

Student And Her Army Fight Until The End

BY JORDYNNE HART

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ALCESTER — Ariyanna Miller and her army fought a hard battle, but Heaven gained another angel.

Miller, a junior at Alcester-Hudson High School, lost her battle with acute myeloid leukemia on Tuesday, March 5, at about 6 p.m. According to a family friend, Miller was diagnosed in June 2013.

It was just a month before her death that Miller started her bone marrow transplant at the University of Minnesota Children's Masonic Hospital.

During Miller's time in the hospital, friends and classmates came up with the idea of using



Miller

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social media to show their support. The group quickly became known as "Ariyanna's Army."

Since her transplant, Miller has battled numerous medical challenges such as sepsis, a life-threatening complication of an infection.

On the day of Miller's passing, Ariyanna's mother, Samantha Miller, wrote on Caring Bridge that Ariyanna's lungs are sicker, and that she had to be put on an oscillating vent. The vent works by keeping the lungs open and doing small, fast breath instead of normal, big in-and-out-breaths. "She fought right until the end," Samantha wrote.

Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 7 at the Alcester-Hudson Elementary Gymnasium in Alcester with Father Doug Klein and Father Roger Linnan concelebrating.

Burial will follow in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Alcester.

Visitation with the family will be from 5-7 p.m. Friday at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with a prayer service at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hawarden, Iowa.

Ariyanna's family requests that guests wear "Ariyanna Clothing" to the services.

The Porter Funeral Home in Hawarden is assisting the family.

Ariyanna is survived by her parents, Loren and Samantha; her brothers, Layne and Wyatt;

and "Ariyanna's Army".

Miller was very involved in cheerleading, volleyball, track, softball, FFA, National Honor Society and choir.

High school friend, classmate and teammate Brianna Walth wrote on Facebook, "Her time here was short, but she left an impact that no one ever has. She is my hero and a true inspiration to absolutely everyone who got to know her and her story. Gone but never forgotten is Ariyanna Rose. We love you so much, beautiful angel. We will meet again, someday."

Follow Jordynne on Twitter at twitter.com/hartjordynne. Discuss this story at yankton.net.

Securities Office Moves To New Location

PIERRE — The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation's Division of Securities office has relocated to 124 S. Euclid Ave., Ste. 104 in Pierre. The office was previously located at 445 E. Capitol Ave.

Visitors to the Division can receive assistance with investment complaints (including securities, franchises and business opportunities), find companies licensed to sell investments in South Dakota and get answers to investment questions.

The office phone number remains the same at 605-773-4823. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit dlr.sd.gov/securities for more information.

DLR Says 'It's Job Fair Season'

PIERRE — With spring approaching, many employers have positions to fill and are looking for skilled, qualified workers. To meet the demands of both employers and job seekers, the Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) local offices will be hosting job fairs over the coming months.

"Job fairs offer employers and job seekers an opportunity to meet face-to-face and discuss aspects of the positions and their qualifications," said state Labor and Regulation Secretary Marcia Hultman.

As a job seeker, it's important to prepare yourself and treat a job fair as if it were an interview.

"A good rule of thumb is to think of your visit with an employer as a one-minute commercial about yourself," said Secretary Hultman. "Job seekers should be prepared to discuss their strong points, goals and where they would fit within the company."

For a list of job fairs scheduled throughout the state and more job fair tips, visit <http://tinyurl.com/od5jz9u>, or talk to a workforce expert at a DLR local office.

MMC Scholarship Day Event A Success

Mount Marty College hosted high school seniors for Prestigious Scholarship Day on Jan. 29.

Admitted students with a minimum of a 3.5 high school GPA and a 24 ACT/1090 SAT were eligible to compete for Mount Marty College's most prestigious academic scholarships during this annual event. The scholarships awarded during this event range from up to \$1,500 (on top of previously awarded academic scholarship) to the full-tuition Presidential Scholarship (\$20,000+/year).

The scholarship opportunity drew 45 students from across the country including California, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio and South Dakota.

"It is exciting that year after year we see a great reach for Mount Marty College across the US," states Mount Marty College Director of Admissions, Jill Paulson.

"We feel we had a very successful event and had the opportunity to host very talented and promising future MMC students. Some very large scholarships are at stake for these students and we are excited to announce



the final results in the coming weeks."

Some of the students participating in the event were:

Iowa — Katelyn Hamil, Merrill; Anthony Kollasch, Whittemore; Zachary Kollasch, Whittemore

Minnesota — Joseph Brinkman, Jackson; Dustin Heiden, Jackson; Sarah Brandt, Lakefield; Nathan Jones, Lakefield; Kylie Loch, Litchfield; Tori Elsing, Worthington

Nebraska — Kylee Daum, Battle Creek; Marissa Frank, Brunswick; Khristina Stevens, Creighton; Kristin

Mahony, Ericson; Melissa Richert, Gresham; Jeremy Grundmayer, Gretna; Amber Leise, Hartington; Marie Hain, Norfolk

Nevada — Artie Gallegos, Las Vegas

Ohio — Anthony Gasiecki, Mansfield

South Dakota — Alicia Absher, Belle Fourche; Katelyn Baker, Belle Fourche; Maisie Hurd, Bridgewater; Mikayla Prouty, Bryant; Shelby Wingen, Canova; Nicholas Wixon, Centerville; Darbi Gustafson, Ethan; Samantha Kasowski, Hartford; Emma Thury, Mitchell; Jaycie Culbert, Parkston; Ty Kinneberg, Parkston; Brooke Bennett, Rapid City; Kathleen Winckler, Scotland; Mikayla Kappenman, Sioux Falls; Reece Mimmack, Sioux Falls; Collin Sorensen, Sioux Falls; Taryn Urbaniak, Sturgis; Audrey Miller, Vermillion; Jessica Johnson, Wakonda; Kelli Steffen, White Lake; Brooke Blom, Yankton

For more information on upcoming MMC admissions events visit www.mtmc.edu/admissions or call (855)-MT-MARTY.

OBITUARIES

Harriet Huber

Harriet Cokens Huber, age 85, of Freeman, SD passed away Sunday, February 22, 2015 at the Oakview Terrace Nursing Home, Freeman, SD.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, March 7, 2015 at the Missionary Church, Freeman, SD with Stephen Rousoff officiating. Burial will be in the Tripp Cemetery, Tripp, SD at approximately 1:45 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

Visitations will be 5 to 8 p.m. Friday evening at the Missionary Church, Freeman, SD.

The Aisenbrey-Opsahl-Kostel Memorial Chapel, Menno, SD is assisting with the service details. Send an online condolence at www.opsahlkostelfuneralhome.com.

Pallbearers are: Scott Neuberger, Joe Cokens, Daniel Benjamin, Josh Cokens, Jason Mehlhaff, Anthony Cokens, Brian Mehlhaff and Charles Pekas. Honorary pallbearers are the rest of her grandkids and great grandkids and the band, "Go Figure."

Harriet Jean Waste was born on November 19, 1929 to Ruth Ruedy and Harry Waste in Burlington, Iowa. She joined two older sisters, Patricia and Doris Jane. Harriet graduated from Burlington High School and Burlington Jr. College. She worked most of her life in the newspaper business with her husband, George Cokens, Sr., owning and operating the Tripp Ledger and starting The Area Wide Shopper, now known as the Area Wide Connection. After George died in 1981, she moved to Freeman and cooked at The



Huber

She made cut out sugar cookies for every imaginable holiday, frosted and decorated. We always looked forward to them and they disappeared fast. After the Cornerstone, she started babysitting and watched many kids in the Freeman area and quickly became known as Grandma Coco. She loved to play cards and was a Girl Scout Leader for many years. She loved music and singing and watching movies, especially musicals and she would always sing along. She belonged to the Yankton Area Sweet Adeline's for several years. She loved listening to Elvis and her favorite band, Go Figure; they even had pictures of her on their website dancing with cane in hand. We captured her on video in her final days singing and we will treasure that forever. I'm sure all of you remember mom most for her love of cats. She owned many over the years and treated them like royalty. We always teased her that she treated them better than she did us and then we would all laugh. She had quite a collection of stuffed cats and figurines. Anything we saw that had a cat on it we had to buy for Grandma Coco. She loved her kids and grandkids and we all loved her and she will be greatly missed. She moved into the Freeman Nursing Home on November 1, 2010 where she resided until her death.

She is survived by her daughters, Tamara (Robbie) Mutchelknaus, Connie (Jason) Luke, of Freeman, SD, Ruth (Wayne) Newcomb of Ruidoso, NM; sons: George (Monica) Cokens of Menno, SD, Harry Cokens and Robyn of Norfolk, NE and son-in-law, Tracy Hampson, of Hillsboro, ND; grandchildren: Scott Neuberger & Jenny, Tina Neuberger, Brandie (Dev) Malmlov, Miranda (Jason) Stach, Daniel (Tammy) Benjamin, Deana Benjamin & Ethan, Kristina (Troy) Williams, Lindsay (Alan) Tuschen, Kristi (Mike) Burke, Joe Cokens, Kayla (Jason) Barnable, Josh Cokens and Casey Anthony Cokens, Melanie & Justin, Becky & Barney, Christy & Jonathon, Jason (Justice) Mehlhaff, Brian (Tracey) Mehlhaff, Tiffany Mehlhaff & Brandon, Lynette Kaufman & Jay, Jennifer Pekas & Joe, Amber Pekas and Charles Pekas; great grandchildren: Jessen & Jenny, Samantha, Darian, Shelby, Madeline, Raegan, Daniel, Ian, Sydney, Ashlyn, Tyce, Teagan, Trelyn, Riley, Silas, Emma, Hadleigh, Kenzie, Lincoln, Klaire, Jevin, Braxton, Draydon, Jacob, Damian, Isaac, Darrica, Jayda, Ethan, Eli, Asher, Alexis, Avery, Anthony; nephew, Gary (Barb) McVey and a few other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters, a daughter, Stephanie Hampson and a granddaughter, Kasey Jo Mutchelknaus.

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AISENBREY
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FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, INC.
Online condolences at:
www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

Audrey Phillips

Funeral services for Audrey Phillips, 85, of Tyndall, South Dakota will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2015 at the Goglin Funeral Home in Tyndall. Visitation will be held that day from 12:30 p.m. until time of service.

Audrey passed away on Monday, March 2, 2015 at the Good Samaritan Society of Tyndall.

Funeral arrangements

are being handled by the Goglin Funeral Home of Tyndall. Online condolences may be sent at www.goglinfh.com/.

Goglin
Funeral Home

Tyndall - Scotland - Tripp



www.goglinfh.com

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