



Rachel Fortner

September 28, 1981 - February 11, 2009

Ms. Rachel LeAnna Fortner, age 27, of Cedar Bluff, Virginia, passed away Wednesday, February 11, 2009 in an Atlanta, Georgia hospital following a brief illness. She was born in Richlands, Virginia and was the daughter of Ray and Sue Radcliffe Fortner of Cedar Bluff, Virginia. She had made her home in the Cedar Bluff area most of her life and was currently employed by the Russell County Public School System as a math teacher for 3rd through 6th grade at Elk Garden. She was a graduate of Lebanon High School Class of 2000 and had received her Bachelor's Degree in 2007 from Virginia Intermont College. She was a member of Community Heights Baptist Church.

Survivors, in addition to her parents, are: Two Sisters: Katrina Danielle Smith and husband, Matthew of Radford, Virginia Tara Faline Fortner of Cedar Bluff, Virginia Nephew: Arkhum Smith Niece: Neissis Smith Loving Companion: Brandon Vance Paternal Grandfather: Charles Fortner of Claypool Hill, Virginia Funeral services for Rachel LeAnna Fortner will be conducted Saturday, February 14, 2009 at 1:00pm at the Community Heights Baptist Church in Wardell, Virginia with the Rev. Vonley Pruitt officiating. Interment will follow at Greenhills Memory Gardens at Claypool Hill, Virginia. Pallbearers will be: Justin Wade, W.J. Cole, Greg Copen, Rick Colley, Chris Dye, and Brian Hale. Friends may call after 6:00pm Friday at the Community Heights Baptist Church in Wardell, Virginia. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the: Rachel Fortner Memorial Fund, c/o Carter Bank & Trust in Cedar Bluff, Virginia

Tribute Wall



“ *Rachel Fortner*

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ *Rachel Fortner*

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ *I love you and will miss you greatly!*

Sarah Stafford - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *It's still just so hard to believe. May God in his mercy grant us the grace to remember the kind and gentle soul of LeeAnna. She was a wonderful teacher, a good daughter and sister, and a terrific friend to so many. She will be sorely missed.*

susan wheatley - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sue,
I am so, so sorry to hear the news about Rachel. My heart is so saddened. It has been quite a while since I have seen you, but the friendship that we formed years ago is still in my heart. Please know that you and your family are in my prayers. The peace of God is truly the only way that one could ever endure this. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to let me know.
Love,
Melissa*

Melissa Horn - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ To Bob and to LeAnna's family, I am deeply sorry for your loss. I know that I am a better person for knowing LeAnna and for the time God allowed me to spend with her these past 7 years. We went through many good and bad times together and I will cherish each and everyone. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Joy Muncy - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ I met Ms. Fortner a couple of times at the school and my daughter, Caitlin loved her so much. Her class and students will miss her. Caitlin says that she was her favorite teacher and that she's so sad. I do know that she has made a lasting impression in my daughter's sweet life and I am grateful for it. I'm sorry for your loss and the terrible loss for the school. She was an amazing teacher and role model for them. She will be greatly missed.

Evie Blankenship - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I feel blessed to have had LeAnna as a friend. Our family is going to miss her beyond words. We have lost a angel and heaven has gained one. I will always cherish the memories and keep her in my heart always.

Jolene Dye - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ We are so sorry for your loss! I knew LeAnna only from the office and I thought very highly of her! She was very sweet and so kind! She will be missed in our office and our hearts! Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family during this time!! Dr. Cramer L. Boswell and Staff- Christy, Melisa, Ginger, Ann, Freda, Tracey, Kristi, and Glenna!

Christy Barlow - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Ray, I am so sorry to hear about your daughter. I want you to know you and your family are in my prayers. God bless you all.

Linda Cooley - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ We are very sorry for your loss and you are in our prayers. Ms. Fortner will be sadly missed by many.

Austin, Sherry & Jeff Brown - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ Sue:

I am so sorry for your loss.

Beverly

Beverly Thomas - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ I just wanted to say im sorry. she was my favorite teacher. i cried so much when i found out she wasnt going to be there any more. mrs.fortner was not only a teacher but my friend. i will miss her so much and i know she is an angel now and god is taking good care of her she is watching over us

Amy Meadows - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ Ray and Sue,
We are so very sorry for your deep heartache. Please know that we are praying for you, for peace from our Heavenly Father that surpasses all understanding.

Please also know were are here for you at any time.

Kirk and Anita Gibson - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DQ

“ Ray,
I just wanted to express my condolences in the passing of your daughter. I was not able to attend the wake, but wanted you to know that you are in our prayers and hope that you and your family will be able to cope. God bless you and keep you and know that if thers is anything I or any other of you friends can do don't hesitate to call on us.

David W. Quesenberry - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ We are so sorry to hear of the death of your precious daughter. May Jesus comfort you today and in the days to come. We will be praying for you and your family.
Creed and Andrea Bryant

Creed and Andrea Bryant - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ *i just wanted to tell her family she was a great teacher and i love her and i miss her very much and i cant wait to see her again one day*

ashley nicole boardwine - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ *I LOVE AND MISS HER SO MUCH I DONE SIGHNED ONCE BUT I CANY STOP THINKING ABOUT HER I HAVE TRIED SO HARD TO NOT CRY WHEN I WALK IN HER CLASSROOM I KNOW SHE IS STILL THERE SOME HOW WITH US I WISH I COULD SEE HER AGAIN RIGHT NOW AND SAY GOODBYE AND ONE OF HER BEST FRIENDS MS. COPEN IS OUR NEW TEACHER AND EVERY TIME I LOOK AT HER I THINK OF MS. FORTNER AND WHEN I SEE THINGS SHE HAS DONE IN THE CLASSROOM I CRY I WILL ALWAYS LOVE AND REMEMBER HER AND NOW I KNOW SHE IS MY GARDIAN ANGEL I LOVE MS. FORTNER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!*

ASHLEY - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *I loved Ms.fortner! she was so special and always had a smile on her face. I never really liked math,but then i met Ms.fortner,and she changed all that! Everyday i walked in her class ready to work. I came home every night so excited to do my homework! She impacted my life so much and she will always be with me....she wasnt just a teacher,she was a friend and i will always love her. my thoughts and prayers go to her family! she will always live in our hearts and she will always have a place in mine!she is ina bettr place and she is watchin over us. again,my thoughts and prayers go to her family! I love Ms.Fortner!!! :)*

madison miller - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ i love her deeply and right now i wish she was standing beside me but right now im crying because shes not.i no she loved me and all of her students and i am very sorry u lost a daughter and i lost a teacher and my best friend i no she is watching over me and from now on im going to try to make good grades because thats what she wanted us too. i wish there was some way i could go back and change all of this but i cant. i cant wait to see her again one day. its hard to imagine someone you love as much as her isnt here anymore i wish it was all a dream but its not but shes in a better place and i know it was best for her and i know she is watching over me and you i am so sorry for ur loss I LOVE YOU MS.
FORTNER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

ashley - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ Sue,
I was so sadden to see in the paper that your daughter had passed away. I pray that God will comfort you and your family during this time. The last time I talked to you, LeAnne was a teenager. Time goes by quickly. I will keep you in my prayers.
Shirley Richard

Shirley Boyd Toutaint - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Ms.Fortner was my favorite teacher. i miss her so much!! i used to hate math untill we had her as a teacher. i loved her.

Lindsay Cox - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Dear Ray and Sue,im madison miller. i was one of her 6th grade students. i have already signed but i wanted to again. ms.fortne meant alot to me and i am sure that she meant alot to u.she was always happy with a smile on her face. she was an awesome teacher. she made sure that my classmates and i understood eveything she taught.she was so loving and caring.everyone loved her and she is ina better place. my thoughts and prayers go to you guys. she was special and she will always be in my heart!!!!!!

madison miller - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ we would like to say we loved ms.fortner and we dedicate the song sissy's song by alan jackson to her family and brandon

Lindsay Cox - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ i found out the next moring on the bus kansas said that she had died and me freind and i did not belive her. till we say tears coming out of her eyes. i can tell you one thing that i leared if i did not learn nothing i leared how to say heck ha soboby said do we need to write this and she said heck ya i loved her so much!!!

i have can say that i never have a freind like you and if anybody can her sissy song i think about her every day about her in her classroom i came home and i got a pair of glass like hers and i love them and her name was ms.fotener when she wore them! need anything just call at any time of the day or night

love you ms. fortener\mrs.vance
cassie clifton

cassie clifton - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ this is a poem i wrote for her
"Ms Fortner"
so young,preety, and sweet
meant everything to me
went to be with the lord in heaven
he took her life at the age 27
her love is always with us
we just have to trust...
shes watching us from above
feeling our hearts with her love
shes taking care of us
from heaven above...
shes telling us not to cry
because that wasn't her last goodbye
" in memory of ms. Fortner" she will always be in our hearts

ashley - February 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM