to Heaven's blessings.

Arlon WASHburn - May 14, 2010 at 06:53 PM

DR

“ Tony and Deb, Although I didn't get a chance to know Brook, I can only imagine how wonderful she was in this life because of you both. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May God comfort you in this solemn time. love you both, Diana

Diana Rodriguez - May 14, 2010 at 12:51 PM

CB

“ I can remember Brooke from the time she was very young teenager and her mom Debbie Raines my ex-coworker brought to the USAirWays where we worked. Debbie may you and your family have my deepest sympathy in your loss. Charlene Brooks

Charlene Brooks - May 14, 2010 at 09:48 AM

BO

“ I did not know you but your aunt susie said you were wonderful

brenda olsen - May 14, 2010 at 08:36 AM

LR

“ Debbie and Tony, I was so sadden to hear of Brooke passing. I will always remember her as a beautiful little girl. I am so sorry for your lost. You have a special angel looking over you now. She has no more pain. I will continue to keep your family in my prayers.

Laura Riggins - May 13, 2010 at 09:09 PM

GK

“ Brooke's inspiring life and faith touched the hearts of so many. No wonder her nickname was Sunshine! My life is blessed by simply knowing her.

Gary Kindley - May 13, 2010 at 07:37 PM

RE

“ I worked with Debbie, Brooke's mom, and this girl was loved! I met Brooke once at work, then over at their lovely home. She was sweet, thoughtful and kind. She seemed to love life. Debbie and Tony, you are in my thoughts and prayers. She is with Jesus, pain-free, and loving you and will see you again!!

Rebecca - May 13, 2010 at 04:52 PM

CK

“ JD, Steven & Carol Khan remember Brooke well and her mom was always their to lend a helping hand. Carol worked for years with Debbie and Brooke and the boys played together at times. We are deeply sorry to hear Brooke passed on however she is in a better place with no more pain or hurts. We will keep all of the family in prayer

Carol Khan - May 13, 2010 at 10:05 AM

EB

“ Debbie and Tony,
May the blessing of comfort from many who care, ease your mourning with moments of grace. I will always remember Brooke as brilliant and professional speaker. A beautiful and loving young lady. May the blessing of memories lighten your heart when you think of Brooke's smiling face. May her soul rest in peace. She will be missed by many.

Eunid Brooks - May 12, 2010 at 07:55 PM

VR

“ May they find a cure and may your family be strong to deal with all that may come there way, but to know that you are there angel watching down from heaven.

Vera Reed - May 12, 2010 at 03:34 PM

MR

“ May you always be remembered and I pray they find a cure.

Monica M Robles - May 12, 2010 at 03:33 PM

VU

“ May God be with your family and I also pray that they find a cure for the disease.

Veronica M Ugalde - May 12, 2010 at 03:31 PM

PM

“ I had the priviledge of meeting Brooke while she was in the hospital (Zale-Lipshy)in Dallas. She was always a sweet girl & no matter what the procedure or bad joke I told she was cheerful & accepting. Braving each day with a smile. I feel blessed to have known her & I know she is celebrating to her heart's content now!!

Patsy Montgomery - May 11, 2010 at 08:01 PM

JF

“ Dear Deborah, we were so sorry to read about Brooke. She was such a sweet and beautiful young lady. We feel honored to have known her, even though it was for a short time. Brooke gave me a painting of "Pansies" many years ago. I will always treasure this painting. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Jerry and Pansy Farris, Kernersville, NC

Jerry and Pansy Farris - May 10, 2010 at 09:21 PM

BF

“ I will always remember Brooke and her laugh, her energy, and her openness. She was a good friend for so many years, and I will miss her terribly.

Brian 'Smev' Farris - May 10, 2010 at 08:28 PM

PG

“ *Debbie, I am so sorry to hear about Brooke. I know she was your life. May God give you peace in knowing that you will all be together again someday and Brooke will have a new and healthy body. I enjoyed hearing about her while we worked together at USAirways. God Bless*

Pam S Goforth - May 10, 2010 at 04:17 PM

BG

“ *I am from Greensboro, NC and just read the background your family wrote about Brooke. I know she will be missed and she sounds like a beautiful young woman. God bless Brooke and you.....her family.*

Becky Gabriel - May 10, 2010 at 01:03 AM

LG

“ *Debbie,
I am so sorry for your loss. Brooke was a beautiful person inside and out. My thoughts are with you. I lost my granddaughter not to long ago. If you get a chance give me a call at 336-997-0017*

Lorie Gnash - May 09, 2010 at 07:56 PM

MA

“ *My deepest sympathy to family and friends of Brooke. My prayers are with you.*

Maga - May 09, 2010 at 01:24 PM

SK

“ **PRAISE THE LORD**

Me and my husband first met 'SUNSHINE' in the hospital as we both work in hospital .We cannot forget the smile on her face .Myself, Debbie and sunshine used to hold hands and pray .After brooke was discharged from the hospital we used to uphold her in our daily prayers.I still remember brooke calling Tony "stady".Debbie, Tony -May GOD give you the strength and hold the memories of sunshine as she is resting with GOD.

*Sheeba & Koshy
Carrollton*

sheeba koshy - May 08, 2010 at 11:43 PM

KW

“ *My deepest sympathy to Deborah and Tony upon the passing of Brooke. She will be close to your thoughts and hearts always, even though apart from you in body.*

Kay Walker - May 06, 2010 at 01:22 PM

SB

“ *There are just too many memories to list. Thank you for allowing us to be apart of your life and for sharing Brooke-We share your tears, laughter, and heart. We will continue to pray for peace and joy to fill your days. Our respect, love, and sympathy are with you-We celebrate the victory and share in the sorrow. In Him-Sean and Kelly*

Sean and Kelly Boswell - May 06, 2010 at 11:18 AM

LS

“ *Deborah and Tony,
I'm so sorry about Brooke. I did not know your daughter. I would
have loved to watch Jeopardy with her, or play a game of scrabble! I
pray God will bring you peace during this sad time. God bless you
all.*

Lisa Russo Spangler - May 05, 2010 at 04:35 PM

EF

“ *My dear friend you are and will always be my special
light.....Sunshine...Very well said!*

Edith Franklin - May 05, 2010 at 10:36 AM

MM

“ *Brooke and I met in our senior year in high school and we roomed
together our freshman year at Kent State. She was an awesome
friend and we had lots of good times together. Living with Brooke
was great, she always had such an uplifting spirit. My prayers are
with the family during these times.*

Mandy Beyer Megery - May 04, 2010 at 11:33 PM

HH

“ Dear Debbie and Tony,
My thoughts and prayers are with you both. I want you to know what an honor and pleasure it was to spend time with your sweet Brooke while she was on hospice. Brooke was a woman wise beyond her years, funny and so caring. I have seen God through her, and my life and ministry will forever be touched because of knowing Brooke. Her life is a testimony to all of God's love and enduring faithfulness. I look forward to celebrating her life with you all next week...and I will continue to celebrate her in my heart in the future.
May you both find rest, peace and strength in the days ahead.
Thank you for allowing our team to care for your precious daughter.
With Love,
Holly Steffensrud

Holly Steffensrud, Chaplain, American Hospice - May 04, 2010 at 09:56 PM

ML

“ I remember Brooke from Spanish class. We shared an exchange student, Maria, and were roommates on our class trip to Spain. We filmed our class movie, a James Bond-type movie, at her house! I have great memories of her and will be keeping her family in her thoughts and prayers. My husband recommended a song called, "Sunshine" by Jason Mraz be played in her memory. I just listened to it and it fits Brooke perfectly.

Meredith Lieberg - May 04, 2010 at 09:54 PM

JC

“ Knowing Brooke enriched and blessed my life. Thank God her suffering is over, and she is now with her Bridegroom.

Janice C - May 04, 2010 at 09:21 PM

MP

“ *Brook was so beautiful inside and out. I will remember her smile and the way it lit up the room. My deepest sympathies for her family.*

Megan Patterson - May 04, 2010 at 09:52 AM

JP

“ *Deb and Tony: My heart is filled with sorrow for your loss of your wonderful, beautiful daughter and at the same time filled with a quietness knowing that Brooke has the loving arms of God holding her tight. May God's Grace continue to be with you during the coming days and weeks. What precious, loving memories you must have of a special life you were able to share. Our children are such a precious gift from God. Debbie I see you in Brooke, what a beautiful young lady! Hold your memories close and may they bring you all comfort.*

Janet

Janet Turner Pitts - May 03, 2010 at 10:07 PM

EA

“ *I first met Brooke, while attending law school, through a mutual friend, Jessica Drayer. The three of us had more fun than I could ever imagine possible in Ada, Ohio. That fun continued up until the time she ultimately came to know true peace. Whether it was in Columbus, Ohio meeting rock stars, going to the beach in Florida, seeing her house in Mentor, taking her to the Pymatuning Yacht Club, the list of fun memories goes on. Through all of this, Brooke and her faith served and will continue to serve as a treasured source of inspiration. I will never forget the sense of humor that we shared and our nicknames for each other, Joey & Dawson, but she will always be my Veda (from the movie, My Girl). I am so happy, she is with her Father and knows true peace and comfort... -e*

Erik Anstrom - May 03, 2010 at 08:54 PM

SB

“ We remember our Brooke, always a smile and a funny comment. She would babysit often and the kids loved her. She went to college and had friends, it seems, in every state. I have learned courage and understanding from Brooke. She has been a strong little lady to the very end. May she rest in peace.

Susan and Dana Browning - May 03, 2010 at 06:36 PM

JC

“ Though we met just a few times, to meet Brooke once was enough to know what a beautiful, angelic being she was. I was moved by her positive attitude, courage and loving heart. She is truly amongst the angels now. Love and prayers to you, Debbie and Uncle Tony.

John Castronova - May 03, 2010 at 06:23 PM

MD

“ Toni & Deb, With all my heart, I am praying you will keep Brooke's sunshine in your soul today and everyday. -- Thinking of you and yours, Marcee

Marcee Dean - May 03, 2010 at 03:42 PM

DB

“ We shall never forget Brooke. Everytime we saw her at church, we were blessed by her beautiful smile. She lit a candle in our hearts constantly. Someday, we shall be greeted by that precious smile once more. Now, may her family and we be comforted in knowing that Brooke is smiling encompassed by the everlasting arms of our Saviour.

God forever bless and keep Brooke.

Dan and Pam Brown

Dan and Pam Brown - May 03, 2010 at 03:37 PM

EB

“ So sorry to hear of Brooke's passing. Sharon and I will be thinking of you and your family.

elisa burson - May 03, 2010 at 01:47 PM

SR

“ Brooke always had a smile, a prayer, and incredible courage. Who could but help shedding tears while rejoicing that Brooke is her Savior?

Shirley A. Roberts - May 03, 2010 at 01:12 PM

VM

“ My heartfelt love goes out to you, sweet Brooke...a role model and inspiration to all..
my heart to you Aunt Debbie and Uncle Tony...We know that she is at peace and the suffering is over...My dad will keep her safe in his arms..I can see them smiling and hear them laughing already..Love to all...Roni and family

Veronica McAvoy-Gonseth - May 03, 2010 at 11:09 AM