



Keely Rich

March 18, 1963 - April 11, 2024

Keely Smith Rich, Age 61, of Odenton, Maryland, passed away on April 11, 2024 from cancer. She was predeceased by her mother, Blanche McKnight Watson and father, Jennings Smith McKinnon, and she is survived by, her sons Taylor and Caleb Rich, her brother Michael McKinnon, and her sisters, Beverly McKinnon Thomas and Jannese McKinnon Chabot.

Keely lived a large life overflowing with passion and inspiration.

She lit up every room she walked into. She gave hope when there was none. She inspired us when things felt bleak. She believed in you more than you believe in yourself. She saw your strengths when you felt weak. She spoke eloquently and communicated her vision. She had an unshakable Faith and shared her love for Christ.

When Keely was diagnosed with cancer less than a year ago, she fought with every fiber of her being. She fought as she fought everything else - with vigor and conviction. She would beat it. But God had a different plan.

We learned so much from her while she was living and even more while she was dying. She continued to communicate what she wanted when she passed. She told us she was getting tired. As the disease progressed and her body got weaker she wanted us to tell you she was sorry that she had no more gas in the tank but she loves you.

In her dying days, she taught us how to live.

Keely, our friend, it was the honor of our lifetime to share your final journey with you. We hope that you got everything you wanted in that last chapter. You deserve it. You left it all on the table. You left your mark and your legacy. To know you was to love you. You have more of God's work to do.

If you were lucky enough to know Keely, you were lucky enough. Fly high my friend - The only way you know how to fly. We love you.

The celebration of life will be held at Perry's at 1210 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD on April 22, 2024 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Keely Kares Foundation - a foundation dedicated to providing compassionate support, comfort, and empowerment to women navigating the challenging terrain of terminal illness. Please see the link below for the Keely Kares Foundation.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ To my cousins, Taylor, Caleb, Beverly, Michael, and Jannese I want express my sincerest condolences for the loss of your mother and sister. I pray God comforts and strengthens you in the days ahead.
\\n\\nKeely was always full of energy and joy! The last time I saw her we were dancing and singing in North Carolina. Keely was a hustler! The last time we spoke on the phone, we talked about business ventures. She loved serving people and the impact she had on others was far reaching. I enjoyed following her on Facebook and Tik Tok and watching her videos! I was very impressed at how tech saavy she was. Keely was truly one of a kind and lived life to the fullest! I miss you already and regret not spending more time with you while you were still here. Rest peacefully, sweet cousin!

Janine McKinnon - April 22, 2024 at 02:17 PM

KM

“ To the Family,\\n“I pray that you will feel the comforting presence of God's love and peace as you grieve.” “May God's strength sustain you and give you the comfort you need ...

Ken McPhaul - April 21, 2024 at 06:10 PM

KM

“ As children we were not only cousins but friends. You taught me how to swim, remember? You were always full of life, even as a child. You grew to be an amazing adult always full of life.\\nThe last time I saw you was the year Karen and I hosted The McKinnon 32nd Family Reunion. \\nOver the past few years we spoke via cellphone a couple of times. We laughed together.\\nI will never forget you and in my heart you will forever shine. REST IN PEACE my dear sweet cousin.❤️

kinney mcrae - April 21, 2024 at 04:47 PM

SA

“ On behalf of the McKinnon family as a whole we like to express our deepest condolences and sympathies to Taylor, Caleb, Michael, Beverly and Jennese! When Keely was around you could always count on there being lots of laughter, singing and dancing! The last time we were together physically that's what it was! We sung and dance after we celebrated the life of our dear Uncle Stent! During our last conversation on 3/2/24 we talked about the battle she was in currently but also talked about whose care and arms(Jesus)she was in also! I told her to stay in the fight because it was a fixed fight because she would win either way because she knew Jesus as her personal savior! Cousin Keely will be missed but never forgotten!
InLove, Sonya and the McKinnon family ❤️🙏❤️🙏

Sonya McKinnon Anthony - April 21, 2024 at 03:59 PM

CR

“ Keely,\n\nI will never forget the fun times we had joking around in the MOC mailroom back in the 90's. You were always so full of energy and such a positive person. RIP my friend\n\n\nCraig

Craig Reed - April 21, 2024 at 11:45 AM

NB

“ Beverly, Michael and Jannese, I am so sorry for the loss of Keely. While we had not been in touch, I have many wonderful memories of growing up on Trace Drive. My prayers and thoughts are with Keely and your families during this time. Nancy (Jones) Brostowski

Nancy Brostowski - April 19, 2024 at 09:06 PM

MM

“ Dear sweet Keely your smile was contagious, your laughter infectious, and your presence lite up a room. You have taught us all how to be strong and fight the big fight. You touched the lives of so many people just by being you. You are already truly missed, that strong fight of yours is taking it final flight to your happy place with mom and dad. Sis, you know you were loved here on Earth, but now its time to rest and fly with the angels, keeping your eyes on your loved ones and walking beside them when they need guidance. Rest sweet sister, keep the laughter going, dance and party however you; you so deserve it. Until we meet again in the promised land. We love and miss you!! \r\n\r\nThe Mulvan's\r\nMom, Dad, Chuck, & Marguerite\r\n\r\nxoxox

Marguerite Mulvan - April 19, 2024 at 08:21 PM

EH

“ Family I'm so sorry for your loss her candle burned out on earth, but it is shining bright like a diamond in heaven.

Elizabeth Holston - April 18, 2024 at 06:53 PM

LC

“ Keely & I were coworkers at USA Today back in the 90s. She was THE life of the party and the center of attention, wherever she went. She was always happy and full of life. We all had children around the same time. She loved going to Williamsburg, and she loved her favorite foods 🥰 She was still the same when I visited her recently. She was at peace. I'm so glad that she was able to celebrate her birthday 🎂 🥂 with staff. Rest in peace my friend. I know you're making someone laugh in Heaven. May God bless your soul. Amen 🙏❤️🌸🌸\r\nLana

Lana Collier - April 17, 2024 at 03:55 PM

JG

“ Keely, my favorite memory of you and I is us sending each other funny texts during our office meetings and me cracking up at what you'd send me!! It sure did make the meetings more fun!! Your energy was unparalleled!

Jen Gruber - April 17, 2024 at 03:10 PM

KW

“ Keely, you are an absolute light that touched so many lives. I'm so grateful for being able to know you and call you a friend. I will miss your sweet and motivational messages that you always sent to me about motherhood. Isla is asking all about you, what you sound like and what you look like. I just know she would have loved you and you would have loved her. I am devastated you two never got to meet but I know one day we will all meet again and be together once more. I love you and I will always remember your contagious smile and laugh and your bright light. Praying for you as you make your transition from your earthly body to your heavenly one. I pray for peace for your friends and family. I will never forget you. \nAlso thanks for making my wedding a night to remember, you were so much fun that night (like always) and I'm glad to have you dancing your heart away on video!

Kara Wing - April 17, 2024 at 09:10 AM

CR

“ Keely Rich

Caleb Rich - April 17, 2024 at 08:24 AM

AN

“ With loving memories of \"Keely Rich\" We will always remember you: Apollonia and Augusto Neves.

Apollonia and Augusto Neved - April 16, 2024 at 11:09 PM

AL

“❤️ Keely Rich's vibrant smile lit up the room at my husband's 40th birthday celebration in August 2012, leaving a lasting memory of her joyful presence. 🕊️🕊️🕊️ RIP 🕊️🕊️🕊️ I had the privilege to meet her 5/2008 she was our realtor agent and helped us purchase our home... i am glad I had a chance to see her often during her sickness. May her lovely soul rest in peace 🕊️

apollonia leal - April 16, 2024 at 10:50 PM

KI

“ We spent a little time reevaluating this quote. \n You were of the belief it meant beat this cancer. \n You fought the best fight. \n We are of the belief you won regardless. \n Your faith stayed true and strong- you enjoyed your favorite people and your favorite foods- and you inspired many. \n Rest well Champ. XXO

Kimberly - April 16, 2024 at 07:36 PM

KI

“ What memories you have left for all of us. You are the definition of a life well live! I will miss the phone calls, the coffees, you setting up for a meeting and so much more. The memories of us in DC for WCR will always bring a smile to me. We know you fought hard! Keep shining bright!

Kim - April 16, 2024 at 03:28 PM

CA

“ I had the privilege of meeting Keely and boy did she light up a room. I enjoyed every moment I had with her and was so sad to see the news. I am so proud of her local Women’s Council network that rallied around her, supported her and kept her spirits up!! If you know the Keely I know, you know she is lighting up heaven the only way she knows how and getting everyone in order!! Hugs and love to all of us that are mourning for her.

Carolyn Altman - April 16, 2024 at 02:04 PM

DD

“ It's hard to believe you are no longer here, my friend. Thank you for allowing me to share part of your journey with you. Keep shining you beautiful soul.

Diane Donnelly - April 16, 2024 at 12:11 PM

AR

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Simplicity Cremation & Funeral Services

A Memorial Tree was planted for Keely Rich - April 16, 2024 at 11:34 AM