



Colleen Katherine (O'Neill) Cawthon

March 14, 1970 - February 7, 2014

Colleen Katherine (O'Neill) Cawthon entered heaven singing and rejoicing on February 7, 2014. She was born on March 14, 1970 in Waukegan, Illinois to Virginia "Ginny" (O'Neill) Edmund and John O'Neill. Colleen was the youngest of four children - brothers Jack O'Neill and Don O'Neill and sister Beth Ortega. The family moved to Albuquerque in 1978 where Colleen graduated Eldorado High School in 1988. She met and married the love of her life, Jaris at their local church and went on to have three amazing children, Annie 16, Sydney 13, and Dylan 6. Colleen, an amazingly talented singer and songwriter, used her voice to touch many lives, recording 2 praise and worship CDs with her church and 1 with her husband, and singing on many other recordings for other artists. Jesus Christ was her passion, and she served as a Worship Pastor in her local church, Believers Center of Albuquerque, for over 21 years along side her husband. She was completely devoted to her husband, children, church family, and all her extended family. Her laugh was absolutely contagious and could easily change the atmosphere of a room. Above all, her desire was to see God glorified in everything she set her hand to - her marriage, children, work, and friendships. Colleen's life was a reflection of God's love and joy. She fought a hard battle against Lyme disease and was an absolute champion. Colleen's life celebration will be held Thursday February 13, 2014 at 6:30pm at Believers Center of Albuquerque, 320 Waterfall Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123. In lieu of flowers, an Education Fund has been started for Colleen's children. Checks can be made out to

Edward Jones Investing / The Cawthon Kids Education Fund, 4122 Factoria Blvd SE, Bellevue WA 98006. Credit card donations can be made over the phone to Lawrence Rude 425-644-6290.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **13**. 6:30 PM (MT)

Believers Center
320 Waterfall Dr. SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

Tribute Wall

BH

“ I have just recently met Colleen's brother, Don and now learn of the sorrow of this beautiful girl's passing. Her music and spirit clearly have left a longer and deeper legacy than her far-too-short life would indicate. Blessings to the family and all who knew this precious soul. I'll be making a donation to the children's education fund and know that they carry forward the light in the world for their mother. ~

Barbara Hammerman

Barbara Hammerman - February 11, 2015 at 06:11 PM



Autumn
Michelle

“ I heard the song that Colleen had written called "The Secret Place" and also that she had left the chords in PDF form on a website. My parents have a praise and worship band called Unto Him in the Pittsburgh, PA area. I have requested that we add Colleen's song to our collection, so we will be singing this song in her memory. It reaches my heart deeply because we both have dealt with Lyme. We will be adding some guitar, bass, and light drums as well as harmony vocals. Her gift is a gift that keeps on giving. God continue to bless the Cawthon family.

Autumn Michelle - August 09, 2014 at 12:25 PM

MO

“ I'm sorry to see she is gone.

Matthew J. O'Neill
Eldorado Class of 1988



Matthew O'Neill - May 22, 2014 at 11:43 AM

JB

“ *Not having physically known Colleen, yet sadly Lyme Disease bonds fellow warriors together in a comforting way...so any time we learn of another beautiful life being taken, too soon, due to complications from this horrific disease...it saddens us all. May she be soaring pain-free near by her loved ones, so that they may continue to feel her presence & be comforted by her spirit & cherished memories. Lifting the Cawthon family & friends up in prayer....*



Joey Bauder - February 28, 2014 at 12:41 PM

KH

“ *Bless you dear Colleen, I'm so sorry for the pain you endured. I am thankful for God's promises and I know you are with Him singing praises and rejoicing. To your precious husband and children, I am so sorry for the pain you have endured and are still facing. May the Holy Spirit shelter you and comfort you every moment. God's mercies are new every morning. In His Mighty Love, the Holmes Family, Karen-fellow Lyme warrior*

karen holmes - February 27, 2014 at 11:03 PM

JR

“ *God bless you and your family. From one Lyme warrior to another. God speed.*



Jennifer Rounds - February 26, 2014 at 06:51 PM

DC

“*Jaris and Colleen, your music restrung the chords of my heart and brought me back to worship. I will always be grateful to you for this. I am as saddened by this news as I was blessed by her voice. Peace and love from my family to yours.*
Dawn and Tim Covert”

Dawn Covert - February 24, 2014 at 12:13 PM

 Tracey Weston

“*Colleen, I hope you have found peace and comfort with God. As a fellow Lyme Warrior, I know you fought as long as you could. I hope your family will find peace in the beautiful memories of your love, strength and smile. God bless all of you.*”

Tracey Weston - February 23, 2014 at 04:28 PM

NR

“*Nakomi Rudlong lit a candle in memory of Colleen Katherine (O'Neill) Cawthon*”



Nakomi Rudlong - February 23, 2014 at 02:17 PM

SS

“*I only know of Colleen through her brother Don and his radio show. My prayers are for Christ's peace to be with Don and all the family as they deal with the physical loss of this dear sweet saint. Praise God that He has her now.*”

Sean Sellers - February 20, 2014 at 08:27 AM



“ *What a beautiful obituary. I did not know Colleen, personally, but feel I do after reading of her life. That life continues in Heaven. We know Colleen's pain and suffering is over, but we mourn so deeply the loss of another wonderful human being to this dreadful Lyme Disease. I hope the prayers of the entire Lyme community will give you comfort as we serenade Colleen's journey. With deepest sorrow and sympathy from Gloucester, MA - Cynthia Congdon*



Cynthia Congdon - February 20, 2014 at 06:59 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers to the entire family of Colleen. From another fellow Lyme Warrior from Portugal..*



Luis Alves - February 20, 2014 at 05:08 AM



“ *I am so sorry for the loss your family has suffered. May Colleen be at peace from her battle with Lyme Disease and may your family, some day, find peace as well.*

Vicky - February 19, 2014 at 11:07 PM

EA

“ I am deeply sorry to hear of the loss of beautiful Colleen, so beloved and so important to her family and friends. I am one of many Lyme sufferers who wish to pay our respects and to provide her family and friends with our comfort and support. We understand her struggles and we appreciate your devotion to her as she willed herself, each day, to live to the best of her ability because of all she held dear. Thank you for sharing your gracious gift to this world with us. - Elizabeth, Portland, Oregon

Elizabeth Aaroe - February 19, 2014 at 09:57 PM



Heather
Rolfe-
Reid

“ I am so sorry for your loss of Colleen, so early in her life. Lyme Disease has claimed another fellow fighter. We will not stop fighting her fight. My prayers go out to your family.

Heather Rolfe-Reid - February 19, 2014 at 07:49 PM

CC

“ Our Glorious Father in heaven has a plan for each of our lives. He knows every hair on our head and he understands the pain we endure as he sent his son and our Lord and Saviour Jesus who also endured pain. Everything he does has purpose and we must have faith that his purpose is greater than anything we can understand in the moment, but if we look for him, we will find him in every trial. Losing our family and friends can be painful, but keep looking for Christ as he is the comforter.

Chris Chaney

Chris Chaney - February 19, 2014 at 07:30 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Lyme is taking too many special people. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.*
The Velletri Family

Patricia Velletri - February 19, 2014 at 06:59 PM



“ *What a waste of a beautiful life, especially when it could have been avoided! I did not know her, but it's very sad. Best wishes to Colleen's family.*

Khaya Davidson - February 19, 2014 at 06:55 PM



“ *Condolences to the Cawthon family. I am so sorry for your loss. As a Lyme caregiver to my two girls, my sympathy goes out to you all. May Colleen rest in peace.*

Kaethe Mitchell

Kaethe - February 19, 2014 at 05:02 PM



“ *Sympathy from the Perth and Western Australia Lyme Support Network*

Theresa Potgieter - February 19, 2014 at 01:48 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers to the entire family of Colleen. From another fellow Lyme Warrior, she will no longer suffer what us Lyme patients feel. She is now free of her pain and suffering. May she rest in peace.*

Teresa Ceccoli

Teresa Ann - February 19, 2014 at 12:34 AM

JE

“ *My prayers of comfort and support to Colleen's family, and God Bless Colleen. I did not know her personally but I, too, am a Chronic Lyme Disease warrior, in California. I have read so many wonderful things about Colleen, what a loving, talented, Godly woman she must have been and continues to be in Heaven.*

Jill Easton - February 19, 2014 at 12:05 AM

MD

“ *God Bless you Colleen and may you rest in peace. God bless your family and your dear children.
I am also a Lyme Warrior in New Jersey.*

Mary Ellen Donovan - February 18, 2014 at 11:43 PM

SS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Colleen, her family, and friends. I'm a fellow Lyme Warrior from California. Rest In Peace Colleen <3*

Sylvia Salinas - February 18, 2014 at 10:47 PM



“ *My love and thoughts with the family, from a fellow Lyme Warrior in Toronto Canada. We remember you Colleen and carry on fighting in your good name and heart.*
Luba Williams

Luba Williams - February 18, 2014 at 10:32 PM

SH

Heartfelt thoughts for Colleen and her family. Nobody should ever have to be lost from this disease. We will continue to fight the fight. Prayers from a Northern Ca lyme warrior.

Samantha Hayden - February 19, 2014 at 10:56 AM

JE

“ *Colleen and Jaris made Praise and worship at BCA so meaningful to me. It sometimes became moreso than the message because it just made me cry to know she brought the Holy Spirit into the house !*



Jeanne - February 17, 2014 at 02:08 PM

BM

“ *Colleen the memory I have of you would be your singing voice and your pure heart! I will always remember going with my dad to band practice and just being in awe of your voice!! And playing the first album the church made and tried singing along with you!! You are so beautiful here on earth I couldn't imagine setting you now basking I'm the glory of God!! I can't wait to see you again!!!*

Brooke Mosher - February 13, 2014 at 07:33 PM

MC

“ Our beautiful Colleen your voice, your laughter will be missed. But now you will rejoice in the best seat in the house, right in front of the Saviour Himself. How awesome is that...you and Mimi together what a chorus. I still see your smile and hear that contagious laughter and tears fall. But I know you are where you ought to be...by our Heavenly Father rest in peace sweetie, and thank you for being you...

mary chavez - February 13, 2014 at 12:07 PM

JM

“ The first time I heard Colleen sing I thought to myself, wow, that must be what an angel sounds like praising our Lord in Heaven! I have never seen a frown on her face. She has inspired me through her kindness, voice and music over the years. My heart goes out to Jaris, Annie, Sydney and Dylan.. I have gone to sleep hearing her sweet voice nightly for the past few years and will continue to do so, probably forever!! It is a great peace knowing that she is by His side now for all of eternity!! We love you Cawthon family!! The McAllister Family



Jill McAllister - February 12, 2014 at 05:40 PM

DC

“ Our hearts are sad and at the same time rejoice to know that our friend Colleen can rest and know peace. Colleen has left an amazing legacy! I will forever remember her beautiful smile, her kindness, laughter and always her joyous nature. Blessing upon Jaris and Annie, Sydney and Dylan.

Duncan and Cindy
Numbers 6-24-26



Duncan and cindy - February 12, 2014 at 10:39 AM

MM

“ We the Margo family extend our condolences. We will always remember her giggles, her smiles, her beauty and friendship. It is very hard to loose a love one but we must remember the beautiful memories she left with us.
God be with her family.
Mrs. Minerva Margo

Mrs. Minerva Margo - February 11, 2014 at 02:33 PM

SS

“ Cawthon family my deepest condolences, Colleen was such a wonderful person. Growing up around Colleen, was always full of joy and happiness a joyful girl full of fun and laughter. Those we love and lose are always connected to our heart strings until the end of time. I will always keep you and your family in prayer. God bless you all. Sheila (Margo) Sanchez



sheila sanchez - February 11, 2014 at 12:52 PM

JC

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Joel Chavez - February 11, 2014 at 11:10 AM



LucillaundGeno Sanchez-Schlageter

My heart goes out to all of Colleen's families with prayer for peace and comfort knowing she is sitting with JESUS. She was such a gifted and a tremendous blessing to the Body of Christ and she will be missed by many.

LucillaundGeno Sanchez-Schlageter - February 12, 2014 at 09:18 PM

DE

The first time we went to BCA and heard Colleen singing, Amanda and I were amazed. She had an Angel's voice along with her sweet spirit that made you feel welcomed. I would tell Amanda, "Why do I wear make up to church?" The worship team would sing and I always cried because they brought the Holy Spirit into the room with us. We will always remember her contagious laughter, and we feel extremely blessed to have met her. We will continue to pray for you Jaris, Annie, Sydney and Dylan!

DeeDee and Amanda

DeeDee - February 13, 2014 at 06:34 PM