



## Paula Baker

June 22, 1951 - February 23, 2005

Services for Paula Baker, 53, Tatum, are scheduled for 2:00 P.M., Saturday, Feb. 26, 2005, at Stewart Family Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Bob Hogg officiating under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home, 7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy., Tyler, 75703. Mrs. Baker passed away Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2005 at Hospice HomePlace. She was born to Doc and Ruth Edward Burks on June 22, 1951 in Odessa. Mrs. Baker lived in Coffee, TX before moving to Tatum three years ago. She loved to fish and putting together jigsaw puzzles. She enjoyed camping and was a great cook. She also collected Moose and Hummingbird collectibles. Survivors include her husband of 30 years, Arnold "Butch" Baker of Tatum; brother, Kim Burks of Odessa; sisters-in-law, Carliss Baker of McKinney. and Lorrie Baker of Plano. The family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. Friday, Feb. 25, 2005 at Stewart Family Funeral Home, south Tyler. Memorials may be made to Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, 75701.

# Tribute Wall

LB

“ *The color purple, hummingbirds, moose and bears, fishing, cards, puzzles, bloody mary's, good cooking and just chillin' are just some of the things that will always remind me of you. When I was feeling the pressure from a certain member of the family you were the one that was there to reassure me it wasn't me it was them! I will always be grateful for that. You were a wonderful person and I will love you and miss you always.*

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**Lorrie Baker** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *Paula-  
I miss you oh so much! I know you are with God now and keeping the angels amused. She touched my life in a special way. She was a true warrior! I'm so glad God caused our paths to cross.*

*Rashaad and Asha were glad to have met you too!*

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**Ashleyn "Ashie" Mitchell** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ *Paula has been special to me the last 3 years. She has always been there for me and always had time to talk about whatever I needed to talk about even non job related. I will deeply miss her as I know her family will. This world is a better place and Paula made a difference.*

*My prayers continue for the family and my church is also praying for family and friends left behind. She is now free from pain and at peace. Love Sheila*

*(breast cancer survivor-5 years)*

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**Sheila Sibley-BCBS** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ I remember the first time I met Paula during a supervisor conference, her laughter at the meal that night and that long beautiful hair made such a lasting impression to me and then later we were blessed with her coming to work with us at Marshall. She was the kind of person that lended a ear when you needed to talk, loved assisting others in pulling pranks on her peers but most of all she will be remembered for being the one that brought the real spirit of the FISH philosophy to Marshall. Paula - I know that you are fishing now, sitting there in the boat, it's quiet and you're waiting on that first nibble....if you miss don't worry there will another one.

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**Brenda Lay** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Paula was always a joy to work with and she had the best attitude. I will miss working with her. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Debbie Williamson** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I will miss working with Paula in many ways. She was always available and willing to assist however she could. She was truly a wonderful person and will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with those she left behind

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**Jennifer Strickland** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ GOD BLESS YOU IN THIS TIME OF NEED  
HE WILL GIVE YOU ALL THE STRENGTH TO MAKE IT.

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**ELAINE SHANKS** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *The first word that comes to mind when I think of Paula is "Caring". Paula was engaged, she cared, she believed things were possible, and she was willing to work to make them happen.*

*Paula was so refreshing and a delight to work with. I have missed her so much!*

*Paula - I only knew you a year, but I'm so glad I got that year! You touched my life and I'll never forget you.*

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**Kim Bilinsky** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ I had a wonderful working relationship with Paula. She was always willing to share knowledge, which she had a lot of and always open to new ideas. She made our job easier with some of the ideas she put forward.

*I had a wonderful personal relationship with Paula. She and I shared many breaks together and I loved her wit. She and I shared a loved of our pets and were constantly talking about the own little personalities, as they each have their own and I know that her's are as spoiled rotten as mine are, at least listening to her they are.*

*Butch, you are loved and just know that we are there for you. Paula spoke of you in just about every sentence she spoke with me. All the little day trips you took together, all the fishing trips to had, everything. I felt I knew you personally, even before I met you last Saturday.*

*Paula will be very much missed in all of our lives. She touched everyone she ever met in some shape, form or fashion and she leaves some mighty big shoes to fill.*

*Love, Teresa*

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teresa hartsell - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ *My Dearest Paula,*

*I have so many lovely memories of you and our families together. I know at this time you are with all of our family that has gone on before us. I know you will all be building on a greater life , and waiting to see us when it is time. I love you and will miss you very much.*

*Pat*

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**Pat Chancellor** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *I will always remember Paula's soft voice and her smile. Paula loved fishing and anything outdoors. I remember the time Paula emptied out Butch's closet of fish shorts for all us sups to wear in the Fish Philisophy roll out. Paula was so soft spoken, you really had to listen to hear her. When she smiled, her eyes lit up. Paula had such beautiful hair. I had often wished my hair was long like hers. Paula was always willing to help all those around her and she was loved by so many. I know I will miss Paula, but I also know I will see her again some day!*

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**Joann Graham** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

VE

“ *Paula will be greatly missed. She always had a smile on her face and kind words of encouragement. I will miss her.*

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**Vicky Elliott** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ You will be greatly missed in our family at Blue Cross. May God bless your family.

Pam Blalack - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ We are thinking of you, Butch.

Greg, Amy. and Jamie Garrison - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ She always had a smile on her face -- treated everyone like a friend and equal and was one of the nicest people I have ever met. She will be missed by all of us at Blue Cross -- those of us who knew her as a supervisor or co-worker. Butch, you are in our prayers and thoughts every day and we are here for you. Just know that we will miss her, too!!

Rebecca Dawson - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I am so glad you were part of my life. I thank you for all you taught me and shared with me. You helped me grow in self-confidence. I loved the fun times we shared~~and the laughter you brought to us all. You challenged all of us to be the best and was so excited as we met each goal! There will never be another like you. In my heart, I never wanted to let you go. I still don't...it hurts to think your smile is a memory and it will not greet me come Monday morning. But I have to look forward to another day when we will be reunited in a better place. Enjoy your new found health and life in God's kingdom.

Sharon Woodard - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Thank you for always being there.  
Thank you for sharing your heart, your work-life pie chart and your love for the fun things in life.  
Continued prayers.

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**Julia BoxleyAnderson** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I will never forget Paula's laugh, and her beautiful long hair. She was a strong leader and was always finding ways to make our work environment fun. She will always be in my heart!!

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**Susie Minatrea** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence commeth my help.  
My help commeth from the Lord.  
The Lord knows your sorrow - The Lord knows your pain.  
I will continue to keep you all in my prayers. God Bless

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**Deborah Murry** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ I have worked with Paula over the past 5 to 6 years at BCBSTX. I did quality on her Customer Service Representatives. She was a great Supervisor and a great person to work with.

*Paula was always fair and upfront.*

*We had several quality workshops in Marshall and Paula was always so upbeat and appreciative of whatever we could help with. It was a great pleasure to have worked with Paula. I always enjoyed going to the Marshall Office since we knew that Paula was there to help with anything.*

*Truly a sad loss for all of us. She will be sadly missed. Till we meet again Paula, in the Father's House and in perfect health.*

*God Bless.*

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**Martha LeFeber** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DI

“ A FRIEND FROM ABOVE....

*I prayed for you before we met,  
Not knowing who you'd be.  
I asked the Lord to send a friend.  
One chosen just for me.*

*I asked that they'd be Godly,  
With wisdom of His ways.  
A friend to help and guide me  
In the troubles of these days.*

*So often in life, we need someone  
To listen while we talk.  
Someone who will not condemn or judge,  
But encourage us as we walk.*

*The narrow road we choose to follow  
May sometimes make us stumble.  
But to have a friend to catch our fall,  
Teaches us to be humble.*

*When I asked the Lord to send a friend,  
Though many came and went.  
He gave much more than I ever asked,  
For you are the friend He sent.*

*Butch, last week when Paula and I visited, I shared with her how  
thankful I was that we were friends. We are all here for you during  
this very difficult time and like I told you before, if you need  
someone to yell at, just give us a call!!*

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**Debbie Ingram** - February 23, 2005 at 12:00 AM