



Elissa Reynolds Kravchak

November 9, 1982 - May 14, 2021

Elissa Catherine Reynolds Kravchak, of Dacula, GA, passed away peacefully at home on May 14, 2021. She was 38 years old. For three and a half years she battled colorectal cancer bravely and with a positive spirit. She will be greatly missed by the many who loved her and who followed her journey with their prayers and support.

Elissa was born November 9, 1982 in Nyack, NY to Brad and Tina Raaen Reynolds. Her brother Tim followed two years later, while they were pastoring in Ventnor, NJ. The family moved to France in 1988 where Brad and Tina were in ministry for 31 years with The Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Elissa and Tim attended French schools in five different cities, the longest time being in the Paris area. In high school they both boarded at Black Forest Academy in Germany, where she graduated with highest honors in 2001. In 2005 Elissa graduated magna cum laude from Nyack College NY and moved to Cleveland GA where her grandparents Tom and Enid Raaen lived. She began working at Performance Food Service in Oakwood, where she remained, and became a marketing associate.

Friends introduced Matt and Elissa at a game night in 2016, during which they found themselves finishing each other's sentences. For a year they dated long distance. After her cancer diagnosis in October 2017 he returned to GA and

never left her side, working remotely from home. Matt was the love of her life. They were married on February 27, 2021, the best day of their lives.

Elissa bubbled with creativity, intelligence, kindness, and helpfulness. She grew up loving Jesus and as an adult held her faith more privately, yet always lived out her Christian values. She was an avid reader and especially loved the fantasy genre. As a child she adored writing and wanted to be an author. She collected many things: quotes, books, DVD's, music. She loved films, sci-fi series, and plays at the Fox Theater. She listened regularly to podcasts and loved NPR. An expert on a lot of things, her cultural knowledge surprised and delighted her Trivia team at Legion, where she and Matt went weekly with his family. Although she was shy, she could belt out a good karaoke tune.

She was constantly cross stitching (especially during football season) and designed her own masterpieces. Her creativity also found an outlet in the annual PFS Halloween costume contest, which she won many times. She spent weeks planning, researching and making her costumes. Later she developed baking skills that delighted and fattened all those around her. She and Matt shared a love of discovering new cuisine and of travel. As a child she visited many European countries. With Matt she explored Maui, Iceland and the Florida Keys.

Elissa is survived by her husband Matthew Kravchak, her parents Brad and Tina Raaen Reynolds, her brother Tim, his wife Lizzi and their daughter Rosemary, many aunts, uncles, and cousins, as well as loved ones from Matt's family, his three siblings Joshua, Morgan (twin sister), Mason, and his parents.

A memorial service will be held May 29, 2021 at 11:00 am at Lilburn Alliance Church, 5915 Lawrenceville Hwy, Tucker, GA 30084. A reception will follow at the church. The service will be live-streamed on the Facebook page of Lilburn

Alliance Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Elissa at the Glory Hope and Life website <https://www.gloryhopelife.org/embracing-life/>, (this is the group that awarded Elissa and Matt their Maui vacation and will enable other cancer patients to travel). There is a DONATE button to select on the home page. This will prompt donors to fill out a form where they can input Elissa's name and select the EMBRACING LIFE Fund. Donations can also be mailed to: Glory, Hope and Life, 725 Jesse Jewell Parkway, Suite 270, Gainesville, GA 30501. Checks can be made out to the Embracing Life Project, with Elissa's name in the note section.

Donations may also be made to <https://www.individualizedtreatment.org/donate-giving-to-fiat-1>

Elissa's surgeon, Dr. Ken Dixon, who became very dear to our family, has created this foundation to help cancer patients. She was the "poster woman" for his organization, SpeciCare. You can see her video on this site. She always wanted for her story to help others to find a cure.

Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 300 Simonton Road SW, Lawrenceville, GA 30046, 770-962-3100. Please leave online condolences at www.stewartfh.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lilburn Alliance Church
Lilburn, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Elissa Reynolds Kravchak*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *Brad and Tina I am so sorry to hear of your loss of Elissa. I didn't know her as an adult but it she sounds like she grew into a lovely Godly woman with a very full life. No doubt you will miss her but knowing she is with Jesus and now healed in His arms I'm sure is a comfort to you. Sending lots of love and prayers to you and your family in Jesus name! Pamela Green/Gibbs*

Pamela Green-Gibbs - June 01, 2021 at 07:55 PM



“ *hello, my name is audrey i'm 14 years old and i just wanted to send love and support in hopes that you all get through this, my grandfather passed a long while ago on christmas day and it's been hard. i hope you and your family keep Elissa in your prayers as well i in respect to your family. i chose to send a blue candle because i see that Elissa is wearing a blue dress in her photo.*



audrey queen - May 31, 2021 at 12:12 AM

DE

“ Dear Tina, Brad, Tim, Mat and family,
You are in our mind and prayers on this day.
We haven't had much opportunity and chance to meet Elissa as we were in Toulouse but we have a good remembrance of one New Years Eve in Colomiers with the 4 of you.
Nevertheless, we have the impression that we knew her well thanks to our discussions - as we were in France - and later to the posts and reports on the social network of her fight against the disease, with you all at her side.
This is one incredible and inspiring testimony for us all.
That's why today, we are very sad and we share your grieve.
But we know that God is with you and supports you.
With our love,
Dagmar and Emmanuel

Dagmar & Emmanuel - May 29, 2021 at 08:45 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of
Elissa Reynolds Kravchak.



May 28, 2021 at 06:27 AM

LO

“ I worked with Elissa for many years in a/r. Words I'd use to describe her is articulate, creative & determined. Heartbroken to write this now, yet glad she was able to experience life while leaving a little piece of knowledge with those she came in contact with. She gave me a new way of thinking outside the box with work projects. Things I'll remember: we go through a lot of paper at pfg so she made a recycling box. She would bag it up to recycle vs trashing. We now use a company that pick up & recycle our used paper...thanks Elissa. She introduced us to Blue Apron. That sparked my desire to cook outside my norm. Podcast. I couldn't thank her enough, podcasts are awesome. Especially while working lol. I'll also remember going to see a ballet production with her, especially because I was 1 of few people pulled on stage to dance at the end. Sending prayers to the family & friends. May God continue to give you all strength.

Latoyia Osborne - May 26, 2021 at 12:39 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Elissa Reynolds Kravchak.



May 24, 2021 at 02:36 PM

CL

“ *Elissa and I both started at PFG around the same time. I remember her always enjoying a book during her breaks. We talked about France and our mutual hatred of Zinedine Zidane’s for that head-butt. She was so kind to me and everyone around her. She will be missed in so many ways.*

*Sincerely,
Christopher Langan*

Christopher Langan - May 19, 2021 at 06:10 PM

TI

Thank you for those words.

Tina - May 21, 2021 at 01:24 PM

AC

“ *I was privileged and blessed to work with Elissa at PFG for several years. My heart is broken for her family and friends. She was a shining light to everyone she came in contact with. She was a special and kind person. You all are in my prayers as you navigate life without your precious girl. Amy Freeman Casey*

Amy Casey - May 19, 2021 at 11:38 AM

TI

Thank you Amy.

Tina - May 19, 2021 at 03:09 PM

GB

I met Elissa at PFG in 2013 and worked with her for 7 months. We remained friends since and had lunch and I did jewelry party for her , she was a very sweet young lady and will be greatly missed . Prayers to all of her family . God Bless

Ginny Bugg - May 19, 2021 at 06:49 PM

JM

Tina and Brad my heart is broken to think of the pain that you were going through. I know that you have the hope of seeing your daughter again but right now the valley is probably dark. Many prayers and thoughts going your way with the father's love surround you with the Holy Spirit comfort you

Joyce McCabe - May 19, 2021 at 09:31 PM

TM

Elissa was such a wonderful soul and a sweet person. She always had a smile on her face and was such a creative person as well. While I may not have worked closely with her here at PFG she definitely still made an impact and will be sorely missed around here. I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers . Teresa Morris

Teresa Morris - May 20, 2021 at 07:38 AM