



Ashleigh Raye Swartz

August 2, 1989 - December 3, 2016

Ashleigh Raye Swartz

Beautiful daughter of Kevin and Helen Swartz

Loving, big sister of Madison and Jacob

We experienced the blessing of the Lord from my womb when you were born into our arms. We cried endless tears of joy that we had never known as there is no greater gift than life. Your beauty, warmth, and dependence immediately stole our hearts forever. The sacrificial gift of Jesus was cemented in our hearts and souls as we now personally understood the gift of children. We have forever been positively changed through your life and now your earthly death. We have been blessed beyond measure with great joy, known the deepest unconditional love, battled your undue suffering, and now face colossal loss. Your presence has captivated the lives of many through your gracious love, your empathetic heart, and your selfless life.

Madison and Jacob will forever be indebted and bound to your great love as you protected, advised, and guarded their hearts.

You never boasted or fully embraced your great talent as a writer, artist, or English graduate from NCSU. Your days there were bittersweet as you were robbed of your purity and life started to look and feel different. The pain of the circumstances attempted to drown you but you had a Savior that carried you through the dark days. You often breathed only through the numbness.

The tragedy was a mishap and so unexpected as you were beginning to soar and move out of the valley. You found value in your job at Byrd Tile and you aspired to attain independence. We do not understand what and why the course changed. "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We carry around the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body."

However, we have the gift of your Baptism as our confidence that you are in the presence of the great Lord. I see His arms around you in your new wholeness and perfect peace you so desired. We selfishly long to have you back but are certain that absence from the body of believers is presence with the Lord. This is your new beginning and certainly not an end.

We commit to continue honoring our Lord and Savior and praise Jesus for the glory your life will bring to Him. We will await our time to join you in eternity and find comfort in the truth of knowing that He will wipe away every tear and take the crushing heaviness of mourning for the old order of things will pass away. "Then I looked, and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Our family, friends, and merciful Jesus are carrying us in our deep, deep sorrow and we are overwhelmed by your outpouring of love. They have helped us plan and organize a great celebration for the life of our beautiful, precious Ashleigh. We will be honored by your presence.

In lieu of flowers, please worshipfully donate to Hope Community Church in memory of Ashleigh.

December 10, 2016
Hope Community Church
821 Buck Jones Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27606

10:30-11:30am: Love on Family Time
11:30-12:30: Celebration and Worship

December 10, 2016
Pine Forest Memorial Gardens
770 Stadium Drive
Wake Forest, NC 27588

1:30 Green Burial and honor of earthly body

Cemetery

Events

Pine Forest Memorial Gardens
770 Stadium Drive
Wake Forest, NC, 27587

DEC 10 **Visitation** 10:30AM - 11:30AM
Hope Community Church
821 Buck Jones Road, Raleigh, NC, US, 27606

DEC 10 **Funeral Service** 11:30AM - 12:30PM
Hope Community Church
821 Buck Jones Road, Raleigh, NC, US, 27606

DEC 10 **Graveside Service** 01:30PM
Pine Forest Memorial Gardens
770 Stadium Drive, Wake Forest, NC, US, 27587

Comments



“ Kevin and Helen,
We were very sorry to hear of Ashleigh's passing. She was such a beautiful young girl. It seems like she should still be that young girl that I first met when you lived in Holly Glen. I'm asking the Lord to hold you in his big hands and to comfort you. I look at Sarah and Katy knowing that you were there for us when our girls were being born. Your Sunrise buddies love you.
Christy Brown<><

Christy Brown - December 15, 2016 at 04:47 PM



“ Sophia Mears lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Sophia Mears - December 14, 2016 at 06:20 PM



“ Helen, we are deeply saddened to learn of Ashleigh's passing. Praying for God's peace and comfort for all of you.

Sheila and Randy Sloan

Sheila Sloan - December 11, 2016 at 09:42 PM



“ I have so many fond memories with Ashleigh I can't pick just one to share! She had a heart of gold and always knew how to make someone feel better about themselves. My heart is broken that she had to endure what she did these past few years. The world is a better place and I am a better person for having known her! Mrs Helen, Mr Kevin, Maddison & Jacob, I am so sorry for your loss. I know the pain is deep and a part of your heart is now gone. Please know you are being covered in prayer and God is holding you all as close as He is holding Ashleigh to. -Sara Randall Cotten

Sara Randall Cotten - December 10, 2016 at 10:31 PM



“ Dear Helen,

You are such a strong and beautiful woman. I know you and Kevin provided Ashleigh with so much love and Christian guidance. I can't imagine what you are going through. I know your hearts will forever ache and have a void while you are on this Earth. Please reach out to family and others to help with your pain. We all love you and will continue to pray for you.

The tribute you wrote about Ashleigh's life was beautiful!!

This Earthly life is beyond understanding. Just know we love and support you!

Susan Munson (Cathy's friend)



susan munson - December 10, 2016 at 01:26 PM



“ Sophia L Mears purchased the Delicious Delights Basket for the family of Ashleigh Raye Swartz.



Sophia Mears - December 10, 2016 at 10:32 AM

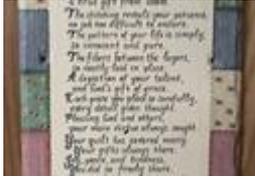


“ Ashleigh and my daughter Claire were the best of friends at MCHS and I was fortunate to spend a lot of time with Ashleigh and to have the opportunity to get to know her. I would see Ashleigh out and about and most recently at Trader Joes. I felt a tap on my shoulder and turned to see Ashleigh with her infectious smile and she gave me the biggest hug. I will hold that memory and all the others of Ashleigh in my heart. I'm so sorry to learn of Ashleigh's passing and send my thoughts and prayers to her family during this very sad time.

Susan Taylor - December 10, 2016 at 09:43 AM



“ I remember this poem written by Ashleigh and Helen at Ida Mae Swartz's funeral.



Greg Kurtz - December 09, 2016 at 03:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ashleigh Raye Swartz.



December 09, 2016 at 12:06 PM



“ With heartfelt sorrow and sadness. So sorry for your loss.

Deborah Jones - December 09, 2016 at 02:01 AM



“ Wendy & Andrew Maimone purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ashleigh Raye Swartz.



Wendy & Andrew Maimone - December 08, 2016 at 01:17 PM



“ Kristen Pearce lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Kristen Pearce - December 08, 2016 at 06:00 AM



“ WOW! My heart aches each time I think of you. I Know you are present with our Lord Jesus Christ and you are Praising our Savior as I type this. There are so many unspoken words left. So many texts left. Too many holidays left. Not to mention Birthdays left!! I admire the woman you became and how you honored others. My most precious memory of you is loving on my grandson Liam. You always made sure you held him and got a hug from him. I thank you for your unconditional love for my family. Im not sure how we as a family will move forward but I do know God has a plan and it will be Fabulous!! You are so missed. God please help us to continue Ashleigh"s life with a spirit of love and forgiveness. I pray that through this death, Life will flow abundantly. Thank you Lord for your precious child. Thank you Lord for her Salvation. We can rest assured she is in Heaven with many loved ones. Thank You Jesus!



Jackie Giannattasio - December 07, 2016 at 10:22 PM



“ Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ashleigh Raye Swartz.



December 07, 2016 at 03:50 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss Helen. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Meredith Wooten - December 07, 2016 at 12:50 PM



“ Kevin and family...deepest, deepest sympathies and prayers from your FedEx family.

Peggy Jones - December 07, 2016 at 12:18 PM



“ While words cannot express the depth of which Ashleigh will be missed, we have hope because we know Ashleigh is in the arms of Jesus, rejoicing with the angels. We can rest assured knowing that we will see her again one day and sing praises for eternity.



Alexis Giannattasio - December 07, 2016 at 10:01 AM



“ i remember how very loved Ashleigh was by her mom and dad when she was just a child. Such a beautiful child she was. i am so sorry Kevin and Helen for your loss as well as everyone in the family. I wish that things could have been different. May God bless you!

Janie - December 07, 2016 at 08:02 AM



“ Ashleigh Raye Swartz one of the most courageous people I know. Her life so totally changed when she entered college. She fought hard to overcome such adversity. Her pain came through her love for others. She was generous with her time, generous with her resources and always putting others first.

Let us all be a testament to who she was. Let us live life to the fullest, let us love to the depths of our souls, and let us serve as God has served us.

With love always

Mary



Mary Cooke - December 07, 2016 at 07:14 AM



“ Ashleigh was a joy to have in our office and to work with everyday. We already miss her smile and great sense of humor and compassion for humanity. So glad she is in Jesus arms.



Patti - December 07, 2016 at 06:16 AM



“ Helen and family,
I am so sorry to hear of Ashleigh's passing. What an incredibly beautiful young lady! I know your hearts are breaking, but hope you find comfort in your sweet memories and knowing that she is with the Lord. Please give my love to your whole family and know that we will keep you all in our prayers. Love, Phil and Susan (Godbold) Williams

Susan Williams - December 06, 2016 at 09:34 PM



“ David Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



David Reynolds - December 06, 2016 at 09:32 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Ashleigh's Baptism



Madison Swartz - December 06, 2016 at 06:00 PM



“ Beautiful to see!

Amy Rene Ims - December 07, 2016 at 02:03 AM



“ Such a blessing. May this memory comfort you.

Joy King Beke - December 08, 2016 at 05:49 PM



“ Helen you and your family are in our prayers. I only met Ashleigh one time and she was such a sweet child. I am here for you.



sandra evangelist - December 06, 2016 at 05:29 PM



“ Bob And Linda Quinn lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Bob and Linda Quinn - December 06, 2016 at 03:25 PM



“ Ashleigh and I would spend a lot of time talking about life and faith while we worked together at Hope when she was in the coffee shop. She absolutely loved all of the children and their parents in our daycare and her face would light up when the kids would come visit her at the coffee shop. I watched her grow as a person from her first day training until she made the tough decision to move on to another role outside of Hope. It was an honor to know her, to work with her, and to see her work along side the high school ministry at Hope. Her passion for those kids was infectious and they all loved her. Although I do not understand why God took her so soon, I can rest knowing that this is His plan for her. Thank you Ashleigh for letting me be a small part of life.

Brian

Brian Moran - December 06, 2016 at 02:36 PM



“ I did not personally know Ashleigh personally , but I loved her through my colleague and sister in Christ Helen. I remember Helen and I bonded on a business trip to Chicago last year and all we did is talk about our families and our love for the Lord. I shared with Helen the love I had for my late mother, who I had lost at a young age and Helen shared with how much she enjoyed being a mother and she literally "lit up" when she spoke of Ashleigh. I could tell Helen loved and adored Ashleigh. I absolutely admired the love this mother (Helen) had for her daughter. It reminded me of how much my mother loved me. Helen you have such genuine spirit and I thank God I had the opportunity to unite with you. I thank God I had the privilege to pray for Ashleigh daily. As a result I am greatly saddened that she left us so quickly, but am reminded of a line in Psalm 116:15 that says "Blessed in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones." I also think of the parable where Jesus tells us not to store up treasure on earth - but in heaven. 'For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also'. All of us now have greater treasure in heaven, and more of our heart will reside there also. Please accept my deepest sympathies, remember Psalm 121 God is your helper!

Love Minister Teresa Johnson

Teresa Johnson - December 06, 2016 at 02:16 PM



“ Do not judge a biography by it's length,
Nor by the number of pages in it.
Judge it by the richness of it's contents

Sometimes those unfinished are among the most poignant

Do not judge a song by it's duration
Nor by the number of it's notes
Judge it by the way it touches and lifts the soul

Sometimes those unfinished are among the most beautiful

And when something has enriched your life
And when it's melody lingers on in your heart
Is it unfinished?
Or is it endless?

~Unknown

We will always remember you as a beautiful young woman full of promise.

Love, The Blake Family
John , Shelly and Chelsea

Shelly - December 06, 2016 at 12:51 PM



“ "The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk in the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with your blessing. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever." I am praying daily for you and family.

with love Suzanne Calcutt

Suzanne Calcutt - December 06, 2016 at 12:04 PM



“ Blake lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



blake - December 06, 2016 at 11:52 AM



“ Helen, my thoughts are with you and your family in this tragic time on the death of your beautiful daughter Ashleigh. May God's Peace be with you. Margie Best

Margie Best - December 06, 2016 at 11:34 AM



“ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. We are lifting you and your family up in our prayers!

Teresa Johnson & Farrah Anderson



Farrah Anderson - December 06, 2016 at 09:12 AM



“ Dede Padgett Ansell lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Dede Padgett Ansell - December 06, 2016 at 07:09 AM



“ Dear Kevin, Helen, Madison and Jacob,

Ashleigh was one of Nicole's first friends when we moved to NC in 1997. They remained friends until the day she left this earth to be with Our Saviour. She was a beautiful inside and out, a beautiful Spirit within her. We continue to lift you up as you go through this difficult time. Much love to you all.

Scott and Linda Saunders - December 06, 2016 at 07:00 AM



“ I will always remember our time on the MCHS Dance Team together. Ashleigh was always smiling and happy to be at practice and performances - a very talented dancer! Praying for her loved ones. May she rest in the arms of the Lord.



Morgan Reece Nienke - December 05, 2016 at 10:46 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ashleigh Raye Swartz.



December 05, 2016 at 09:37 PM



“ Helen, may you find comfort I all of the wonderful times and memories you shared with your sweet daughter. My heart breaks tonight for you and your entire family. Sending lots of love through this difficult time.

Lori Sowers - December 05, 2016 at 08:43 PM



“ Gregory W. Kurtz lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Gregory W. Kurtz - December 05, 2016 at 08:29 PM



“ Ashleigh and I became close friends in elementary school at WCA. I always considered her one of my close friends growing up. She will always hold a special place in my heart! My thoughts and prayer are with her family during this difficult time.



Katie Fisher - December 05, 2016 at 08:19 PM



“ In Memory of the Beautiful Ashleigh!!
Love, Tim Davis family



Tim Davis Family - December 05, 2016 at 08:00 PM



“ Joy King Beke lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Joy King Beke - December 05, 2016 at 07:53 PM



“ Pat Collins lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



pat collins - December 05, 2016 at 07:46 PM



“ I love you Helen and I will always be here for you .. we will get thru this together day by day
..

pat collins - December 06, 2016 at 07:42 PM



“ Lit a candle in memory of



Rhonda and Jim Bumbaugh - December 05, 2016 at 07:44 PM



“ Rhonda and Jim Bumbaugh

Rhonda and Jim Bumbaugh - December 05, 2016 at 08:38 PM



“ Helen, I have no words that can bring comfort except that your beautiful daughter is in heaven and you will see her again. This I know for sure!. Know that my heart is heavy and full of loving thoughts for you and your family. I'll be waiting to give you a big hug when I see you next. Take care of yourself. Lot's of love and prayers. Robin McCoy

Robin - December 06, 2016 at 03:19 PM



“ A beautiful dancer with a gorgeous smile. Grateful to have had the opportunity to get to know her through the Holly Springs School of Dance. It was a privilege to travel with her to NYC, as she performed in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade years ago. Prayers for comfort.

Dawn Ackerman

Dawn Ackerman - December 05, 2016 at 07:35 PM



“ I first met Ashleigh in elementary school at WCA. Even at that age she was an incredibly sweet and friendly soul. Prayers for her family during this tragic time



Nicole Collins - December 05, 2016 at 07:19 PM



“ Nanette Sandy lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Nanette Sandy - December 05, 2016 at 07:15 PM



“ I met Ashleigh on our way to the Passion Conference in 2014...we clicked immediately. We swapped our life stories the second night and we had so much in common. It definitely created a strong bond from that point on. She was an incredibly special young lady...and although her life ended here on earth way to soon, I will rejoice that she is in our Father's house serving Him...free from pain and suffering. Be well Ashleigh...be well.

Catherine N Luke Dobbins - December 05, 2016 at 06:23 PM



“ I'm going to miss my cousin so much

Dawn Swartz - December 05, 2016 at 07:56 PM



“ My heart breaks and I am so sorry to hear this. Ashley was a beautiful soul. I was an outsider when I moved to our new school and not a lot of people made me feel welcome or accepted. Ashley, however, was so kind and sweet and made me feel like I had a place and voice. She welcomed me into her group of friends and always had a smile on her face. I am forever grateful for that kindness she showed me. My

prayers are with her family.

Elisabeth Wallace - December 05, 2016 at 06:14 PM



“ Remembering Ashley as a toddler in the AUMC nursery with Eric. Our hearts are breaking. Love and prayers. Susan & Lewis Feuerstein



Susan Feuerstein - December 05, 2016 at 06:04 PM



“ I find it hard to breathe. I not only loved Ashleigh but I also admired her. I admired the way she loved and cared for her family. The way she took care of her brother and sister. Even when Ashleigh was a teenager, she was caring towards them when many teenagers would rather die than be around their family. Her family was more than a family to her, they were friends and people she enjoyed being around with and they enjoyed being around her. I was forever amazed by her Facebook postings. She was smart and talented in so many ways. I admired her creativity and passion. I loved the way she smiled and laughed and how easy she became friends with every one she met. I admired the way she made people happy when they talked to her and how easy it was for people to love her.



Cindy Swartz - December 05, 2016 at 05:52 PM



“ I'm so sorry for your family's tremendous loss. My daughter and Ashleigh were friends through high school. Prayers to your family



Diana Gregiry - December 05, 2016 at 05:49 PM



“ ShannonRob Wagner lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



ShannonRob Wagner - December 05, 2016 at 05:02 PM



“ Deb Carlton lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Deb Carlton - December 05, 2016 at 05:01 PM



“ We will always remember Ashleigh watching over Madison and Katie as they played in the sun and snow during our first years in Holly Springs. Please know we are honoring Ashleigh's memory by educating others in our community. She is in the arms of the Lord now, and her precious gifts will live on through her family. May God bless you all.

Deb Carlton - December 05, 2016 at 05:01 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Madison Swartz - December 05, 2016 at 04:58 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Helen, Kevin, Madison, and Jacob as well as friends and the rest of my family in this time of grief. May god wrap his loving arms around you all and bring you up and rejoice in knowing Ashleigh is with our savoir Jesus! Lots of love from your cousin Shannon, Rob,Austin,and Katurah!

ShannonRob Wagner - December 05, 2016 at 04:58 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Renaissance Funeral Home - December 05, 2016 at 04:47 PM



“ Madison Swartz lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Madison Swartz - December 05, 2016 at 04:37 PM



“ Heather lit a candle in memory of Ashleigh Raye Swartz



Heather - December 05, 2016 at 04:01 PM