



Jessica Delayne Mathews

MAY 7, 1991 - NOV 4, 2012



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FUNERAL HOMES
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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Jessica Delayne Mathews

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Jessica Delayne Mathews lived a full and meaningful life in her short 21 years with us. She left this earth and was present with Christ on Sunday, November 4, 2012, after a cardiac arrest.

Jessica was born to Dave and Julie Mathews on May 7, 1991 in Longview--the youngest member of the Emmanuel Baptist youth group of White Oak. Soon after, her sisters Brianne and Alyssa were born, and the years of matching outfits and humongous hairbows began. They were the best-dressed toddlers in town, with Jessica leading the trio, bossing and correcting her sisters as an older sister should.

The family and community mourned when Jessica's father Dave passed away in 1996. Jessica, who shared his lifelong battle with diabetes, braved this tragedy and grew to be a woman of great compassion and character, showing others the love of Christ through the details of her everyday life. She loved working with children and was diligently studying to become a speech pathologist. In addition, she taught a children's Bible study at First Baptist Church of Waco, and served on international mission trips to Ethiopia and Belize.

A senior at Baylor University, Jessica loved her Baylor Bears and attending football and basketball games. She was so excited to be able to cheer the Lady Bears to a national championship in Denver this year. She also performed in Baylor's All-University SING and Pigskin with Sing Alliance.

Jessica was deeply devoted to her sisters and to all of her family and friends, who will cherish the memory of her loyal heart, her adventurous spirit, and most of all her love for Jesus.

Jessica is survived by her mother, Julie; stepfather, Kenneth Adams; sisters, Brianne and Alyssa, all of White Oak; her grandparents, Dwayne and JoAnn Lemmon, of Atlanta; John and Catherine Mathews, of Denver, CO; uncle and aunt, Kevin and Tisha Lemmon, of Atlanta; special cousins Nathan Lemmon, Paul Lemmon, and Jacob Lemmon, all of Atlanta; Ryan and Rachael Wirtanen



Obituary

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of Denver; step grandmother Elouise Adams of Atlanta; aunt and uncle Brad and Glenda Haugh and other family of Atlanta; extra special friends, the Landrum family, Tisha McGuire, Holli Clements, Carla Ellison and families, Kathy and Terry Carroll, Taylor King and family, the Tatum family and her church families at First Baptist Church of Longview and First Baptist Church of Waco.

Jessica was preceded in death by her father, Dave Mathews; aunt Venice Mathews; great grandmother Evelyn Dunlap; and a very special baby sitter Elizabeth Landrum.

Visitation will be from 6 pm to 8 pm Wednesday evening at Rader Funeral Home. Services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church of Longview with burial to follow at White Oak Cemetery.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. -Romans 8:38-39

Memorial contributions may be made in jessica's name at Citizens Bank.



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

You don't know me, but I met you outside the ICU waiting room at Good Shepherd the day Jessica was admitted. I was there visiting an aunt. I said I would pray for Jessica, and I did. I've wondered about her, so tonight I decided to search the obits. I was hoping NOT to find her name, but unfortunately I saw her name. I'm so very sorry that the world has lost a wonderful young lady as described in her obit. Please know that others care.##imported-begin##Jane Terrell##imported-end##

January 9 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

My Dear Julie:My heart breaks for you and your family for the loss of Jessica. I know she is in heaven and we rejoice in knowing that. When I talked to you your faith is so strong. Even through this you are a powerful witness for Christ. God Bless you and know I am there for you. Love you##imported-begin##Margaret Waller##imported-end##

November 12 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Dear Julie, I am so sorry for your loss of Jessica and the void she will leave here on earth. When I think of the reunion of Jessica and Dave in heaven however it warms my heart and brings a smile to my face. Can't you just picture Dave greeting Jessica?! I will be praying for God's peace and His strength to carry you through this time. With all my love, Deedra##imported-begin##Deedra Fry##imported-end##

November 12 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I remember Jessica as a little girl coming into WalMart Pharmacy with Dave and Julie to get Dave's medication. We grew to love their little family watching the girls playing in the buggy and talking with Dave and Julie. My friend Megan and I went to Dave's funeral and were just heartbroken for Julie and those adorable little girls. All I could think of when I read about Jessica's passing is how sweet their reunion in Heaven must have been. Prayers to all of you now and always.

November 12 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

Julie, My prayers and my heart are with you and your family. I know God's comfort and love will surround you in the days to come. They are celebrating her now in Heaven. We are celebrating knowing her here on earth. God bless, Debbie Clements Josh's Mom##imported-begin##Debbie Clements##imported-end##

November 8 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

We are so sorry for your loss and we are praying for your whole family.Brandi and Hayley Barlow##imported-begin##Brandi Barlow##imported-end##

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I just learned about Jessica's deliverance to our Heavenly Father today. My prayers are with you, the girls and all others whose lives she has touched. I praise God she is with both of her Fathers and living an eternal life of health just like Dave. I thank God for giving you all the strength to get through this difficult time. I plan to see you this afternoon if not at the church, then at the graveside services due to work. My love to all of you. Donna##imported-begin##Donna Thurman##imported-end##

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie and girls. My heart and prayers go out to you all...your family have always been an inspiration to me. I admired the girls as I would see them passing through the halls of FBC. Jessica's Christain life was so strong and will contuine blessing others . Love...##imported-begin##Ruth Ann Anderson##imported-end##

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I am thinking of you and praying for you and your family. Love you.##imported-begin##Paula Turner Burt##imported-end##

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

Julie- praying for you and your family during this time. My heart breaks for you and your family. But I know that God has his loving arms wrapped around you and is carrying you in his arms as well through all of this. Don't take your eyes off of HIS SON JESUS. I love you and your daughter is truly missed by us that didn't know her.###imported-begin###Becky Hoag###imported-end###

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie, just know that you and your family have been on my mind and prayers. Words are hard to say at a time like this but I care and will be here for you if you need anything my friend.###imported-begin###Kristi Anderson###imported-end###

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I had the great honor of having Jessica as a roommate our freshman year at Baylor. She was a bright, energetic, loving girl who made my first year away from home easier and full of joy. The way she loved the Lord was humbling and beautiful. I'm thankful to have known and lived with such a sweet and strong young woman who day after day sought after our Heavenly Father. She has touched so many lives at Baylor and in our Waco community and while this time is full of grief and sadness, I rejoice in knowing that she is worshipping alongside the King of the universe. Praying for Julie, Kenneth, Brianne, and Alyssa to feel the presence of Jesus and the holy spirit during this difficult time. You are all loved and being prayed over by many.###imported-begin###Alex Holder###imported-end###

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I miss her so much. She was one of my bestest friends. Even though I only spent time with her on the mission trip to Oklahoma and at Camp Tejas, she was already one of my best friends. She was full of the Lord, everything she did was for Him. I miss those good times. I know that she is happy in Heaven and she is waiting for us to meet up with her once again. Goodbye Jessica for now.###imported-begin###Jacob Posey###imported-end###

November 7 at 7:00 PM



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Anonymous posted:

Julie, our hearts hurt for you and know the weight of your grief. Please know that ours prayers will continue to be for peace and comfort.##imported-begin##Julie ray##imported-end##

November 7 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Jessica always had a smile to share. Her love of life and love of our Lord made her a joy to be around. My heart hurts to think that we have lost someone so special. Even so, Christ is Risen! Death is not the end, but the beginning. Lord have mercy on us in our grieving, and share with us your perfect peace and abundant joy.##imported-begin##Taylor Reeves##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Your family are in my thoughts & prayers.##imported-begin##KATHY TERRY##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Jodie Lacy##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

She will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.Darryl & Aletha Gandy##imported-begin##Aletha Gandy##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



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Anonymous posted:

Dear Family, I hope you can feel the love and strength coming from the entire Baylor Nation as we pray for all of you. Julie & Kenneth, you are shining examples of God's love, and are what made Jessica such a strong Christian. Brianne & Alyssa, Jessica loved you very much and spoke of you both often. Our office was blessed to have Jessica as an employee, but I was blessed to have her as a friend. My condolences to you all. I know God will continue to use her legacy to do GREAT things! You are in my prayers.##imported-begin##Bobbie Doyle##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

What a tragic loss! Jessica was so full of life and love and she will be missed by all. She touched the lives of so many in ways even she didn't know. I was so blessed to have know her if even for such a short time. I know she is in the arms of Jesus.##imported-begin##Susan Bickel##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

There is not a doubt in my mind that Dave & Liz, raced to see who could get to Jessica 1st. I am sorry for the loved ones left on earth, who will miss her each and every moment. Jessica set the bar high, as an example to follow!

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Dear Julie and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Jessica was a shining star at New Horizon Preschool and a joy in our day, every day. I've often wondered how she was doing. As I expected, she grew into the wonderful and caring young woman I knew she would be; wow! studying at Baylor! She never gave up and always moved forward with a smile on her face. She amazed me as a toddler and I'm sure you are immensely proud of her as a young woman. What a beautiful life to be celebrated! Blessings to you all.##imported-begin##Celesta White##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



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Anonymous posted:

Julie and family, I am so sorry to hear the news about Jessica. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I remember when Dave was ill, you coming in with those three tow-headed little girls. I know you will miss her so much. God bless you all.##imported-begin##Brenda Coleman Cash##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie, thinking of you and your family and prayers for all of you as you deal with the loss of Jessica. Henry and I always enjoyed seeing your beautiful family at the Watson gatherings and if you weren't there Joanne and Dwayne were always eager to share grandchildren recent photos and stories. Love, Lou Ann##imported-begin##Lou Ann Watson##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie All of us want you to know how very sorry we are for your loss. You and your family are in the prayers of everyone on our staff. Dr. Jim Cook, Norma, Jenna, Ann, D'Anne, Cherie, Wanda, Tracy##imported-begin##Dr. Cook and Staff##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Dear Julie and girls, We were so saddened to hear the news about Jessica. I remember her as if it were yesterday :She was so smart!! She would memorize scripture so quickly when she was just 4 years old. Also loved how dolled up she always was!! Julie I know it's hard and you will be so lonesome, but Brother Dave is so happy to be reunited with her once again! Praying for each of you!! Love, The Mike Malphrus Family##imported-begin##Mo Malphrus##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

My prayers are with you. "From the outside looking in, you can never understand and from the inside looking out, you can never explain" Unknown##imported-begin##Ginger Pritchard##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



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Anonymous posted:

Dear Julie and Family, We are so sorry for loss of your precious daughter. We are sorry we are not able to see you at this time, Kenneth is having a knee replaced. Your family is dear to us, and we support you all with our thoughts and prayers. In Christian Love, Kenneth, Martha and Family##imported-begin##Kenneth & Martha Glass##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

We are remembering your family in our thoughts and prayers. Heaven has received a new blessing!##imported-begin##Richard & Meredith Burks##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie, Brianne, Alussa and every other family member and friend, My heart breaks for you. I am giving everyone of you a long-distance hug. Know that you are being prayed for. Love you Jana Tatum##imported-begin##Jana Tatum##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Our family will be praying for you all! Jessica was my go-to person this summer at VBS. She exemplified the example Christ set for us on being a servant. She was so special to our kids at FBCL and will be greatly missed.##imported-begin##Kerri Rogas##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

My deepest sympathy for your loss. I am so pleased that I was given the opportunity to know Jessica. May your hearts be full of her beautiful memories. I will continue to pray for all of you! Much love, Karyn Jones##imported-begin##Karyn Jones##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



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Anonymous posted:

The Mathews family and White Oak ISD mourn the loss of Jessica while all of Heaven rejoice at her homecoming. May a peace that can only be given by our creator comfort the family and meet all of your spiritual needs.##imported-begin##Mike Gilbert##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Jessica, I never got the chance to know you personally, but having so many classes together became a ritual of ours. Its so hard to know that our Senior class will not be complete this year. We will miss you dearly, walk with the angels sweetie. You are in Gods arms shining down on us.##imported-begin##Rachael##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I am thinking of all of you with love and sympathy always. Love, Sue##imported-begin##Sue Crow##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

thinking and praying for you..What a special young lady she was..Love Tom and Mac Stone##imported-begin##tommacstone##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

I am at such a loss for words for the loss of my classmate. Jessica was such a sweet person and I'm so glad that I got the chance to know her and be friends with her through high school. Heaven has definitely gained a very special angel and she will be watching over her family always. Your family is in my prayers.##imported-begin##Toni Torrez Perry##imported-end##

November 6 at 7:00 PM



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Anonymous posted:

Julie and family, You are so close to my heart right now. I pray for the peace that passes understanding from our Lord and Savior. I know you are a woman of great faith. Please know I am praying for you and your sweet family. Susan Taylor Bullard Head Start

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

To the Mathews family my heart was heavy to read the story of your family. My brother is Kenny Richardson and posted it on Facebook. My prayers are with you all and know that one day we will all meet our loved one. May God keep each one safe.

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie, words cannot express how our hearts hurt for you and your family. I can remember awaiting Jessica's arrival. Yes the youngest member of Emmanuel Baptists youth group. What a precious gift your family has been to ours. Yours and Dave's faith was always unwavering. We will hold you in our prayers daily, for peace that passes all understanding. Love you, Camille and Ronnie Newman

November 6 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie, Alyssa, Brianne, Ken, and family: I love you SOOO much. I am SOOO sorry for your loss, for our loss. I am praying for God's peace and comfort to spread over you so you can FEEL His love and grace as you grieve this loss. I am sorry I didn't make it to visitation tonight. I will do all in my power to be there for you tomorrow. Love ya BIG! God Bless Cindy Fields and family

November 6 at 7:00 PM



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Anonymous posted:

My Prayers and thoughts are with all of you at this time. Jessica's always smiling face will be remembered. I know she is smiling in Heaven with our God and Savior.##imported-begin##Vicki Carlile##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Jessica was such a wonderful, sweet-spirited girl who loved God, children and friends. She always had such a sweet contagious smile and was full of life and laughter. She will be missed by all ages at FBC Waco. Even in death, her life continues to touch lives for Christ.##imported-begin##Deanna Mayes##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Along with so many from our community we are heartbroken for your family's loss. We continue to pray for all of you during this sadness. Our family understands this terrible pain, and will keep you lifted up in the days to come. God's peace and love to you all.Byron, Debbie & Hagen WO Jr.##imported-begin##The Henson family ##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

What a beautiful tribute to a beautiful young lady. Know that we love you, mourn with you, and wait anxiously for Heaven. Katie and Bob Burnett##imported-begin##Katie Burnett##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with Jessica's family and friends. She obviously was a blessing from God to everyone who knew her. Please accept my condolences and continue to let God's words heal your hurting. God Bless You.##imported-begin##Harvey Hill##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

I felt like I knew your family because Tisha McGuire always talked about you and you were always welcomed to our family gatherings. I don't know how you feel but I know that God will never leave you nor forsake you. Praying for you and your family. I know Dave is happy to see her.##imported-begin##Sherry Dickson##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie, I am thinking of you and your family today. My prayers go out to you. I can not even imagine the loss you are facing. But I know her life was a true blessing. You have always been a special person. And I know you raised special girls. I am praying for God's strength and love to embrace you and carry you through this time. Peace be to you all. Your friend, Terri##imported-begin##Terri Griffin Freda##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Praying for all of your family! Jessica was such an awesome young lady, and a huge blessing to our family and especially to Karson as she served the children's ministry at FBCL. So thankful for her very sweet spirit and faithful witness for our Lord Jesus. Much love and prayers for comfort for you all in the days ahead.##imported-begin##Jan Watson##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Julie and family, I am so sorry for the loss of your daughter. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Tammy Steger Perry##imported-end##

November 5 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Jessica by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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