



## Kelsey Marin Johnson

July 10, 2007 - May 23, 2015

Kelsey Johnson, 7 year old daughter of Kevin and Renee Johnson, of Chancellor, SD, died suddenly and unexpectedly, Saturday, May 23, 2015 at Sanford Children's Hospital from complications of acute myocarditis caused by a strep infection. Kelsey Marin Johnson was born on July 10, 2007 in Sioux Falls, SD, the daughter of Kevin and Renee (Sudenga) Johnson. Kelsey had just completed the second grade at Lennox Elementary School. Kelsey was a positive, shining star, whose big smile lit up the room. She was a silly, logical thinking, competitive, problem solving person. She had numerous friends and was involved in soccer, softball and gymnastics. She enjoyed camping, boating and riding the bike trails with her family. She also liked to ride horses, go to Wild Water West and Minnesota Twins games. She loved to cuddle, snuggle and was a people pleaser. She enjoyed the adventure of travel and staying in hotels. Her favorite games were UNO and Yahtzee. She had a large collection of stuffed animals. She was preceded in death by her cousin, Justin Larson on June 17, 2004. Grateful for having shared her life are her parents, Kevin and Renee; siblings: Kaleb and Madison; grandparents: Dave & Julie Johnson, Pipestone, MN and Roy & Charlotte Sudenga, Woodstock, MN; Aunts/Uncles: Greg & Terrie Larson, Tea, Rick Sudenga, Woodstock, MN, Doug & Denise Sudenga, Shakopee, MN, Kerry Johnson, Pipestone and Adam & Jennie Budahl, Clear Lake, SD; Cousins: Andrea & Mike Meekins, Kara Larson, Staci & Tyler Selbrade and Eric & Darcie Sudenga as well as other relatives and friends. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, May 28

at First Presbyterian Church, 2300 S. West Ave, Sioux Falls. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday with the family present, at Dindot-Klusmann Funeral Home, Lennox.

# Tribute Wall

SH

“ Sooo terribly heart broke to hear of Kelsey's death. What a sweet innocent girl she was. Keeping you all in my prayers. So sorry for you loss. Shelly Simantel Horr (Sunday school teacher)

Shelly Simantel Horr - May 29, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ I am so sorry for the loss of your beautiful little girl. Will be thinking of you and praying for your healing.

Kay Goodall - May 28, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ You don't know me, but I am so very sorry for the loss of your beautiful daughter. Thoughts and prayers to you.

Angie Olsen - May 28, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ My sympathy to the family for the loss of your little girl. I am so sorry for your pain and suffering in this tragedy.

Carol Serie - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ *The big beautiful brown eyed Kelsey and her family will be in our prayers!*

*One thought that has helped me realize and understand Gods plan for each of us has been that God doesn't choose how we pass from this life to the next but he knows when it's going to happen and he is with us every step of the way!!!*

*I have no words other than I'm sorry and may the memories carry you through the difficult times and help you smile! Peace&Love -  
Kate Hruby (Sunday school teacher)*

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**Kate Hruby** - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ *SO sorry for your loss. Thinking of you and your family.*

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**Michelle Ratzloff** - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ *We used to play with each other on the playground, and sometimes after school, I would go into her mom's office and visit her and sometimes I would even play with her.*

*I will miss her*

*Addison Oyen*

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**Addison** - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ You do not know me but I am Molly Weis' aunt. I want you to know how far reaching your little daughters life goes. My heart just aches for your family. I am a grandma to a 7 year old and cannot even begin to imagine life without him. Just know that if thoughts and prayers help, maybe the hundreds/thousands of us who are doing just that are making a small difference in your grief journey. May God be with all of you . . . . .

Short Larson - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Dan Knutson - May 27, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Renee, Kevin and Family : We imagine there is no pain more far-reaching and deeper than losing a child. Our heart and prayers go out to you at this most difficult time. With our deepest sympathy, Ron and Julie Montgomery.

Julie and Ron Montgomery - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this very difficult time! May God grant you added comfort and strength as you mourn the loss of Kelsey! Soooo sorry for your loss!

Joyce and Darryl Williamson - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ Our hearts are broken for you. Many prayers for you and your whole family during this very difficult time.

Del, Jennifer, and Hailey Johnke - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Our deepest sympathy goes out to you and your family. You are in thoughts and prayers.

Kristine and Jason Bird - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ My deepest sympathies to your family. I can't imagine the pain of losing a child. You are in my thoughts and prayers.  
No farewell words were spoken,  
No time to say goodbye.  
You were gone before we knew it,  
and only God knows why.

Melissa Myers - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ My deepest Sympathies Renee & family. My thoughts & prayers are with you all. May Peace be with you.

Tammy (Goslar) Tracy - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Kevin and Renee ~ Thinking and praying for you all at this time.  
Love you all!

Brad & Sue Gorter - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I am so sorry for your loss. God give you peace and comfort. I am broken hearted for your family....Stephani

Stephani Parker Woelber - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RZ

“ *Very saddened to hear of your daughter's passing. Keeping you all in our prayers.*

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**Rodney & Jennifer Zupp** - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *My heart aches having a child the same age I do not know you folks but seen this from a friend on FB, Words could never do justice to tell you how much I am so sorry for the loss of your child Kelsey. I will keep your family in my prayers always and if there's one thing I could say to offer the slightest bit of consolance it would be that I know one day, when we're all in heaven, everything will make perfect sense, but until then we all must help one another to hold on to our faith. Through my prayers,... I hope to help you all do that. I pray that Jesus holds you all in the palm of his hand and protects and guides you through this time.*

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**Brian Helmbrecht** - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ *From my family to yours, you are in our thoughts and prayers during this devastating time for you. We are never really prepared for a loved ones death. But the passing of a child is something we certainly don't expect. I'm sure you have so many special memories to reflect on and cherish. Lean on your friends and relatives to support you through the dark days. Remember, you are not alone. Again, you have my sympathies.*

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**Emily Gayken** - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Amy and I are so sorry for your loss, I cant even put into words how saddened we are by the news. Please know your in our thoughts and prayers.

*With love*

*The Bergans*

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**Jason & Amy Bergan** - May 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Michele & Joe Skala** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Renee, Kevin, Caleb & Madison, we are so saddened to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. We enjoyed getting to know Kelsey through Chancellor Softball, such a little sweetheart who all the girls loved having on the team. We will miss you Kelsey! The Lefers family, Keith, Leanne, Allison and Megan

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**Leanne & Keith Lefers** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ My deepest sympathies to your family. You are in my thoughts and prayers... So very sorry to hear this.

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**Ashley Martin** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MN

“ I am saddened by your loss. Prayers to you all during this very trying time. May God wrap you all in his arms.

*Melanie, Nathan, Ethan, and Baronn Niehus*

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**Melanie Niehus** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. Thinking of your family during this time.

*With deepest sympathy*

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**Brandon and Dru Miller** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ *With Deepest Sympathy*

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**Troy and Beth Przybys** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ *Kelsey.....ALWAYS MADE ME GIGGLE!!! I had the pleasure of being her hairdresser. She always knew how she wanted it done and we always came to a compromise. Every time she was in she had stories and great big smiles. I'll miss her forever! My heart and thoughts will be with you all!!! I pray God gives peace and rest for your hearts.*

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**Kacey Reis** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Kelsey was an amazing little girl. She was a great friend and teammate. My heart goes out to you as you mourn the loss of Kelsey. God has chosen one amazing angel to watch over your family.

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**Amy Roeder** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ Johnson Family; Our hearts are broken to hear of your sweet Kelsey's passing. We can't begin to imagine the pain and sorrow you are feeling, we pray that God comforts you at this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you always.  
Jon, Emily, Austyn (Lennox Kindergarten) & Huntley Decker

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**Emily** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your daughter. You are in my prayers.

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**Deb Peschon Bierstedt** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ I cannot count the number of times I heard the name Kelsey J. around our supper table when I asked our Benjamin what he did at school today. He has taped above his headboard four of his little friends, and one of them is Kelsey J. She will be missed and remembered. Our hearts ache for you.

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**Kent DeJong** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ Renee I am so sorry for your loss. Praying for you and your family.

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**Lee and Lisa Gprter** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Our hearts are breaking with and for you.... Kelsey was an amazing, energetic, spunky, caring, and sweet girl! The sparkle in her beautiful big brown eyes will never be forgotten! Our loss is Heaven's gain! Praying that you feel the love and peace that we are begging God to surround you with and that you are able to lean on those closest to you.

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**Angela, Dan, Dawson & Gavin Smit** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Praying for the johnson family this is so sad....

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**Aaron Strum** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ Our Thoughts and Prayers are with you. Our granddaughter Graycee always talked about Kelsey, Graycee really always had good things to say and will really miss her.

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**Deb Postma** - May 25, 2015 at 12:00 AM