



Juliana Leigh Thillen

March 9, 1989 - July 17, 2023

Juliana Leigh Thillen, 34, met her Savior face to face on Monday, July 17, 2023. She was born on March 9, 1989, in Libertyville, IL to James Robert Thillen and Ruthie Laree Thillen.

Juliana began her journey in life in Trevor, WI. At the age of six she was a cardiac baby and subsequent stroke survivor, but she didn't let that define her. Her parents' relentless support, her sisters' never-failing love and support (almost always), helped Julie improve well beyond all medical expectations. She dreamed of having a barndominium with her best friend, Katy, and opening an animal rescue. After moving to Aubrey, TX, she had her second series of catastrophic strokes, leaving her unable to speak and a quadriplegic at the age of 10. Again, she defied all the odds. She learned to communicate with her eyes and had patience with the rest of us beyond all reasonable expectations. She had many special supporters like Cynthia Scruggs, RN, Georgia Ferguson, LVN, Cindy Ates Speech, and Bonnie Watkins, OT and so many more. She continued to ride horses in Hippotherapy, she designed and made quilts with Hope Edwards, OT. Worked on being able to verbalize via Eye Gaze computer with Milford and so much more. She was a BIG Aubrey FFA participant and supporter. She had her animal menagerie at home, service dogs, Angel and Willie, tortoises, Raphael and Franklin, and cockatiel, Elvis.

She had a large extended family who were there always to love, support and make sure Julie was a part of any activities including 4-wheeling and swimming. She received Angel as the first Make A Wish Service Dog opening the door for countless others with special needs to ask and receive, She was the recipient of the DFW Night of the Superstars for living an inspirational life in 2012.

Juliana's legacy is her ability to be a real friend, love of animals, apparently to listen and keep secrets, her infectious smile and laughter, and her inspirational life quote in her home "If Julie can't complain then NO ONE else can"!

She is survived by her parents James Thillen (Susan) Grandview, TX and mother Ruthie Thillen of Krugerville, TX; two sisters Michelle Robinson of Aubrey, TX and Christine Thillen of Aubrey, TX; nieces Libby Stallings; Bristol Neace; Abigail Robinson; nephews James Robinson and Troy Lowe; grandfather, Edward Lee Strawbridge, Sr.(92.5 yo), Belden, MS; aunts, Teresa Wilbanks (Farin), Belden, MS, Misty (Mike) Witt, Sturgeon, WI, Dorthy (Frank) Collings, The Villages, FL, Raynee (John) Keil, Cape Coral, FL; uncle, Eddie Strawbridge, II, Belden, MS; cousins, Amanda Little (Travis), Jason Powers (Tracey), Eddie Strawbridge, III (Danielle), Kara and Lauren Powers, and Holden, Tripp and Josie Bell Little.

She was preceded in death by her grandmothers Lona Bell Strawbridge and JoAnn Hamm; grandfather, James Thillen; and aunt, Sheila Strawbridge.

Donations in Lieu of Flowers: Aubrey FFA, Attn Ms. Gilbreath, 510 Springhill Road, Aubrey Tx 76227.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, July 29, 2023, from 10:00AM to 12:00PM at Slay Memorial Chapel in Aubrey, TX. Service to follow at 1:00PM at

Krugerville First Baptist Church, 5021 US Highway 377 S, Aubrey, TX.

On-line condolences may be shared at www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bradley R. Shotts and Slay Memorial Funeral Center.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **29**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Slay Memorial Chapel of Aubrey
400 South Highway 377
Aubrey, TX 76227
info@slaymemorial.com
<http://www.slaymemorialfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

JUL **29**. 1:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Krugerville
5021 US-377
Aubrey, TX 76227

Tribute Wall

12

“ *womp womp*

124251@hallco.org - October 03, 2024 at 06:40 PM

KS

“ *Ruthie, so sorry to hear about the passing of Julie, your face lit up when you would tell stories about her. Wishing you and your family comfort in this time of grief.*



Kimberly Shaffer - July 28, 2023 at 03:21 PM

GF

“ *Oh Julie I miss you so much. I remember our days in school. I was to get you to every class so down the hall we would go. Well you found some way to keep putting your arm out and pat the boys on the butt. You would laugh so hard your whole body would shake. I would have to apologize to them and tell them you didn't mean to do that. (I was not being truthful). We had so much fun You taught me so much more than I could have ever taught you Ruthie, Jimmer, Christen, Michelle and rest of family I'm so sorry you have to go through this rough time My prayers go out to you all that peace and comfort come soon to help get you all through these days I love you all. You're my family*

Georgia Ferguson - July 27, 2023 at 07:03 AM

DP

“ *Julie, you will always be in our thoughts and prayers. You were an inspiration to my daughters and I when we lived in Trevor. You made many memories with us. May you rest in peace and shine your beautiful soul upon all of us from above. Ruthie, Jimmer, Michelle and Christine, I am so very sorry for your loss, my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time of sadness.*



Dana Pucin - July 25, 2023 at 07:23 AM

JC

“ *john C. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Juliana Leigh Thillen.*



john C. - July 24, 2023 at 08:53 AM

DB

“ *My condolences to you and your family.*

David Bonds

David Bonds - July 22, 2023 at 11:01 PM

TO

“ *So very sorry Jim. Please know that she is in Gods arms and she is an angel that will watch over you until you see her again in heaven. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. God Bless!*

Tom Overbeck - July 22, 2023 at 07:31 PM

HC

“ Jim - my heart and my prayers are with you and your entire family. Julie’s inspiration, determination and love of life has blessed so many. Now that same spirit will be a blessing to the angels above. My deepest condolences.

Holly Crowder

Holly Crowder - July 21, 2023 at 12:21 PM

DH

“ Jim, my heart broke today with this news. I lift and your family up to our Lord for His peace and healing hand to touch all who know Julie and your journey.

Dan

Daniel, Hussey - July 21, 2023 at 11:16 AM

PM

What a wonderful tribute to Juliana and to Thillens everywhere. May God bless here and may she rest in peace!

Peter Martin - July 23, 2023 at 02:11 PM

DB

“ Jim, I loved hearing Jules laugh when you would tell stories! My favorite memory was at the Harvest Moon festival. She and I were booth shopping. I decided to buy a coffee mug and every single one I showed her got a NO response! She and I just laughed and I bought the one she thought was the worst! 😂

Donna Bullis - July 20, 2023 at 01:36 PM

ST

Julie was a very special girl. She was so full of life and her presence made you smile. She was my flower girl and I remember shopping for her dress. Julie never let challenges stop her. I look forward to being with her again in paradise.

Suzie Thillen-Cain - July 20, 2023 at 06:13 PM

DH

“ Ruthie, so sorry for your lost. She has her wings now.

Donnie and Linda Holley - July 20, 2023 at 11:20 AM

 Greg Johnson

“ 4 files added to the album Night of Superstars - Superstar Juliana!



Greg Johnson - July 19, 2023 at 09:37 PM

 Greg Johnson

“ Until we see you again, sweet Superstar!

Greg Johnson - July 19, 2023 at 09:36 PM

GB

“ *Extremely sorry to hear about your loss, my sincere condolences to you and your family.* ”



Ganga Beligere - July 19, 2023 at 01:18 PM

JE

“ *Jeff lit a candle in memory of Juliana Leigh Thillen* ”



Jeff - July 19, 2023 at 12:53 PM

SM

“ *So very sorry to hear about Juliana Ruthie. I can't imagine your pain and grief but my sincere condolences to you and your family at this difficult time.* ”

Stephen McCabe - July 19, 2023 at 11:34 AM

CM

“ *Sincerest Sympathies to Ruthie and family on the passing of Juliana from your Wyoming friends in Longford.* ”



Ciaran Macken - July 19, 2023 at 11:30 AM

KA

“ *My deepest condolences to the entire family. Ruthie, I love seeing Julie's beautiful smiling face every time you share your computer screen at work:) She will live on in so many hearts.*

Kara - July 19, 2023 at 10:53 AM