



## Annika Dace

September 4, 1982 - April 12, 2009

Visitation for Annika S. Dace, 26, of Kankakee, will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais, and from 10 a.m. Thursday at the First Church of the Nazarene, Kankakee, until the 11 a.m. services. Entombment will be in All Saints Cemetery, Bourbonnais. Memorials may be made to the family wishes. She died Sunday (April 12, 2009) in the emergency room at Riverside Medical Center, after a sudden illness. Mrs. Dace worked at Pardy Financial Insurance. She was born Sept. 4, 1982, in Chicago. She was named Mrs. Kankakee in 2008. She attended Olivet Nazarene University and was a resident assistant in Parrot Hall for two years. She was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene and the choir. She helped with junior high girls youth camp and was a member of the ONU Improve team "Spoons For Forks." She sang, dance and did choreography for Olivet's Broadway Review. Surviving are her husband, Trevor Dace, whom she married Sept. 15, 2007, at the First Church of the Nazarene in Kankakee; mother, JoAnne Bellinger of Fayetteville, Ga.; father, Stephan (Donna) Bellinger of Chicago; stepsister, Kristina Smith; maternal grandmother, Lillian Brooks of Fayetteville; paternal grandmother, Dorothy Bellinger of Chicago; mother-in-law, Cathy Dace of Kankakee; sister-in-law, Tiffany Dace of Kankakee; grandparents-in-law, Allen and Virginia Dace of Bourbonnais; and several aunts, uncles and cousins. Deceased are her maternal grandfather, Edmund A. Brooks; and uncle, Bill Bellinger.



# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Album*



---

**Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes** - December 07, 2010 at 03:20 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to all of Annika's family and friends. I had the privilege to know Annika as a student at Crete-Monee. I also was able to direct her in two of our all school plays. Annika was always happy and I will forever remember her smile. She was energetic and funny. She will be truly missed by all of us that got to spend time with her.* <br><br><br><br>Mrs. G i½(Andrea Gustafson)##imported-begin##Andrea Gustafson##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ *Dear Trevor, <br><br>We were saddened to hear of the passing of your beautiful wife. i½Our prayers are with you. i½One day you will be reunited at Heaven's gates. <br><br>Our love and sympathy, <br><br>Jim and Chris Blue##imported-begin##Rev. Jim and Chris Blue##imported-end##*

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ I will always remember your warm spirit and kindness. You are a wonderful person inside and out, it was a pleasure to know you. May your soul rest in eternal peace.##imported-begin##Michelle Sampson##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ As the mother of Lindsay, I can say what an impact she had on my daughters life. ĩ½For that I am thankful. ĩ½Everytime I visited Olivet Annika was always there to make me feel welcome. ĩ½Her smile was contagious and her spirit and walk with God even greater. ĩ½Though we will never understand why this side of heaven my heartfelt prayers to to the family. ĩ½A day will come when we will see her again and spend of all eternity together. ĩ½Everyone Be Ready!##imported-begin##Julie Nye##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ How saddened I was to hear about Annika's passing. ĩ½It was such a hard blow to learn that such a wonderful and giving person was leaving us too soon. ĩ½My blessings and my best go out to her family and loved ones. You will be missed. ĩ½<br><br><br><br>Much love and peace,<br><br><br><br>Stephen##imported-begin##Stephen Nelson##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ So sorry about your lost,May God comfort and keep you.##imported-begin##Evelyn Redmond##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ words can never express the loss we as a family will always feel, because Annika's not here. She will always be remembered by me as the little girl who turned into a beautiful woman with a wonderful smile. How honored i was when i learned that she would share my name, and she carried it with grace. I shared that name with a wonderful young lady. Now she will have to live in hearts and minds until John 5:28 and 29 becomes a reality, so until then we will miss our Annikka until we can see her again face to face. Stephanie bellinger hopson##imported-begin##stephanie a bellinger hopson##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ annika always lit up the room she was very and wonderful to everyone she met she took under her wing about two years we became like sisters. we both loved the Broadway musical "Wicked" everytime we were together we always greeted each as hey Galinda (annika) hey Elphie (me.jenna)....we always loved singing together i would always see her on Sunday mornings in the choir singing her heart out... i will never forget the love she brought into my life.##imported-begin##Jenna K.##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Our thoughts, memories, and prayers are with JoAnne, Steve, and families, on your sad loss. We certainly remember all the beautiful things Annika offered to all those around her, when you were all members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Park Forest. May God bless you all. Peace and Love Garry, Carolyn & Steve Garry Barnett

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ I am so glad that Annika accepted the title of Mrs. Kankakee 2009, giving us her time and let us get to know her. Since hearing of her passing, I have received several emails from other contestants, all praising her spirit and kindness. She had the biggest and brightest smile on the stage. Your family is in my prayers. Donna Beering

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ I was so saddened to hear about your loss. You will be daily in my prayers. Jean Warburton

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Please accept my heartfelt sympathy in your time of sorrow. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time. May God continue to strengthen and bless you. Regina Sanders

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



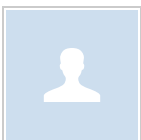
“ ANNIKA, WE WERE BLESSED TO HAVE YOU IN OUR LIVES. WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE ONE OF GOD'S ANGELS AND WILL ALWAYS BE WITH US. YOU WOULD BE SO PROUD OF TREVOR. HE'S BEEN AMAZINGLY STRONG. YOU KNOW THAT WE WILL BE THERE FOR AUNT LILLIAN, JOANN, KEVIN, MARILYN, LYNN AND BROOKIE. BUT WE WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT OUR FAMILY WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO LOVE AND LOOK OUT FOR TREVOR, CATHY AND TIFFANY. YOU WILL BE IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER, ANNIKA.##imported-begin##Charles and Nedra Durham##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika, <br><br>I remember meeting you at Olivet and thought you were just one of the sweetest people ever. You were so nice to me and welcoming and it meant a lot. You always had a smile on your face and were constantly laughing. You'll be forever loved and missed. Heaven got a beautiful angel. Rest In Peace. Love you!##imported-begin##Jessica G##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika... what can I say? You were an AMAZING woman. Annika was an RA in my dorm. She brought me many laughs. My randomness never seemed to bother her. I thank her for that. She taught me not to care what others thought and to walk around with a smile on my face no matter what. You will be missed my friend. I know you're having the time of your life up in heaven... and you're probably wearing those "Josie and the pussy cats" headband :) <br><br><br><br>My thoughts and prays are with your family.<br><br><br><br>Love you...<br><br>Mer##imported-begin##Merideth Gillhespy##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika, I first met you in the spring of 2004 when I was a new student at ONU. You were always smiling at someone, and your warmth and generosity was spread out to everyone who knew you. You had so many friends and were so well-known!! It's so hard to believe that just 4 days ago we were bowling at Gala Lanes, and now you're with Jesus in all His glory, praising Him everyday. You are experiencing everything that the Bible talks about! Where you are there is no suffering, no weeping, no pain. You accomplished the work of the Lord on earth, and I can only imagine that the Lord said to you, "well done my good and faithful servant." On Easter, Jesus rose again, and on Easter you joined Him in the place that He prepared for you. Thank you for being an inspiration to those around you. Thank you for your kindness, your friendship, and the memories that you left behind to those who loved you. "...All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be." -Psalm 139:16 NIV. You are home now, Annika! <br><br>Love, Summer and Jose Fuentes<br><br>##imported-begin##Jose and Summer Fuentes##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ I thank God I had the experience of meeting "Annika". ĩ½She cared for my two grandchildren. ĩ½Kaitlyn & Jadyn Brown during the summer months a few years ago. ĩ½I had to go meet her myself (being a Grandma) ĩ½I could tell immediately she was perfect for the job. ĩ½She was a special angel to the girls, and always will be. ĩ½Only now in spirit. You all are in my heart and prayers. ĩ½##imported-begin##Jeanie Darr##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ NULL##imported-begin##Angela Johnson##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Trevor,<br><br>My heart aches for you and your family and all you have lost. ĩ¿½I am praying for God to wrap his arms around you, comfort you and give you the strength that only He can give.<br><br>Love and prayers,<br><br>Mike, Jennifer and boys<br><br>##imported-begin##Mike and Jennifer Love & Family##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ My thoughts are with your entire family.##imported-begin##Chris Alfonso##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Trevor & Family,<br><br><br><br>I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. ĩ¿½My deepest sympathy.<br><br><br><br>Love,<br><br>Teresa##imported-begin##Teresa Wright##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this very difficult time.##imported-begin##Pat Knowles(McWright)##imported-end##

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Trevor, <br><br> ĩ½Our hearts go out to you in this time of loss. ĩ½You are in our thoughts and prayers now and in the days ahead. Annika was a lovely woman. ĩ½You could truly see the love she had for you and the Lord. ĩ½We pray the Lord will give you the strength you need each day. ĩ½<br><br> ĩ½Mike, Michelle, Andrew and Christopher Kent ĩ½ĩ½<br><br>##imported-begin##NULL##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Dearest Joanne and Family,<br><br>Please know that my heart goes out to you and your family at this difficult time. ĩ½May God's love surround you and give you strength and peace.<br><br>In Christ,<br><br>Joyce##imported-begin##Joyce (Teer) Williams##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ I didnt know Annika. ĩ½After reading her obituary, I realized how thankful I am to have people like her in our community. ĩ½She is a beautiful girl and does so much for everybody. ĩ½My prayers are with you, Annika, and your family. ĩ½##imported-begin##Jamie##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Just wanted The Bellanger family to know that our thoughts and prayers are always with them in their time of need. WE are from Olivet Church in Georgia. To the Dace Family. . God Bless you all and know that God will never give you anymore than you can bear.. God Bless.. <br><br>The Harris Family from Georgia.##imported-begin##Karen and Eddie Harris##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika, Brooke and I both have a heavy heart. We love you and will miss your smiling face and your gracious beauty. Although we had you for a short time, our memories are endless. Rest in peace.##imported-begin##Lynn Darden##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika, <br><br><br><br>I cannot say summer without thinking of the best summer of my life. ï¿½Thank you for all of the wonderful memories. ï¿½You were a true friend, during the good at the bad. ï¿½Thank you for late night talks, cooking dinner at the apartment, Christmas banquet memories, and just being a great person. ï¿½I will miss you, and I look forward to seeing you again. I'll always be berry fresh!<br><br><br><br>Sara<br><br>##imported-begin##Sara Hart##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika,  
  
  
I called you last week and left a message.  
½You called me back and I still have your message to me on my  
cell phone. ½You were a 1 of a kind gal and I looked forward to  
everyday we were able to be together. ½I will miss you my friend,  
but I will see you again someday!  
  
Love,  
  
Denise###imported-begin###Denise Longtin###imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ I am saddened and shocked to hear about Annika's passing. ½I  
knew Annika since she was a toddler, until her college years.  
½She and her family went to my church, Trinity Lutheran in Park  
Forest. ½Her father, Steve, was my 8th grade Sunday School  
teacher...my favorite teacher. ½Annika was just a little girl then,  
and he would talk about how much he loved his daughter, and how  
much he loved being her father. ½He used to say that they would  
both get up early on Saturday mornings and run downstairs, excited  
to watch Saturday morning cartoons together.  
  
  
When Annika was in high school, I had the privilege to be one  
of her youth group leaders. ½I always felt that Annika was the true  
leader. ½Her faith in God and her optimism toward life was  
infectious and steadfast. ½When all of the other kids wanted to  
ride together in the big van for a long youth group trip, Annika rode  
in the 2nd vehicle, a car, with me, because she wanted to make  
sure I had company.  
  
  
I don't think I ever saw  
Annika without a smile on her face. ½I cannot bear the thought  
that she is gone from this life, because this world was certainly a  
better place with Annika in it. ½My heart breaks for her husband,  
family, and friends. ½We were all better for having known  
her.###imported-begin###Kristin Nelson###imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Her last words to me were about going to a candle party. She graciously offered to drive me there and since I cannot drive myself; it was a sweet gesture. That was just Annika's way though. She was always a gracious, kind, and loving person. She fully knew Jesus Christ loved her very much and knew just how to share that love with those around her.<br><br><br><br>I first met Annika at Freshman Orientation at Olivet Nazarene University. We were all scared of course about in a strange land amongst strange people, but Annika came up to me and made me feel like we had known each other forever.<br><br><br><br>Annika was probably one of the most talented people I know. She was always involved with a ton of things in college. She preformed in musicals and involved with other group activities. She was an Resident Assistant and excelled in her classes.<br><br><br><br>My only regret is not telling her how much she meant to me. I really looked up to her. She was so talented in the things I never was able to do and her smile always seem to brighten any room she was in. She always knew how to successfully encourage someone when they were down and most of the time she was able to back it up with a bible verse.<br><br><br><br>As someone mentioned in an a memorial post about her on facebook, her last words there was a status message praising God that Jesus arose on Easter and I can imagine once she hit those pearly gates she was dancing around and praising God even more! Probably getting Peter, Paul, and Mary to join in with her.<br><br><br><br>Annika,my sister through Christ, you were a blessing to us here on earth and I am very privileged to get to know you here amongst all the chaos down here. I always knew you were an angel. Now you have the wings to prove it.###imported-begin###Sandra Farr###imported-end###

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Cathy- You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I am so sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Cheryl Taube##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika was an amazing woman. She beamed God's love to everyone she met. She was one of my bestfriends. She gave unconditional love to friends & family. I will never forget her, and how much she changed my life. She left a bright spot on this world for sure. My prayers and thoughts are with Trevor, The Bellinger family, and The Dace family.##imported-begin##Lindsay Nye##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika was a perfect example of friendship, acceptance, and perseverance...<br><br>To Trevor, The Bellingers, and The Daces, my prayers are with you that Jesus comforts you in this time of tremendous loss.<br><br>Love, <br><br>Beth##imported-begin##Beth Kerkove##imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ I’ve known you since you were a twinkle in you Mommy’s eyes. You were such a SWEET little girl who grew into a lovely, kind, and very SWEET young woman. To say that I miss you is such an understatement. Like everyone else in our family, it feels like I’ve been in a fog since Sunday and I’m still trying to SEE/UNDERSTAND that you are no longer with us physically. Having you in our lives was such a BLESSING. I will miss your smile, your sense of humor, your wonderful poems, your beautifully done scrapbooks and your unconditional love. Who else will enjoy watching Moulin Rouge with me for the umpteenth time and still joyfully sing every song? ANNIKA, you are our ANGEL and will be in our hearts FOREVER. <br><br>Hugs, Kisses and LOTS OF LOVE, <br><br>Aunt Nedra###imported-begin###Nedra A Durham###imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Trevor, <br><br><br><br>You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless. <br><br><br><br>Jim and Paula###imported-begin###Dr. & Mrs. James Adams###imported-end##

---

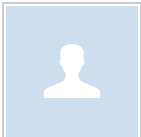
April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ To the Family of Annika Dace:  
  
  
  
I want to let you know you're in my prayers... I imaging you may be overwhelmed because you've been dealing with so much lately, and maybe you're wondering (as I've wondered at times in my life) how things are ever going to work out. ¶½And I just wanted to remind you that although life brings many changes, God's love for us remains constant. ¶½He's always there, guiding us through decisions and helping us do the hard things... always restoring in us a sense of hope and peace, no matter what we're facing. ¶½And the most beautiful thing about God is that the more we need Him, the closer He is... ¶½¶½That's how I know He is especially close to you now.  
  
  
God bless you and keep you in His care.  
  
I love you.  
  
Joyce Brown  
Fayetteville, Georgia###imported-begin###M. Joyce Allen-Brown###imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ Annika was such a joy to be around. ¶½Even over the last year when she was tired or in pain, she still put on a smile and brightened everyone's day. ¶½She was so strong; such a great picture of Jesus.  
  
  
She brought that joy and that love of Jesus to our Thursday Night Bible Study. She truly was a "Princess with an Attitude!" I will miss her so much!  
  
Trevor, my heart is broken for you. ¶½You two were so amazing for each other. We have been praying for you and will continue to do so. ¶½Hunter offered up a special prayer for you last night - you guys mean so much to all of us!! Please don't hesitate to let us know what we can do for you.###imported-begin###Abbie Mantor###imported-end##

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM



“ *Annika was a beautiful person. I remember when she was born. She was such a cute baby and very sweet. I remember her parents and my Godmother were so proud of her and loved her very much. Over the years, I always heard news of how well she did in school, her professional and personal life. She will be missed. <br><br><br><br>Love, Cassie##imported-begin##Cassandra (Pryor) Smith##imported-end##*

---

April 13, 2009 at 10:44 AM