



RoseMarie "Rosie" McKinney

January 24, 1996 - July 7, 2009

RoseMarie "Rosie" McKinney, age 13, of Applewood Community, Clinton, passed away on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at the Upstate Medical University in Syracuse with the love and support of her family at her side.

Born in Clearwater Beach, Florida on January 24, 1996, RoseMarie is the daughter of Charles J. McKinney and Tracy O'Brien. She was also blessed to have the love, guidance, and home of her paternal grandparents, Janet and James McKinney. RoseMarie began her preschool education at Upstate Cerebral Palsy on Armory Drive, Utica, and completed her 6th grade this past June at Sauquoit Valley School.

With a sunny smile and beaming blue eyes, RoseMarie was affectionately known to her family as "Rosebud". She loved life and was always grateful for acts of kindness which she acknowledged with her special "thank-yous". Graced with a good sense of humor, she joked and teased wholeheartedly, deriving much joy and happiness from others. RoseMarie was always giving, a personal attribute that was a great source of compassion to her. A clothing aficionado, she enjoyed shopping, especially for shoes and jewelry, and she loved to cook, particularly pizza and ravioli pasta. She enjoyed bowling and visiting the nurses and guests at the nursing home at the Pines at Utica, where her great-grandmother is a resident. Her family was so important to her and her greatest joy was gleaned from visits and phone conversations. She had a special blessing which enabled her the ability to memorize phone numbers. Although her life was short in years, it was filled and rich with love;

she will be remembered as a grand soul.

RoseMarie was a blessing to her parents, Janet and James A. McKinney, and Charles J. McKinney and Tracy O'Brien. She is survived by her sister, Alexis Nicole Battreall and her dad, Matt; her maternal grandparents, Paulette and Gordon Kelly, and Thomas and Jody O'Brien; her great-grandmother, Lucy Fontaine, who was affectionately known as Big Ma; aunts and uncles, including Luann (who was also her godmother) and her husband Charles, Nicole and Paul, and Tom; several great-aunts and great-uncles, especially acknowledging "Aunt Glory" Fabbio and Thomas Fabbio; and her cousins especially acknowledging Sherri and Tim, and Tom and Michelle. Rosie loved so many people unconditionally, including her dear friends Ron Cramer, Renee, and Matt of the Pines at Utica; her special friends known as the Arby's gang, her religious family, Katie, Janice, and Jack, who spiritually encouraged and celebrated special days with her; her loving friend, Connie Buffa, "Miss W"; and her "one on one" aid, Mrs. D.

The family extends sincere appreciation to Dr. Kevin Ragosta, Upstate Medical University, and the entire staff of the Pediatric ICU for their unending devotion, Dr. Rhea Ivins and staff, as well as all her specialists and caregivers who have been extended family throughout the years.

Visitation will be held Sunday (today) from 2:00-4:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please omit floral offerings. RoseMarie's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Monday morning at 9:30 from the funeral home and at 10:30 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. A graveside service will follow with interment in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of RoseMarie "Rosie" McKinney



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - July 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Janet & Family - I am so sorry for your loss. I just heard about this and wanted to express my sympathy to you all. I know that she was the light of your lives and that it was your love and devotion that made her such a happy girl. You gave her a wonderful life and you should take comfort in that. God bless you all.
- Linda###imported-begin##Linda Fabbio###imported-end##

September 10, 2009 at 04:48 PM



“ I went to school with rosie. To her family i would just like to say that no matter what rosie did, there was not a person she couldn't make smile. When she walked into a room, it was illuminated by her smile. She was a great person, and she is a devastating loss to our community. Her death was a tragedy but our memories of her are a treasure. Miss You Rosie! Have Fun In Heaven. See You Sometime Soon.###imported-begin##Andrew Roman###imported-end##

August 17, 2009 at 10:33 AM



“ I met Rosie a few times with Mom & Aunt Gloria. My heart goes out to your family. I can't imagine the pain you are going through. I hope it helps a little to know that you are in the thoughts of so many people and that your Rosebud was loved by so many. God Bless-
Colleen###imported-begin##Colleen Ancona###imported-end##

July 16, 2009 at 06:01 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to your family. Rosie was such a ray of sunshine on this Earth, and we will miss her very much. She was always Jenna's "bestest" friend, and often was Jenna's topic of conversation. I will always remember that beautiful smile, and what a beautiful person she was, inside and out. God Bless you all.###imported-begin##Rene' LaLonde (Jenna's Mom)###imported-end##

July 12, 2009 at 09:40 PM



“ I never worked directly with Rosie, but had the pleasure and honor of her presence during group activities at summer school. It was obvious she touched anyone who came in contact with her. Her bright personality and sense of humor were well known throughout the BOCES family. I am thankful for gift God has shared with us, even for the short time we had.###imported-begin##Lisa Grenier###imported-end##

July 12, 2009 at 08:56 PM



“ I just wanted to tel you my heart goes out to you. I was in the icu at the tme of your daughters passing, my daughter was in bed 4. I was with her when you all gathered by Rosies bedside. I just wanted to let you know I was praying threw it all for her. I am sure she was at peace and in a beautifull place right now. I prayed for her to have a peacefull transaction. I also prayed for you all it was nice to see she has a wonderfull family. My heart goes out to you all. Seeing how you have so much support I am sure Rosie knows how very much she was loved. God bless you all
Debby Lewis###imported-begin##Deborah Lewis###imported-end##

July 12, 2009 at 08:33 PM



“ My heart and prayers go out to the McKinney family, and everyone who loved Rosie. I worked one on one with another student in her classroom during the 2007/2008 school year. I knew Rosie for only a short time, but long enough to be touched by her warmth and the sunshine we all felt when she was around. All the nice things said about Rosie here are so true. She was a precious young lady. I will always treasure her memory, and look forward to the time when we will see her again in heaven.###imported-begin##Mrs. B (Charlene Blank)###imported-end##

July 12, 2009 at 04:33 PM



“ Janet,
We were so sad to hear about Rosie. We know how much she meant to you. She was the light of your life. I was so impressed with her in what little time I was able to spend with her. She had such a wonderful heart. She was so loving, so friendly and an absolute sweetheart. She made me feel like I had been her friend forever in that short time I spent with her. What a gift she had. She was truly special. Our prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Heather & Michael Sturgeon (A Bygone Era)##imported-end##

July 12, 2009 at 01:44 PM



“ Janet and Family i enjoyed seeing rosie at the Pines and am so sorry for your loss she was an inspiration to all who knew her please accept my deepest sypathy and may god bless all of you.##imported-begin##jacki bradley##imported-end##

July 12, 2009 at 03:52 AM



“ Dear Rosie, You will be so missed. Your bright smile and shining personality touched everyone around you. Although I only knew you for a short time, you are a student I will always remember for your sense of humor, persistence and sweetness. You are so lucky to have such a caring family, and I know they will miss you more than any of us can understand.##imported-begin##Sarah Walker##imported-end##

July 11, 2009 at 08:37 PM



“ Rosie I know you are in a better place. Watch over all your family. I will miss giving you those crazy wheelchair rides and my favorite kiss the "zubert". I love you Rosie. Bowl a perfect game every day. Uncle Tom###imported-begin##uncle tom###imported-end##

July 11, 2009 at 04:17 PM



“ I worked with little rosie. I could still here her laugh. She was a very sweet kid. she would always talk to me about things. I was a aide on the bus. I WILL MISS HER SMILE AND LAUGH, AND SENSE OF HUMOR.
GOD BLESS
THERESA CAMPESE###imported-begin##theresa###imported-end##

July 11, 2009 at 04:08 PM



“ Rosie,
You were like a family member to me. I can still hear your voice---- your laughter--all of your funny sayings and words of wisdom. You will always be a shining star----a gift to everyone who knew you. You are still a gift in the wonderful memories we have of you. You truly changed my life Rosie Mckinney and I am so very blessed to have known you. When I break down to cry, I can almost hear you say, "Don't be sad Mrs. D, don't worry--I'll be fine." I love you Rosie-- your Mrs. D###imported-begin##Ann Marie DeAngelo###imported-end##

July 11, 2009 at 03:40 PM



“ My condolences to Rose's family & to all of those who knew and loved our little Rosie.
She was budded on earth, to blossom in Heaven....
Sincerely,
~~~Judith~~~##imported-begin##Judith Williams##imported-end##

---

July 11, 2009 at 02:45 PM



“ Jim....I am so sorry about your Granddaughter. I know she was the light of your life. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. The loss of a child is the hardest thing to go through life with. It changes everything. God Bless!!!!##imported-begin##Mark Horstman##imported-end##

---

July 11, 2009 at 01:44 PM



“ It was my pleasure to meet Rosie when she attended UCP with my son Jacob. She was the sweepest little girl. I'll always remember her laugh and beautiful smile. "Miss D' took exceptional care of her, as though she were her own daughter. Rosie is running around heaven with Jacob by her side. Peace to you.##imported-begin##Dorothy Raynor##imported-end##

---

July 11, 2009 at 01:43 PM



“ Rosie,

*I have lost a lot of things in my life, but nothing greater than you. I will miss those great big hugs and kisses you would give me, as well as our special handshake. Also, I will miss when we would go to dinner at Ponderosa's Steakhouse; how excited you would get, and flap your little arms. Your smile and laughter will be etched in my mind forever. No one will ever take your place in my heart, what is left of it. You have left me a very hollow man. I WILL LOVE YOU TIL THE DAY I DIE AND BEYOND. You were an inspiration to all you meet, and motivated everyone to be as happy as you were. I truly know there will be many sad people around us but somehow every time your name will be mentioned, I know it will bring a smile to their face - especially mine, which will be very hard. GOD BLESS YOU*

*I LOVE YOU,*

*Papa###imported-begin##James (Papa) McKinney##imported-end##*

---

July 11, 2009 at 01:29 PM



“ To the McKinney family,

*I was truly sad to hear of the loss of your beautiful granddaughter Rosie. She touched so many lives and made everyone of us laugh and smile. My most fondest memory of Rosebud was when she came into school on her birthday one year with her wheelchair all decked out with balloons and Rosie had on a tiata she was soooo proud. Rosebud I love you girl and will miss you.##imported-begin##Mrs. Loomis##imported-end##*

---

July 11, 2009 at 11:53 AM



“ I first met Rosie at Sauquoit Middle School. I had the privilege to work with her in summer school that year, as well as the next school year. Rosie came to summer school with the most gorgeous long locks of hair that I had ever seen. A few days later, she came in with a beautiful short haircut. Rosie was so proud to tell all of us that she had donated her long hair to Locks for Love. Rosie was the kindest and most selfless person I knew. She always had stories about all the cool things her and Nana did-going to the casino, dancing at the wedding, shopping, going to visit her Great Grandmother at the nursing home, etc. She truly treasured those times with Nana and we felt that special and unforgettable bond in every story she told. Nana, the shopping trips paid off because Rosie was always dressed to the nines-from her head to her toes! We used to joke about how packed her and Nana's closets were. Her vibrant smile and positive attitude were contagious. You could always count on Rosie to cheer you up! Nana and family, please take comfort in knowing that Rosie will always be with you as a Guardian Angel from Heaven. Even though we are all very sad that she is not here on earth with us, she will live on forever in the hearts of everyone who knew her. Rosie, I am so blessed that I got to know you. I will miss you dearly. Thank you for teaching me so much.##imported-begin##Carrie Whitham##imported-end##

---

July 11, 2009 at 10:29 AM



“ To the entire McKinney family I am so sorry for your loss. Rosie was a special girl. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this very difficult time. I pray comfort is found from support of your family and friends.

THANK YOU ALL for sharing your ROSEBUD with me. I am so very grateful that Rose was a part of my life. We had many, many laughs everyday. I have memories to last a lifetime, and these remembrances will keep her vibrant spirit alive within me.

Rose was a true inspiration. Rose loved life, people and smiled always. God now has a TOP NOTCH ANGEL. Dance my little friend! Rosie until we meet again Rest In Peace... Love Nurse Pat###imported-begin###Nurse Pat###imported-end##

---

July 11, 2009 at 08:39 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I met Rosie and worked with Rosie in the Orange Room at UCP. Rosie was so charming and such a delight. She will be always remembered for her quick wit, her sparkling smile and the sweetest smile.###imported-begin###Anne Doti###imported-end##

---

July 10, 2009 at 09:20 PM



“ Rosie touched my life more than words can say. She brought sunshine on even the most rainy days. I loved visiting with Rosie at Sauquoit Middle School when she would show me her jewelry and ask me if her head band looked nice.

*I believe that Rosie was meant to be in my life because I am a better person for knowing her. She made me realize that we all serve a purpose while on earth. Rosie's purpose was to bring happiness and joy into everyone's life. She was a fun spirited child who found a reason to smile when we adults sometimes were too busy "sweating the small stuff!"*

*I am so thankful that you shared this wonderful child with the BOCES staff. I can now say that I know an ANGEL.*

*God bless you and know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Mary Beth Piejko##imported-end##*

---

July 10, 2009 at 08:40 PM



“ rosie was an inspiration to me. she had a smile on her face every time i saw her. no matter what she went through the one thing you could count on was rosie would still have that smile on her face. if i was having a bad day i would find rosie because just seeing that smile was enough to turn any bad day around. i will miss running in to her and nana at the casino at 1230 in the morning decked out in jewelry from head to toe after just eating a late night snack. rosie was the best there is no doubt about it. im just so thankful i have many memories to look back on and that great smile etched in my memory. ill miss you rosie!##imported-begin##"Mr. S"##imported-end##

---

July 10, 2009 at 03:12 PM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers and thoughts during this time. Rosie will be sorely missed at the spina bifida clinic and in our hearts.##imported-begin##Kim Garver##imported-end##

July 10, 2009 at 12:59 PM



“ I Didnt know you long but boy am I going to miss seeing you come rolling down the hall allways so excited to see everyone even one the most stressfull of days you could always make me laugh The Pines wont be the without you.. I will miss you Rosie Gob Bless You....##imported-begin##Lyda Wilson##imported-end##

July 10, 2009 at 09:50 AM



“ Rosie, I'm glad I met you. I will miss you.##imported-begin##Nick Buffa##imported-end##

July 09, 2009 at 11:37 PM



“ Rosebud...words can not express how much I am going to miss you "little buddy." I will never forget you, your smile, laugh and squeezing hugs. You were my little pal. Run around and play with Sam & Timber. Send them my love. RIP. I love you!!!##imported-begin##Connie Buffa aka "Miss W"##imported-end##

July 09, 2009 at 11:35 PM



“ The world has lost a very special young lady. While I never had the pleasure of working with Rosie directly, my son Scott did. You only had to be in the same building with her to be touched by her. She always had a smile and a contagious bubbly personality. On numerous occasions we ran into Rosie and her "Nana" out of school and the special love and bond they shared was evident. We will miss you Rosie.##imported-begin##Sharon Schuster##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 11:34 PM



“ You wer the best daughter a mother could ask for. I am going to miss you greatly. I take comfort in knowin that you will no lionger be suffering. I love yiou sweetheart. love mommy##imported-begin##Tracy O'Brien##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 10:15 PM



“ Our condolences to the McKinney Family. Our hearts go out to you. God bless Rosie.##imported-begin##John and Valerie O'Donnell##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 10:10 PM



“ Being Rosie's T.A. this year was truly wonderful. I am so blessed to have gotten to know her and become so close to her. She was my sidekick, my partner in crime! I am really going to miss her. She was a special, wonderful girl and always made me smile. There are so many things I want to say but words fail me. I am truly heartbroken. I will keep Rosebud in my heart forever.  
My thoughts and prayers go out to the family. I am so sorry.##imported-begin##Marisa Manno##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 10:04 PM



“ “Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts. And we are never, ever the same.” Rosie left footprints in my heart and I will never forget her smile, jokes and what a wonderful person she was.##imported-begin##Gil Oliveras##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 07:18 PM



“ I am very sorry to learn of your loss. Our condolences to the family.##imported-begin##Gary Fishkin & Family##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 06:54 PM



“ Our condolence to your family during this time. Rosie is with God and smiling down with love upon you all.##imported-begin##Bob Dowd and family##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 06:47 PM



“ So sorry about your loss, you are in my prayers.

*Sue Donato, Utica NY##imported-begin##Susan Donato##imported-end##*

---

July 09, 2009 at 11:57 AM



“ TO THE MCKINNEY FAMILY ARE THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU. ROSE MARIE WAS A BRIGHT YOUNG LADY. HER SMILE WE WILL NEVER FORGET. GOD BLESS. MEMES FORMALS STAFF##imported-begin##MEMES FORMALS STAFF##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 11:54 AM



“ To the McKinney Family, May each of you find comfort in knowing that God is "near to those that are broken at heart; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves." (Psalm 34;18) He has promised to soon "swallow up death forever...and wipe the tears from all faces." (Isaiah 25;8) Take care,##imported-begin##valerie thompson##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 11:45 AM



“ My Husband Gil worked with Rosie at BOCES and I had the pleasure of meeting her a couple of years ago. I was struck by her big personality and even bigger smile. She always brought a smile to my husband's face. May she be at peace.##imported-begin##Cara Oliveras##imported-end##

---

July 09, 2009 at 10:09 AM



“ I'm so sorry for your lose, Rosie was a shinning light for the staff and resident at The Pines at Utica. Everyone loved to see Rosie, She could always get you to smile no matter how bad your day might be going. My Thought's and prays are with you in your time lose. GOD BLESS YOU ROSIE##imported-begin##Tracy Kitchen##imported-end##

---

July 08, 2009 at 05:56 PM