



Skye McCole Bartusiak

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Skye McCole Bartusiak (September 28, 1992 – July 19, 2014) was an American film and television actress. She appeared in *The Patriot* (2000), *Don't Say a Word* (2001), as Rose Wilder in *Beyond the Prairie: The True Story of Laura Ingalls Wilder* (2002), *24* (2002–03), *Boogeyman* (2005), and *Kill Your Darlings* (2006).

McCole Bartusiak died at age 21 in her apartment behind her parents' home. Her death was ruled the result of an accidental drug overdose.

Early life

Skye McCole Bartusiak was born in Houston, Texas, where she lived with her parents, Helen (née McCole) and Donald Bartusiak, until her death.^[2]

Career

McCole Bartusiak first starred in Stephen King's *Storm of the Century* as young Pippa Hatcher. In 2000, she appeared in *The Patriot* as the youngest child of a militia leader portrayed by Mel Gibson.^[3] She played the young Marilyn Monroe in the TV miniseries *Blonde*, and the psychiatrist's daughter in *Don't Say a Word* alongside Michael Douglas and Brittany Murphy, both in 2001.^[3] She also played young Charlie McGee in *Firestarter: Rekindled* and Megan Matheson during season two of the television series *24* (2002–2003).^{[3][4]}

McCole Bartusiak made an appearance in the short film *The Vest* in 2003 and played the part of The Girl in *Once Not Far from Home* in 2005.^[5] She also tried her hand at theatre, playing in *The Miracle Worker* alongside Hilary Swank at the Charlotte Theatre in North Carolina.^[6]

In 2003, McCole Bartusiak returned to period drama with *Love Comes Softly*, and a year later she played the young Jackie in *Against the Ropes* alongside Meg Ryan.^[4] In 2005, she received main **billing** for her role as Franny Roberts in the hit horror film

Skye McCole Bartusiak



Skye McCole Bartusiak in an undated portfolio image

Born	September 28, 1992 <div>Houston, Texas, U.S.</div>
Died	July 19, 2014 <div>(aged 21)</div> <div>Houston, Texas, U.S.</div>
Cause of death	Accidental drug overdose ^[1]
Occupation	Actress
Years active	1999–2014
Website	Official website (http://www.skyemccolebartusiak.com)

Boogeyman.^[4] She starred in the "Kids" episode of the hospital drama series *House*,^[7] and took a lead role as Sunshine in the film *Kill Your Darlings*, playing a troubled teen willing to do anything to get the attention of her busy father.^[8]

Death

On July 19, 2014, McCole Bartusiak died in her apartment behind her parents' Houston home. Her mother told CNN and the Associated Press that Skye's boyfriend found the actress sitting up in her bed; Helen began CPR on her daughter before the arrival of paramedics, who then worked "for 45 minutes" to resuscitate. Her mother said Skye "had been healthy and did not drink or do drugs", but had recently been suffering from epileptic seizures; she believed that this fact had likely played a role in her daughter's death.^{[3][9]} A memorial service was held in Houston six days later; her brother Stephen told mourners: "If you want to know what makes Skye happy, go out and plant a tree."^[10]

The Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences ruled in October 2014 that McCole Bartusiak's death was an accident. The "combined toxic effects of hydrocodone and difluoroethane with carisoprodol" were listed as the main cause of death.^[1]

Filmography

Film roles

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1999	<i><u>The Cider House Rules</u></i> ^[3]	Hazel	
2000	<i>The Prophet's Game</i>	Adele Highsmith (child)	
2000	<i><u>The Patriot</u></i>	Susan Martin	
2001	<i><u>Don't Say a Word</u></i>	Jessie Conrad	
2001	<i><u>Riding in Cars with Boys</u></i>	Amelia - Age 8	
2001	<i><u>The Affair of the Necklace</u></i>	Dove	(scenes deleted)
2002	<i>Flashpoint</i>	Lizzie	
2003	<i>Love Comes Softly</i>	Missie Davis	
2003	<i>The Vest</i>	Sara	Short
2004	<i><u>Against the Ropes</u></i>	Little Jackie Kallen	
2005	<i><u>Boogeyman</u></i>	Franny Roberts	
2006	<i><u>Kill Your Darlings</u></i>	Sunshine	
2006	<i>Once Not Far from Home</i>	The Little Girl	Short
2006	<i>Razor Sharp</i>	Isis/Ice-6	Short
2008	<i>A Fix</i>	Natalie Coleman	Short
2008	<i>Pineapple</i>	Alex	
2009	<i><u>Wild About Harry</u></i>	Daisy Goodhart	
2011	<i><u>Good Day for It</u></i>	Rachel	
2011	<i>University of Penn Relay Carnival</i>	—	Director
2012	<i>Twelve Hungry Men</i>	Jesse	Short
2012	<i>Dr. Oscar Griffith: Hollywood Psychiatrist</i>	The Pop Star / Rachel	Short
2012	<i><u>Sick Boy</u></i>	Lucy	^[3]

Television roles

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1999	<i>Storm of the Century</i> ^[3]	Pippa Hatcher	2 episodes
1999	<i>JAG</i>	Rachel Sherkston	Episode: "Shakedown"
1999	<i>Judging Amy</i>	Marcy Noble	Episode: "Presumed Innocent"
1999	<i>Witness Protection</i>	Suzie Batton	TV film
2000	<i>Providence</i>	Jessie	Episode: "Taking a Chance on Love"
2000	<i>Frasier</i>	Girl with Drawing	Episode: "The Three Faces of Frasier"
2000	<i>Law & Order: Special Victims Unit</i>	Jennifer	Episode: "Legacy"
2000	<i>The Darkling</i>	Casey Obold	TV film
2001	<i>Touched by an Angel</i>	Sarah	Episode: "The Birthday Present"
2001	<i>Blonde</i>	Young <u>Norma Jeane Baker</u>	TV film
2002	<i>Firestarter: Rekindled</i>	Young Charlie McGee	TV film
2002	<i>Beyond the Prairie: The True Story of Laura Ingalls Wilder</i>	<u>Rose Wilder</u>	TV film
2002–03	<i>24</i>	<u>Megan Matheson</u>	8 episodes
2003	<i>Love Comes Softly</i>	Missie Davis	TV film
2004	<i>George Lopez</i>	L'il Bit	2 episodes
2005	<i>House</i>	Mary Carroll	Episode: "Kids"
2005	<i>Lost</i>	Young <u>Kate Austen</u> (voice)	Episode: "Born to Run"; uncredited
2005	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Susan Lester	Episode: "Bite Me"
2007	<i>Close to Home</i>	Amber	Episode: "Fall from Grace"

Awards and nominations

Year	Ceremony	Category	Work	Result
2001	<u>Young Artist Awards</u>	Best Ensemble in a Feature Film (shared with cast)	<i>The Patriot</i>	Nominated
2002	<u>Young Artist Awards</u>	Best Performance in a Feature Film: Young Actress Age Ten or Under	<i>Riding in Cars with Boys</i>	Nominated
2002	<u>Young Artist Awards</u>	Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama): Young Actress Age 10 or Under	<i>Touched by an Angel</i>	Nominated


References

- ↑ "*The Patriot* Actress Died of an Accidental Drug Overdose" (<http://www.foxnews.com/entertainment/2014/10/13/patriot-actress-died-accidental-drug-overdose/>). *Fox News*. October 13, 2014.

Retrieved October 13, 2014.

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10. Malec, Brett (July 28, 2014). "Late Patriot Actress Skye McCole Bartusiak Remembered at Houston Memorial Service" (<http://www.eonline.com/news/563944/late-patriot-actress-skye-mccole-bartusiak-remembered-at-houston-memorial-service>). *E! News*. Retrieved July 29, 2014.

External links

- Official website (<http://www.skyemccolebartusiak.com/>) 
 - Skye McCole Bartusiak (<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0566084/>) at *IMDb*
 - Skye McCole Bartusiak (<https://www.allmovie.com/artist/p291640>) at *AllMovie*
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