



Petrina Jo Hamm

December 7, 1972 - October 8, 2018

Our beloved and perfectly imperfect Petrina Jo Hamm died unexpectedly on Monday, October 8, 2018 at her home in Apex, NC.

Petrina was born in Ilion, NY on December 7, 1972. She was the second child of Peter and Deborah (Miller) Keddell of Durham, NC. She grew up down in the peaceful valley of Ilion with her 4 siblings: Angela, Rebecca, Melissa, and Pete Jr. She was always the ring leader of mischief among the Keddell children. Her education began at Annunciation Catholic School and her family fondly remembers how her pigtails were always crooked, the tie to her uniform askew, and one knee high sock down at her ankle.

Petrina later attended Ilion High School where she starred in school plays and excelled in her classes. She graduated in 1991 and was voted Most Unique of her graduating class. She went onto receive her Bachelor's Degree in English at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY and graduated in 1995. She continued her studies at the University of Buffalo School of Law and graduated in May of 1998.

It was following law school when Petrina (with her baby sister Lisa) drove her car Betsy down to North Carolina and relocated to the Triangle area to be closer to family. She had her firstborn child, Spencer Mackenzie Keddell, in 1998 and successfully passed the bar exam as a single mother with a baby.

Petrina was immensely proud of this feat.

In 2005 she met her best friend, Jonathan Thomas Hamm, and the two married in Las Vegas in early 2006. They had a second wedding ceremony later in the year at Duke Gardens for family and friends to witness their union. Petrina became step-mom to Jon's daughters, Kaila and Isabelle, and Jon officially adopted her son Spencer. It was in 2008 when their family was completed with the birth of their daughter Stella Rose Hamm.

Petrina was diagnosed with breast and kidney cancer in 2016. She was fierce in her resolve to kick cancer's ass and developed a huge presence on social media where she bravely shared her fight and recovery. She inspired others (whether it be survivors, those still going through treatment, or her many followers on social media) with her honesty and openness. She decided that she wanted to help other women who were grappling with their mastectomy scars and created the nonprofit organization Art From Scars to help fund mastectomy concealing tattoos for survivors.

She is survived by her loving family and online community who will always remember her as a caring, genuine, brave and strong woman. Petrina was quirky. She was quick witted and had the best sense of humor. She gave the best hugs that made others feel loved and accepted. Her laugh was infectious! And none of what is written here truly encapsulates this amazing woman. She will always be our raisin girl. Petrina will be missed but never forgotten.

On November 17th, from noon to 2pm we will have a celebration of life at 519 Church located on 1100 Perimeter Park Dr #118, Morrisville, NC 27560. We also hope to broadcast the ceremony using Facebook Live and will provide any additional details as those become available.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

NOV 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

519 Church
1100 Perimeter Park Dr. Suite 118
Morrisville, NC 27560

Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Petrina Jo Hamm.* ”



November 16, 2018 at 12:17 PM



“ *Mom, Dad, Angela, Becky & Lisa, Mike and family. purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Petrina Jo Hamm.* ”



Mom, Dad, Angela, Becky & Lisa, Mike and family. -
November 15, 2018 at 03:51 PM



“ *Mom And Dad lit a candle in memory of Petrina Jo Hamm* ”



Mom and Dad - November 15, 2018 at 02:56 PM



“ *Dawn Noel lit a candle in memory of Petrina Jo Hamm* ”



Dawn Noel - October 26, 2018 at 09:41 PM

KW

“ It is with great sadness as I read this loss of such a beautiful soul. I was a childhood friend of PJ's sister Angela. I spent a great amount of time at the Keddell family home in these precious years. I always remember PJ as very fun-loving, spunky, and very intelligent. Her laughter was the best. She would have us laughing for hours on end. She has for sure left her mark on Ilion, NY and will be missed dearly by many here. Wishing her entire family and friends peace and comfort.

Kelly Wheeler-Tero

Kelly Wheeler-Tero - October 23, 2018 at 04:20 PM



“ Petrina, you gave me a new purpose in life. I was the first recipient of the Art from scars grant, and without your passion to help others, I would not have a beautiful tattoo. I felt we were connected and wanted to get to know you more. You will be missed dearly but will forever be a part of my life.



For the Hamm family, I am so very sorry for your loss, and I hope you know that we are all here, lifting you up with peace and strength as you live on..

Debbie Phillips - October 23, 2018 at 01:00 PM



“ Darlene Knoblauch Case lit a candle in memory of Petrina Jo Hamm



Darlene Knoblauch Case - October 23, 2018 at 10:46 AM

DJ

“ *Donna Jackson lit a candle in memory of
Petrina Jo Hamm*



Donna Jackson - October 23, 2018 at 09:55 AM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



Wake Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc. - October 23, 2018 at 09:15 AM

BV

“ *I never knew Petrina but her obituary let me see what an awesome
person she was. Condolences are sent to Debby and family.*

Betsy Voorhees - October 23, 2018 at 07:08 AM

IE

“ *Your light is forever in our hearts, as is your
wisdom, grace and courage. You made a
difference in the lives of so many. I'll miss
your voice and your ability to share your heart
so passionately. Rest in promise...*



Ingrid Eloi - October 23, 2018 at 04:41 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Petrina Jo Hamm.*



October 23, 2018 at 03:11 AM



“ *Faith Amdahl lit a candle in memory of Petrina Jo Hamm*



Faith Amdahl - October 23, 2018 at 02:44 AM



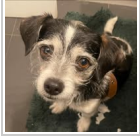
“ *she gave me more then she ever received... 💔 I am and will forever be blessed your passionate mind and heart decided to include me in the joy that was helping other survivors ❤️ your memory does not pass here... with all my heart and ability it will remain*

F@TJ@X - October 23, 2018 at 12:14 AM



“ *A light that will never be dimmed, a soul that penetrated so many hearts, a force that was too strong for this earth. Petrina (PJ) will be missed by many near and far; my prayers go to all the kids, her husband and family. We were lucky to be in your presence.*

Vicki Judd - October 22, 2018 at 10:02 PM



“ *Petrina,
I've tried over the last several weeks to explain the immense loss I feel, despite never having "met" you. I'm still struggling to find the words, but I'll do my best. I'm sure you know the rest, in your own way. I saw so much of myself in you. I felt that you understood me in ways some people never have or will. I am so thankful to have known you. I am grateful to have laughed with you, to have cried with you, and to have rooted for you. You made life better. Thank you.*



To the Hamm family--I hope you find comfort during this difficult time. I pray you feel supported and loved by friends, both old and new. You are not alone.

Much love and light,

Meredythe

Meredythe Marcotte - October 22, 2018 at 08:44 PM



“ *Sending Heartfelt Prayers & love to all of you...*



Janice Caulder - October 22, 2018 at 08:17 PM



“ *Rest peacefully my fellow warrior sister. Your light will continue to brighten the Universe.*

Julie Booth - October 22, 2018 at 07:56 PM



“ *Julie Booth lit a candle in memory of Petrina Jo Hamm*



Julie Booth - October 22, 2018 at 07:52 PM



“ *Sending all the love to Petrina’s family and friends to wrap you while you grieve. So heart broken to lose such a bright light in our online community.*



Natalie Valenti - October 22, 2018 at 07:26 PM