



Jeanna Kay Turnage

September 30, 1965 - December 6, 2018

Jeanna Kay Turnage, 53, of Creal Springs, passed away at 8:21 AM, Thursday, December 6, 2018 at Integrity Health Care in Marion.

She was born on September 30, 2018 in Herrin to Kenneth Blades and Lovina (Barnes) James.

As a little girl Jeanna was always so sweet and full of hugs and kisses. Even in the midst of adversity she loved everyone unconditionally, especially her family. From the moment that Jesus Christ entered her life, she was ready to offer a prayer and a blessing for those who surrounded her. She was far more precious than many realized and will be sadly missed.

Jeanna is survived by her mother, Lovina James of Creal Springs; brothers, Randall Turnage of Houston, TX, Kenneth Turnage (Anita Kim), Kevin (Angela) Turnage, and Scott Chamness all of Marion; step-brothers, Gary James (Suzie) and Glen James both of Tampa, FL; uncles, Luther (Carolyn) Barnes of Litchfield, Lyndel (Brenda) Barnes of North Carolina, Lowell (Kathy) Barnes of New Mexico, Lonnie (Debbie) Barnes of Marion, Larry (Nita) Barnes of Nevada; aunts, Lois "Pauline" (Bernard) Street of Walnut Hill, Louise Gray of Harrisburg; and many other relatives whom she dearly loved.

She was preceded in death by many cousins.

The following are a few comments from close relatives.

Just wanted to say good bye to one of the most loving people I have known. For she always had a smile and a hug for everyone she met. For God has called her home today. She will be truly missed down here. RIP Jeanna Kay Turnage love you dearly my loving sister. –Scott Chamness

RIP to my sweet Aunt Jeanna. We will all miss your infectious smile, your singing, your awesome hats, and most of all seeing you give dad and Uncle Kevin a hard time. Love you forever. We can all rest easily knowing we have an angel like you watching us from heaven. –Mallori Chamness

I'd like to tell you a story about a little girl. She was born in 1965 at a time when differences weren't celebrated, but condemned. It was obvious when she was born that she wasn't like everyone else...she had something that had, just that year, been termed "Down Syndrome." However, this wasn't a disability for her, rather, it was her superpower. Doctors also discovered a hole in her little heart and told her mother not to expect her to live past 13. This hole did nothing to take away from that little girl's ability to love. Even with a piece missing, she loved everyone around more purely than one with a whole heart. This hole did heal, however, and she went on to graduate 8th grade, and even had an appropriate job during a brief stay in a group home. She endured so much in the 53 years that were her life, but she was always ready and willing with a hug, a sloppy kiss, and some intense prayer. Toward the end, her mind started to fail her. She started by forgetting little things, like where she put something. As time went on, it moved on to big things, like who her mother and brothers were. Jesus peacefully called her home to spend eternity with Him. Do I believe that she now looks like you and I? No. Because her extra chromosome wasn't a flaw, it was a blessing. She was beautiful, not in spite of her extra chromosome, but she was more beautiful because of it.

That little girl was my aunt, Jeanna Kay Turnage. May she rest in the arms of Jesus whom she loved so deeply.

–Leea (Turnage) Langheld

Oh that smile! Jeanna Kay you stole my heart and I (my children and I) will ever be richer for knowing, loving and learning from you. You captured hearts and taught me much about love. I'm forever thankful for the 30 plus years I had with you. I will dearly miss your prayerful hand and heart. Till we dance, and sing together again.

–Angela Turnage

I'm thinking of my sister this morning, Jeanna K. Turnage. As a little girl she was so sweet in the midst of adversity. There's no doubt she was and is more precious than any of us realized. She's Down syndrome and was not supposed to live past 13. Now at 53, she has endured a storm few would understand. I'm somewhat broken that I didn't invest more in this treasure in such a seemingly flawed vessel. As a small child she was always so sweet and full of hugs and kisses. When she was introduced to Jesus from that moment she was always ready to offer a prayer of concern and blessing for whoever was available or made themselves available. Although, I don't believe her prayers were limited to that. I believe many of us will find one day that her prayers sustained us when we least expected it. Her earthly body has carried her as far as it's going to. She will be dancing with Jesus soon and I'm so happy for her. I'm overjoyed to think about her embracing Him and He her. Her days of being tormented and misunderstood are almost over. Soon all of her prayers and purpose in Him will be gathered and placed on His altar in Heaven. She will be dancing with Jesus around the throne soon as Jesus presents another one of His to the Father. –Kevin Turnage

Cremation will be accorded per her families wishes. The family will host a

celebration of life on December 22, 2018 at 3:00pm at the Pittsburg
Community Center in Pittsburg, IL.

Crain Funeral Home Egyptian Chapel in Energy is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jeanna Kay Turnage*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM