

MEMORIES OF A BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER AND SISTER

Our daughter Michaela Jane Jenkins was born in Exeter on March 23rd 1966. She was a very happy and contented baby. As she grew she was friendly with everyone and as a 2yr old, people were greatly amused at her ability to converse using long words which friends had taught her. This was remembered on a visit to Aber Falls in Wales. On walking back, she looked up at a couple of strangers and said, 'its phenomenal' Their reaction was a picture. Michaela's first day at school was memorable. The teacher told us 'Please can you explain to Michaela that she has to stay in her class' as she had wandered off into another classroom to say hello. Many of our family holidays were in Newquay Cornwall and on Fistral Beach she was told not to wander off as she would get lost. 'I want to get lost' she said. We thought she had her eye on the lifeguards!

In 1969 she was joined by her little sister Penny and from then on there was never a dull moment. So saying they have always been there for each other.

Eventually we moved to Seaton where she loved being near her nan and grandad. Our family had many happy times in the garden sharing teas with aunties, uncles and cousins.

We attended Crossroad Christian Fellowship where she enjoyed the company of the young people, especially on camping trips. This became her spiritual home where she matured as a Christian and it has become her second family.

In her teenage years Michaela always loved children and soon started baby sitting for friends. So it was no surprise that after college she started working at St Johns School in Sidmouth. Then later as assistant teacher at Beer Primary School where her own children, nieces and nephews were eventually to attend.

We also spent special holidays in Germany with close Christian friends and we shared some wonderful times together with their extended families. These times continue and will always hold them dear in our hearts.

They were sad days when her grandparents passed away but imagine the reunion Michaela is having in heaven with them and many other relatives, singing in a mighty heavenly choir.

The three of us have shared some girly times called Jolly Outings. We have had trips to see Take That, to London and a spa day. Most recently we spoilt ourselves with high tea at a posh hotel. These were very special occasions and brought us closer together.

HER DADS MEMORIES were of her sense of fun and humour and her laughing at The Pink Panther, Allo Allo and Carry on films. Also he hurt his back around his 65th Birthday and she presented him with an inflatable zimmer frame, steroid tablets, memory mints and such like.

She was a very loving, caring and thoughtful daughter and she will always be in our hearts.

We know Michaela is now safe in the arms of Jesus and although for us this is far too soon, she had a very strong faith and we are confident that the Lord has a purpose for it all.

PENNY'S MEMORIES Some of my earliest memories of Michaela are when she slid biscuits under my bedroom door in the early hours to wake me up. We used to throw various things up and down between the stair rails at our first house in Seaton. We spent hours playing at the beach hut and also on holiday in Cornwall. Jumping the waves and splashing in the pools. We often stayed at Nan and Grandads house and made up games in the garden with its secret path at the bottom.

We started off dancing in the lounge to the Wombles and then went from the Grease Album to anything ABBA and on to disco. She would play her record player endlessly and insisted on brown walls in her bedroom plastered with ABBA everywhere. I remember our first holiday abroad to Crete and how grown up we felt. We both chose different careers but Michaela loved children. So when we had ours around the same time we shared childcare and had picnics and trips to the park. We always celebrated their birthdays together. Michaela loved to celebrate and plan something. She loved to decorate the house and do a lovely spread of food. We made the most of the trips out with mum and Michaela looked forward to planning those. She was a wonderful aunt to my children and their partners and was always interested in their news.

She was dignified, graceful and strong.

These are my precious memories of my beautiful sister.

Until we meet again.