



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

NATALEE ELAINE

STARNES



JUNE 9, 1989 - AUGUST 31, 2021

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.
“Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,
You’d walk with me all the way.
But I noticed that during the saddest and most
troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don’t understand why, when I needed You the most,
You would leave me.”

He whispered, “My precious child,
I love you and will never leave you
Never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you.”

Natalee Elaine Starnes age 32, of Arkadelphia, passed away Tuesday, August 31, 2021. She was born June 9, 1989 to Mark David and Marla Davis Smithey. Natalee was a member of Degray Baptist Church.

Natalee loved to cook and had started her own feed bin business which kept her very active. She was a loving wife and mother. She would brighten up any room she would enter. She was a very sweet, caring, and generous person and was willing to help anyone in need.

She was preceded in death by her father, Mark David Smithey; her grandparents, Richard and Pat Smithey, John D. Davis, Larry and Geneva Starnes, Hoyt Singleton and Marian Beaver; and her uncle, Mark Anthony Davis.

Survivors are her husband, Matthew Starnes; their daughter, Maddox McCall Starnes of Arkadelphia; her mother, Marla Johnson and husband, Lowell of Longview, Texas; a brother, Josh (Zoe) Johnson of Ft. Worth, Texas; maternal grandmother, Delores “Nannie” Davis of Omaha, Texas; her aunt, Pennie Anderson and husband, Steve of Omaha, Texas; her uncle, Dee Davis and wife, Cherron of Omaha, Texas; her mother in-law and father in-law, Perri Singleton and Tommy Starnes of Arkadelphia; her sister-in-law, Emily Starnes of Ashdown; her brother-in-law, Andy Cochran and wife, Stacy of Camden and their daughter, Hannah Cochran; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Visitation will be 6-8 PM Thursday, September 2nd at Ruggles-Wilcox Funeral Home.

Services will be 3:30 PM Friday, September 3rd at Ruggles-Wilcox Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Degray Cemetery.

Natalee’s family extends a special thank you to the doctor’s, nurses and staff of UAMS Medical Center for their excellent care.