



Sue Kueck

February 6, 1965 - February 11, 2005

Sue Ellen Casey Kueck passed away peacefully at the Tyler Hospice Homeplace on Friday, February 11, 2005. Visitation will be held with the family present from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 13 at the Stewart Family Funeral Home on Old Jacksonville Highway. A private graveside service is scheduled for Monday, February 14 at the Rose Hill Cemetery in Tyler. A service celebrating Sue Ellen's life will be at 1:30 p.m. at Green Acres Baptist Church with the Rev. David Dykes and Rev. Ken Brumley officiating. Sue Ellen was born in Bryan on February 6, 1965, to Bob and Billie Jean Casey. She graduated from Bryan High School in 1983 and from Texas A&M University in 1987 with a B.S. degree. During her high school years, Sue Ellen was a member of the National Honor Society, played in the Viking band, and was a member of the Shy-Anne drill team, serving as captain her senior year. She made her profession of faith in Jesus Christ as her Savior and was baptized at Central Baptist Church, the church in which she had grown up. Sue Ellen met and married Steve Kueck in Lewisville in 1993, and with their children, they moved to Tyler in 1994. She took an active part in community, church and school endeavors. As a member of Green Acres Baptist Church, she served as a Sunday School teacher. Sue Ellen was rarely without a volunteer position in her children's schools, serving as art mom, library volunteer, homeroom mother, and numerous PTA officer positions, including PTA President. She also worked as a sales representative for Catherine Rebecca clothing for girls in Tyler, as well as other East Texas towns and Bryan. Sue Ellen was diagnosed with brain cancer in the summer of 2003. She courageously continued her activities and especially enjoyed her children's sporting events until her illness prevented her attendance. A friend has said, "True to form, she proved to be strong and courageous and served as an example for each of us when facing adversity." In 2003, Sue Ellen received the PTA Life Membership Award and in 2004, she was honored with the National PTA Lifetime Achievement Award, which is the highest honor that PTA can bestow, given to a person who has provided outstanding service for children. In addition to volunteer positions in the public schools, Sue Ellen also served on the TISD Facilities Committee, helped establish Tyler United Campaign, and was a board member of Parents for Public Schools. In 2003, she and her husband, Steve, received the first annual Advocate Award presented by PPS. According to a fellow PTA member and friend, "Sue

Ellen is one of the most purpose driven people I have ever known, focusing on improving education for our children and upgrading the facilities in our schools. She also is diligent in making sure those at the helm of TISD keep their sights on this same goal, and has not been hesitant in reminding them if they veer off track!" Kristen Baldwin, a member of the TISD school board said of Sue Ellen, "As a Christian, I know she tries to follow God's will for her life, and it shows. She has been a catalyst for an incredible amount of good in this district. Although she may not always be the lead person, she is somewhere in the background not wanting to be noticed or recognized. I continue to be blessed by her."

Henry Dennard, Past President for Parents for Public Schools, said of her, "I have seen Sue Ellen at work for the children of Tyler ISD for several years, and I can think of no one who has worked harder or been more passionate about the educational welfare of our kids. She is an example to all of us of what commitment of children is all about." Sue Ellen is survived by her husband, Steve Kueck and their children, Shelby Laird, Travis Laird and Sydney Kueck, all of Tyler. Her parents, Bob and Billie Jean Casey of Bryan; brother and sister-in law Robert and Julia Casey and their three children, Tanisha, Melvin, and T.D. of Brenham also survive her. In addition, she leaves her father-in-law, Bob Kueck, sister-in-law, Pam Gabriel and her husband Matt, and their daughter Mary Birdsong, all of Tyler, as well as several aunts, uncles, cousins, and innumerable friends. Honorary pallbearers will be Carl Shotts, Mitch Cullen, John Rickman, Larry Boyd, Jim Clark, Russell Korthauer, Dale Crawford, Mark Humphries, Tim Fullen, Bob Carpenter, Howard Hefner, and Andy Guinn. Memorials may be made to Rose Capital West Little League, P.O. Box 7241, Tyler, Texas 75711, TISD Foundation, P.O. Box 2035, Tyler, Texas, 75710, or the charity of one's choice.

Tribute Wall

DL

“ Sue Ellen was my oldest and dearest friend. She always reminded me of something so "pure". We had known each other since first grade. I know she is at total peace in the Lord's presence.. but I miss her so much. Through the years we kept up with one another and shared in the best moments of our lives together. I was so blessed to have her as my friend. It might be months since we would find a time to talk, but once we did, it's like we picked up exactly where we left off. I wish we had been able to spend more time or at least talk to one another more often the last several years. The last time I saw Sue Ellen we both looked at each other's eyes and I knew we were telling each other how much we loved one another. I look so forward to seeing her in heaven. May the Lord bless Steve, Shelby, Travis, and Syndey and Sue Ellen's parents.

Debbie Lander - February 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Hi Steve, Shelby, Travis, Sydney, and family.

The service today was so unique and beautiful, just like Sue Ellen. It seems she is a rose picked too soon for heaven's bouquet, and it's hard to understand God's timing. I'm so thrilled for Sue that she now knows as she is known by the omniscient God who created her and who loves her.

There is a song that helped us through our grief when our daughter died February 15, 1992. It is by Cynthia Clawson, and it goes something like this. "All things work for our good, though sometimes we can't see how they could. Struggles that break our hearts in two sometimes blind us to the truth. Our Father knows what's best for us; His ways are not our own. So when your pathway grows dim, and you just can't see Him, remember you're never alone. God is too wise to be mistaken. God is too good to be unkind. So when you don't understand, when you don't see His plan, when you can't trace His hand, trust His heart."

It has been our privilege, along with the entire Gillen Class, to pray for you guys through the last year and a half. We will continue to lift you ALL up to the God who has plans for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and future. You will seek Him and you will find Him when you seek Him with all of your heart.

Lisa White - February 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ *Thinking of you all.*

*Love,
Malori and Sonia*

Malori Wofford - February 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *So sorry for your family's loss. We did not know either one of you but have prayed for you all. I know your loss is great and I know that God will incapsulate you in his love, strength, and peace. God's love will carry you through this time by surrounding you with friends, family, and the prayers of those you will never know.*

BRIAN LANGLEY - February 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM

“ Steve,

I am so terribly sorry for your family's loss. Though I didn't know Sue Ellen, I am sure was amongst the finest ladies around, because I know you and the type person you are.

There is a poem that I know that seems to comfort with its truth. I'd like to share it with you and your family.

SHE HURTS NOT ANYMORE

*She is not hurting anymore;
her face is peaceful now.
The suffering has been erased;
No pain upon her brow.
These tears, at best, are selfish tears
Because we miss her so.
We'd clasp her still, reluctantly,
So sad to see her go.*

*But it is not the will of God
that death beget dark tears.
her feet now walk where angels walk;
And every sound she hears
Reverberates with heaven's love
As she kneels to adore.
Today she walks where angels walk
And hurts not anymore.*

Steve, may God bless you, your family and give you the comfort and confidence that she now knows eternal joy as we never can here on Earth.

Richard Cartwright - February 11, 2005 at 12:00 AM