



Lesli Smith

January 31, 1963 - March 19, 2009

Lesli Smith, age 46 of Flowery Branch, died Thursday, March 19, 2009. A memorial service will be 3 P.M. Sunday, March 22, 2009 at First Baptist Church Buford with Rev. Bobby Nix officiating. Lesli grew up in Austin Texas. She completed Round Rock High School and later attended South West Texas University. She worked as a legal assistant in Austin and later in Dallas TX. She married J. Smith in 1990 and in 1996 they moved to Flowery Branch GA, where they became the owners of Lake Lanier Lodges. Lesli also became a successful real estate agent for Keller Williams Realty. Lesli enjoyed close, supportive relationships with her parents, Ruth and Larry Runyan, older sister Audrey Johnson, and her Aunts, Uncles and Cousins. Lesli was beautiful, popular, hard-working and enjoyed much personal and business success's. Lesli and her husband J. enjoyed a close and joyful love and friendship and always felt blessed to have each other in their lives. Lesli's greatest accomplishment and joy was motherhood. She was an extraordinary mother to her daughters, Alexa - 14 and Ashley - 10 and she never missed an opportunity to love, guide, support and cherish her beloved daughters. Lesli made life exciting, joyful, and filled with love and enthusiasm. She had a wonderful sense of humor, and an innate ability to soothe others, She had a gift of drawing people to her. She was loved and appreciated by countless people. Special mention to her second family, The Backus Family. There are no words for all of their love and support. Lesli leaves behind an enormous circle of family and friends and acquaintances who adore her and are grateful

to have been blessed with her presence in their lives. Lesli was a lover and a fighter. She loved thoroughly and she fought to the finish. We are blessed to have walked along with her. Lesli is also survived by her step-brothers and sisters-in-law- Todd Runyan, of Switzerland; Perry and Suzanne Runyan, Tim and Kristen Runyan, all of Austin, TX; maternal grandmother- Irene Bailey, of Austin, TX; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins also survive. In Lieu of flowers, it would have been Lesli's wish that a donation be made to either: The Lesli Smith Benefit Fund for the Early Detection of Inflammatory Breast Cancer at Regions Bank #6440 405779, The Ashley and Alexa Smith Benefit Fund for Education at Regions Bank #0105868408 Routing Number: 061101375. The family will receive friends Sunday, March 22, 2009 from 2:30 to 3 P.M. at the First Baptist Church Buford. Arrangements by Tapp/Tim Stewart Funeral Home and Crematory, 201 Morningside Drive, Buford, Georgia 30518. 770-945-9345 Please sign the online guest book at www.stewartfh.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **22**. 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Buford
4550 Hamilton Mill Road
Buford, GA

Service

MAR **22**. 3:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Buford
4550 Hamilton Mill Road
Buford, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lesli Smith*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - March 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Lesli Smith*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *I went to SWT with Lesli and she was in ZTA with me. I just found out about her passing. I know the holidays must be so difficult for all of you. I am deeply saddened by her loss. My memories of her are so vivid. She was a beautiful person inside and out. She is an angel in heaven as she was an angel on earth.
May God Bless you all and give you the strength to move forward and peace in your heart.##imported-begin##Melva Moody##imported-end##*

December 27, 2009 at 11:29 PM



“ Dear little niece... its Christmas and New Year's time... many months since you left us in the spring. How could we know you would be the first to leave our family? You who were so young and vibrant with so much to live for. We miss you so very, very much and think of you with lasting love. You will always be bright and clear in our hearts.##imported-begin##Mary Ann Cohron##imported-end##

December 27, 2009 at 06:31 PM



“ I have pondered all the way back to the day she was born...remembering with a smile, lots of good times and adventures. She lived life with determination, pride, strength, a great attitude and always with that famous smile and sense of humor. I feel her spirit in my heart and my heart will always be there for Lesli's Mom, my sister.
Love, Aunt Cissy.##imported-begin##Lee Shaver##imported-end##

April 15, 2009 at 12:20 AM



“ We have very fond memories of Lesli. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family!##imported-begin##Brenda & Tom O'Donnell##imported-end##

March 29, 2009 at 06:12 PM



“ We feel so very blessed to have had the joy of experiencing Lesli 's heart and her inner beauty ~ though briefly. She has left a lasting impression on our family. You and the girls will remain in our prayers J.....##imported-begin##The Martin's ~ Jay, Linda ,Sally, Jaime ##imported-end##

March 29, 2009 at 11:38 AM



“ Jim and I are heart broken to hear of Leslie's passing. I remember all the happy times she was over at our house doing goofy things with our daughter Jodie. I remember her playing softball, dragonets, working at Baskin Robins, car-pooling to RR high school. and a bridesmaid in Jodie's wedding. We loved her as our own. Our hearts go out to her parents and to Jay and her girls.
Judy and Jim###imported-begin###Judy and Jim Archer###imported-end##

March 28, 2009 at 02:12 PM



“ So long Leslie...###imported-begin###Mark Gold###imported-end##

March 27, 2009 at 10:34 AM



“ May God Bless Jay, and the girls with trust and faith, that Leslie is in the best place of all, Heaven! She is so fortunate!

We can only imagine how difficult this time is for you all! Just keep your faith!

Debbie, Joe, Ashley, Tanner & Lauren###imported-begin###The Ahmad Family###imported-end##

March 27, 2009 at 10:27 AM



“ I have many fond memories of Lesli. My heart goes out to the family. God Bless you all.###imported-begin###Stephanie Oertli###imported-end##

March 27, 2009 at 09:02 AM



“ There are so many things I can say about my sister. A list of her attributes can go on and on. I would just like to say that my little sister was the kindest, sweetest most compassionate person I have ever known. Even though I'm the oldest, she was certainly the wisest. She always knew how to reel me in whenever necessary. Always knowing exactly what to say and what not to say. Not just to me, but to everyone. A true beauty, inside and out.

When I think of my sister. I see her as the gentle yet tough spirit she was....with cancer, and way before the cancer. She held steady, always. I think of her smile, with her sparkling blue eyes, quick wit and keen mind.

I can never put into words, the bond we shared...between sisters. A bond that can never be broken, even with her death. That's what I hold on to, now, and always.

My sister and I laughed often, loved each other with every thing we had, and always held on to each other tight, even with miles between us.

Her motto was "live", "laugh", "love". That's what she held dear, and so will I.

Love you sis.##imported-begin##Audrey Johnson##imported-end##

March 27, 2009 at 05:45 AM



“ love you soooo much!##imported-begin##michelle pinson##imported-end##

March 26, 2009 at 06:24 PM



“ J.

We were so sorry to here about Lesli. She was a very special person. Heaven has a very beautiful new angel. If there is anything we can do for you or the girls please do not hesitate to call us. You and the girls are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Debbie, Ray and Devin Stancliff##imported-end##

March 26, 2009 at 03:20 PM



“

Lesli was such a fun, vivacious ,beautiful person..My heart felt sympathy goes to her family and friends of past and present. Breast cancer is very near to my heart as I have just been diagnosed in Feb. I will pick up this fight for you Lesli along with many other women fighting for a cure of this ugly disease.##imported-begin##michele swendner ambrose##imported-end##

March 26, 2009 at 01:32 PM



“

I am extremely fortunate to have met Leslie in high school. You cannot help but instantly remember her constant smile when thinking of Leslie. She was a friend to many and friendly to all. To Leslie and her family, my most heart felt sympathy. I know that God has a special place for Leslie and there is one thing that is for certain - the saint count in heaven has been incremented by 1.##imported-begin##Doug Takacs - Tampa, FL.##imported-end##

March 25, 2009 at 06:51 PM



“ Words can not express the sorrow felt for J., Alexa, and Ashley. May God who created all things look down in Love and Compassion and fold his loving arms around you and strengthen you and your family during this time of loss.##imported-begin##Kim Pruitt Boen##imported-end##

March 25, 2009 at 03:29 PM



“ I was so very sad to hear of Lesli's struggle with cancer and her recent passing. I've known Lesli since our days as "Grisham Grizzly" cheerleaders all the way through RR High cheering days. Lesli was such a fun loving spirit and I have fond memories of our younger years. My prayers will continue to be with your entire family. May God grant you strength, courage, and comfort during these difficult times.
Love, Laura Nation Sadler##imported-begin##Laura Nation Sadler##imported-end##

March 25, 2009 at 01:00 AM



“ Lesli, my lovely niece, I'll always remember your sweet face, your gracious smile... your sparkling presence.
J., Alexa and Ashley, my thoughts are with you in these sorrowful days. Losing the most precious person in your life can only be made bearable by sensing Lesli's loving, protective spirit surrounding you always and forever.

My love,
Aunt Mimi##imported-begin##Mary Ann Cohron##imported-end##

March 24, 2009 at 05:23 PM



“ *Our Deepest Sympathy to the family. We loved her very much. For a time in our life she was another daughter at our house as she and tammy went through School together. We shall not forget her.##imported-begin##Gladys & Erwin Kouba##imported-end##*

March 24, 2009 at 04:34 PM



“ *My heart goes out to the Smith family, may God bless you all and keep you wrapped in his arms for comfort.##imported-begin##Jane Gross##imported-end##*

March 24, 2009 at 01:55 PM



“ *Dear Ruth and Larry.*

I am so sorry for your loss. I remember Lesli well.

Your Friend

Peter##imported-begin##Peter K. Marquardt##imported-end##

March 24, 2009 at 01:27 PM



“ I have fond memories of Lesli as a teenager, at slumber parties at our house, dropping the "girls" off at the mall for some shopping and picking up the Dragonettes. She was a beautiful young lady, both outside and, where it matters the most, inside. I have not seen her since she left Austin but I still feel the loss of one that I loved and enjoyed having in my home as a friend of Lori. She always had a smile for you and frequently had you laughing. May God bless those lovely daughters and all of her family.

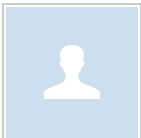
Keechie###imported-begin##Keechie Radney###imported-end##

March 24, 2009 at 01:00 PM



“ Lesli was my friend since childhood. Our friendship continued through college with all the fun and drama that goes along with that. Too many stories to tell. She fixed me up with my wonderful husband and as a result she met her wonderful husband the night of my bachelorette party. She was the maid of honor in my wedding. I owe her so much. I was not surprised to hear of her strength and courage during her terrible illness. My heart breaks for J., the girls, Lesli's parents, Audrey and family and friends, old and new. I will cherish my memories of her forever.###imported-begin##Lori Radney Snyder###imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 05:38 PM



“ Larry and Ruth - I am so sorry to hear about Lesli's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of the family.###imported-begin##Maggie Tate###imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 05:29 PM



“ *Lesli will be missed by all of us who knew her. God blessed us with her presence and for that we are so very thankful. J., Alexa, and Ashley will be in our thoughts and prayers. May the love that we feel for Lesli help lift you up.*

Your friends,

Jimmy & "Pete" Tanner

Jason & Julie Tanner & Family

Jonathan Tanner##imported-begin##Jimmy & "Pete"

Tanner##imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 04:55 PM



“ *I was so sad to hear of Lesli's passing. The earth has lost a great person, but God has gained a true angel.##imported-begin##Holly Petrick Guthrie##imported-end##*

March 23, 2009 at 04:41 PM



“ *I am thankful for the time I had Lesli as a friend and blessed to have had her in our lives. We will forever miss her beautiful smile and giving personality. J. Lesli, Alexa and Ashleigh from the beginning, you have been in our prayers, and we will continue to pray daily for your strength and your hearts.*

Love, Hugh and Melissa##imported-begin##Hugh & Melissa Raiford##imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 03:42 PM



“ I had the pleasure of growing up with Lesli and graduating with her in '81 from Round Rock High School. Lesli was a true friend and supporter of me in both sports and school. I will always remember Lesli's infectious smile and love of life.

Lesli will be very much missed and my families thoughts and prayers are with her, her family, our fellow classmates and friends.

Jon Primm###imported-begin###Jon Primm & Family###imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 02:48 PM



“ I did not have the pleasure of knowing Lesli but Audrey shared so much about her I felt that I did. It is apparent what a wonderful mother, wife, sister and friend Lesli was here on earth and how the love that she shared with all will always uphold her legacy. Bless all of you through your grief.###imported-begin###Tressa Cooper###imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 11:02 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Lesli was a very special person and she will be deeply missed. You are in our prayers. God Bless you all.

With Sympathy, The Bartletts###imported-begin###Joel, Connie Aaron and Tyler Bartlett###imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 11:01 AM

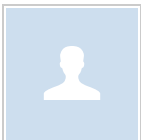


“ I just heard about Lesli’s passing today and my heart goes out to her family. I went to school with Lesli and I can honestly say that I never met anyone that didn’t like her and count her as a friend. I will always have great memories of Lesli but none more than the joke we shared throughout high school which started when we were in middle school. You see in seventh grade Lesli and I dated (or as we called it back then “went together”) for about two weeks at which time I broke up with her. Well the next week Lesli decided to dedicate the song “Wasted Days and Wasted Nights” to me in the school new paper. As we got older we came to laugh at the fact that she did this after just two weeks of dating and this became our running joke for the rest of our time together. To this day I can’t hear that song without think of Lesli and laughing out loud. Lesli I’m sorry we didn’t stay in touch after school but I can tell from reading about what you have been up to that you continued to be the same loving, caring and yes humorous girl I grew to know and love and I feel safe in saying you never had a single wasted day or wasted night.

Rest with God Lesli

Your buddy Jeff Staton##imported-begin##Jeff Staton##imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 10:36 AM



“ My Deepest Condolences to Lesli’s Family, Lesli was one of my best friends in HighSchool, she was always there when I needed someone to talk too, she and I made varsity sports our sophmore year, her in basketball and me in football and we both wear the number 33, sharing that number with her,was always a great bond for me. As a Dragonette that same year, she was my Secret Pal and always went out of her way to decorate my locker on game days. God has brought many great people in my life to influence me, She was diffenitly one of them. Thank you Lesli for being my friend.##imported-begin##Robert Torres##imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 09:05 AM



“ I knew Lesli from middle school and high school. She wa a great cheerleader and athlete. Most of all, she was kind. She had a gentle spirit and looked out for others. My sincerest sympathies to her family.##imported-begin##Maureen Calloway Carnevale##imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 07:59 AM



“ I feel very blessed and lucky to have known Leslie. I so enjoyed the time I got to spend with her cheering at Round Rock High School. Leslie was a great cheerleader who spent countless hours devoting her time to the athletes of Round Rock. Leslie was a gifted athlete as well. I will always remember how sweet and kind she was. My thoughts and prayers are with everyone who knew and loved her.##imported-begin##Kelly Hall##imported-end##

March 23, 2009 at 12:48 AM



“ Words cannot express the deep sadness from hearing of Lesli's passing. She was one of my best friends since 8th grade. One of my greatest regrets will forever be not telling her enough how much I appreciated her friendship. Lesli, thank you for the love and support you always provided to so many who now miss your smiling face. To her family, please accept our deepest sympathy and prayers.##imported-begin##John and Tammy (Kouba) Kowalczyk##imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 08:41 PM



“ *The message is sent with sincere sympathy and many prayers that God will give you his help, strength, and his hope. May God Bless you*###imported-begin##Linda Murray###imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 04:55 PM



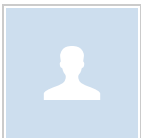
“ *J., Alexa and Ashley, I am so sorry for your tremendous loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Although much time has passed since I have seen Lesli, I remember her great laugh and energy. I pray that you find comfort. Cheryl Manker*###imported-begin##Cheryl Manker###imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 04:21 PM



“ *Our thoughts are prayers will be with you and the girls in the weeks to come. We are so sorry that we could not make the trip. We love you all.
Love, Tracey and Morgan Smith*###imported-begin##Tracey & Morgan Smith###imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 02:45 PM



“ *My condolences to Lesli's family. Please know that Lesli was a dear friend in high school, and I feel blessed to have known her.*###imported-begin##Jean Polivka###imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 02:36 PM



“ Dearest J, Audrey and Ruth, I am so saddened at the loss of Lesli. I can still remember making up gymnastics routines in your backyard on Bell Ave. like it was yesterday. Please know we will keep all of you in our prayers, especially Alexis and Ashley. I'm sure Lesli will keep a close eye and stay close. With much love, Thad and Lisa Paschall and family###imported-begin##Lisa Attal Paschall and Family###imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 02:26 PM



“ J. I am so sorry about the loss of your beautiful wife Lesli. You and the girls are in my prayers. She no longer feels pain, because she is now with our wonderful Lord in Heaven. Love Johnny, Nancy, Shelley and Zach###imported-begin##Johnny Fasang###imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 02:25 PM



“ J., Alexa and Ashley-
We are so sorry that you have lost your most wonderful wife and mother. She was one of a kind and we know you miss her greatly. Although, we have been out of touch, we feel her absence as well. You all hold a very special place in our hearts and you always will. Much love and our deepest sympathy, David, Tamara and MacGregor Salmon###imported-begin##David and Tamara Salmon###imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 01:10 PM



“ I was so sorry to hear that Lesli's long and courageous battle with cancer has ended.
My most sincere sympathy and prayers are with all of you today.
With love to all of you,
Marsha Vail##imported-begin##Marsha Vail from Austin,
Tx##imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 11:21 AM



“ We love the Smith Family. Your mother, wife and our VERY DEAR FRIEND will be deeply missed. Her amazing attitude towards life brought happiness to all that knew her. Heaven just got a little prettier.

With love,
Trish, Clark, Samantha and Chesney##imported-begin##Trish,
Clark, Samantha and Chesney##imported-end##

March 22, 2009 at 10:18 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.##imported-begin##Willard, Kim, Blake and Erin Gore, Kilgore, Texas##imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 11:11 PM



“ We are so soory to hear about your loss.
Our prayers will be with you and your family.##imported-begin##Billy & Rhonda Steele Kilgore, Texas##imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 09:34 PM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our prayers. With Sympathy, John, Judith and Cameron Ott###imported-begin###John Ott and family###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 08:16 PM



“ Wanting you to know how sad we are at this time of loss, Lesli touch our hearts and her family Jay, Alexa and Ashley will always be apart of our family too. Be strong we will continue to pray for you everyday and will miss our friend Lesli. Love Trish , Wes, Kelley and Brad, see you soon.###imported-begin###Trish Cohron###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 08:13 PM



“ Someone once said that it's not death that brings us the greatest loss of life, but all that dies inside of us. As life goes on, we pray that each day will be a bit brighter. Lesli would want us all to live everyday to the fullest and continue the celebration of her contagious love for life. May time speed your healing. God Bless You, The Cokers###imported-begin###The Coker Family###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 04:38 PM



“ Lesli was a gem so rare and will be missed beyond words. Our prayers are with you J., Alexa, Ashley, and family. We love you all.###imported-begin###Daphney and David Elliott###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 04:14 PM



“ J.- You and the girls are in my prayers. If you need anything, please let me know. Love, Joy###imported-begin##Joy Pappas Fox###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 01:29 PM



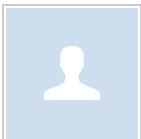
“ we loved lesli very much and will miss her. we know she will be a lovely angel.we know she will be watching over j and the girls.###imported-begin##shelly-billie-charlie-lisa###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 01:20 PM



“ Thank you for being my family away from home for so many years. We will all miss Lesi dearly. She certainly made this world a brighter place live in! Prayers and love to you all!###imported-begin##David Teusch###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 11:57 AM



“ Lesli:

We love you and miss you dearly.

The Curry Family###imported-begin##Buddy & Dawn Curry and Family###imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 09:26 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Your family has been and will continue to be in our prayers.

Randall, Marya & Claire Wansley##imported-begin##Marya Wansley##imported-end##

March 21, 2009 at 08:14 AM