



Rachel Elizabeth Payne

December 3, 1985 - September 12, 2004

Payne, Rachel E.

Rachel Elizabeth Payne, 18, of West Hartford died suddenly on Sunday, September 12. Born December 3, 1985, she had lived in West Hartford all of her life. She was a 2004 graduate of William H. Hall High School and had recently begun her freshman year at the University of Delaware where she was pursuing her passion for art. Rachel is survived by her parents, Nancy Matson Payne, of West Hartford; her father, William T. Payne, Jr. of West Hartford, and her older brother Andrew William Payne, also of West Hartford. Rachel leaves behind her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William E. Matson of Hampstead, NC, her grandmother Mrs. William T. Payne of Thompson, CT, her uncle Steven Stang and his wife, Macil of Simsbury, her aunt Florence Payne of Thompson, and her uncle Russell Matson and his wife June of Eliot, ME. Rachel had five first cousins: Christina, Melissa and Thomas Stang, all of Simsbury; Charlotte Matson of San Diego, CA and Meggan Matson-Drew; her husband Bryan and daughters, Morgan and Taylor all of Walpole, MA. Her aunt, Norma P. Stang and her uncle, Wayne "Todd" Matson, predeceased Rachel.

Rachel was a beautiful, loving and talented young lady. She was sensitive, perceptive and had tremendous love of all animals. In the past several years she had won numerous awards for her outstanding artistic ability including the Connecticut Scholastic Art Award for drawing, the Hall High School Art Teachers' Evangeline Ftergiotis Award and an Academic Achievement

Award, as well as the Connecticut Art Education Association's 2004 top honor for her exceptional art portfolio. Rachel was also the recipient of a Fine Arts Scholarship to the University of Connecticut.

Rachel was truly happy to be attending the University of Delaware. She had quickly made friends and felt that she had found her niche. To say that Rachel will be sorely missed by a wealth of family and friends that loved her would be a vast understatement.

Friends may call at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford on Wednesday, September 15 from 5 to 8 pm. The funeral will be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2080 Boulevard, West Hartford on Thursday, September 16, at 10:00am with burial immediately following the ceremony in the Simsbury Cemetery, Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that gifts be made in Rachel's memory to the University of Delaware's Art Department, Visual Communications, and sent in care of the Office of University Relations, 109 Hullahen Hall, Newark, DE 19716.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Andrew & Mr./Mrs. Payne,
I came across this guestbook for Rachel and felt compelled to write something. I did not know Rachel well, but Andrew you and I became close in highschool through another one of our lost loved ones.
I want you and your family to know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sadness.
It is hard to imagine that one can recover from such a loss. I know that if we keep Rachel and our other lost loved ones in our hearts... we can go on. They are missed...##imported-begin##Nicole Fried##imported-end##

January 03, 2005 at 12:00 AM



“ to the family of rachel payne,

hello my name is peggy o'neil my son ryan o'neil is also on the malloy funeral home web site. my son went to heaven on march 22, 2004. i feel the pain that all of you have and hope that this new year will be better for you and that the pain of your loss will diminish.

my son ryan attended quinnipiac university in the physician assistant program and had great plans for the future but left us way too soon at the age of 19. i have asked ryan to seek out your daughter that they together can somehow give us some peace in our lives.

i wish your family better days ahead. i have been able to go on thru his most wonderful friends who keep his memory alive.

my son always gave everyone the most wonderful bear hugs and that is what i extend to you.

God bless all of you and i know rachel is taking great care of you as my son ryan is doing the same for me.

happiest of new years to all of you and may you find peace.

peggy o'neil###imported-begin###peggy o'neil###imported-end###

January 03, 2005 at 12:00 AM



“ Nancy, We went to Perry Elementary School together many years ago, but I have always remembered our friendship and your Mom's warm hospitality. I am deeply saddened to learn of the death of your beautiful daughter. May memories, friends, and family help you through this most difficult time. Betsy###imported-begin###Betsy Chappel Legacy###imported-end###

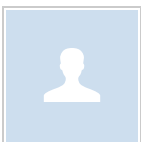
September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the family of Rachel:

I find myself sitting here, not knowing what to say. Of the four rooms grouped together at UofD, Rachel lived right next door to me. I lived in a single room, and relied on my friendships with Rachel and the other girls in the quad to keep me from getting homesick. For the few weeks I knew Rachel, I couldn't have enjoyed her company more. I have a little sister who I am very close with the same age as Rachel, and it really hit home when I heard the news. I know Rachel was very close to her older brother, I pray he is being strong. I could never imagine. Rachel really was enjoying it at UofD. Such a bubbly, happy, anxious young girl with tons of talent, I wish we had more time with her. I send my condolences to a family that raised such a beautiful girl, inside and out. I will forever cherish the memories I have with Rachel. She will always be in our hearts...###imported-begin###Lauren Jensen###imported-end###

September 26, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry about your loss. Thank you for sharing my high school experience with me, Rachel. You'll be greatly missed by all.###imported-begin###Amber Black###imported-end###

September 25, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ As the parents of a freshman @UofD our thoughts and prayers are for Rachel and especially for her family.##imported-begin##Harry Gormley##imported-end##

September 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mr. and Mrs. Payne, I just wanted you to know that I am praying that God will comfort you. Truly there are no words that I can possibly say, but I know God honors our prayers. My daughter is a sophomore at U of D and although she did not know your daughter she was very hurt and saddened by Rachel's death. Please find comfort in knowing that others share in your pain and I hope this scripture will comfort you...Psalms 3:5-6 "Trust In The Lord With All Of Your Heart And Lean Not Unto Your Own Understanding, In All Of Your Ways Acknowledge Him And He Will Direct Your Paths. May God Bless And Comfort You, Love, Sharon R. Surratte-Woods##imported-begin##Sharon R. Woods##imported-end##

September 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill and Payne Family,

My sincere condolences on your loss of Rachel. It is more than clear that she was such a very talented young woman! Words seem so terribly inadequate to express my feelings. My heartfelt sympathy -- I will keep you in my prayers.

Steven Gross##imported-begin##Steven Gross##imported-end##

September 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ As the mother of a 19 year old daughter who attends UD my heart goes out to your family. You have been in my thoughts and prayers often since I heard about Rachel. She was obviously a beautiful, talented young woman. I pray that the Lord wraps his arms around your family and that you feel comfort in his presence, knowing that Rachel is in Heaven sharing her talents with all who have gone before her. God bless you.##imported-begin##Josie Hunsberger##imported-end##

September 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Losing someone you love is always difficult, especially one as beautiful and talented as your daughter and sister, Rachel. May your many memories of life with Rachel console you at this difficult time. I read Rachel's obituary in the e-newsletter that goes to alumni and was deeply saddened by the news. We shall keep your family in our prayers.

Sincerely,

Laura and Cristian Libanati

BA AS 1987 and PHD ChE 1992##imported-begin##Laura Libanati##imported-end##

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My daughter also born 12/85 is a freshman at UD, and news of your loss affected me deeply. All I can do is offer my deepest sympathies to all of you on the loss of Rachel, and keep you in my prayers.##imported-begin##Patricia Delhauer##imported-end##

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Along with all the other parents of UD freshman who have visited this site, I offer my condolences on the loss of your daughter Rachel. My own 17 year old daughter is a freshman and I cannot begin to imagine the extreme saddress and horror you are now dealing with. Please know that the UD community as well as communities all over the country are thinking of you during this time and wishing you hope, healing and someday only happy memories of Rachel.##imported-begin##Cheryl##imported-end##

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so deeply sorry and have such heartfelt sympathy for you and your family at this time. Rachel was a beautiful and talented girl who has touched thousands of hearts at the University of Delaware. May you find some comfort in the words of others who are trying to somehow ease your pain.

The Jackson Family##imported-begin##The Jackson Family##imported-end##

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mr. and Mrs. Payne and Andrew,
Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Those people move our hearts to dance. They awaken us to a new understanding with the passing whisper of their wisdom. Some people make the sky more beautiful to gaze upon. These people stay in our lives for a short while, leave footprints in our hearts and we are never ever the same again. That was Rachel. Artistic, beautiful and caring to say the least. As you look up in the dark night sky and see the stars twinkle, that's Rachel. When the rainbow shines after a storm, that's Rachel. And when you think you can't cry anymore and a sudden calmness falls over you, that's Rachel. The heavens above have truly gained an angel. ~*~Rest in peace my dear~*~###imported-begin###Tracy Ann###imported-end###

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mr. & Mrs. Payne,

We are total strangers to each other, but still I want to send you my heartfelt condolences upon the loss of your beautiful daughter. My own daughter is also a freshman in the art department at the University of Delaware, which is how I heard of your family tragedy. I can hardly imagine the pain you are going through, but wanted you to know that my prayers and sympathy go out to you at this sorrowful time.

Sincerely,

Deborah Cohn###imported-begin###Deborah Cohn###imported-end###

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mr. and Mrs. Payne, and Andrew,
I am a freshman at Delaware this year and want to extend my condolences to you all. My mother grew up in West Hartford, and I still have family in West Hartford including the Bazilians who own the shoe store "Bazilians". We would all like to send our love to you and cannot even come to realize what you might be experiencing now. Let G-d be with you during your difficult time. xoxo
Sincerely,
Meredith Grabek and family##imported-begin##Meredith Grabek##imported-end##

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers are with you for the loss of your daughter. My son is a freshman at UD, and I can only say that I am thinking of you, and pray that God will help you through this and watch over you and your family.##imported-begin##Michael F. Shulo##imported-end##

September 20, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill,
The loss of your daughter has deeply touched us. Our sincere sympathy to you, Andrew, Nancy and Margaret. Our love and prayers are with you all at this most difficult time.
Diane & Charlie Piper##imported-begin##Diane Piper##imported-end##

September 19, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Payne Family,
Our son is a freshman resident of Pencader E and although we never met Rachel, we would like to express our condolences. Our daughter also lost a classmate during her freshman year of college, and I want you to know that he continues to live on in his friends' lives and hearts. I am sure that your Rachel will live on forever in the hearts of those whose lives she has touched during her all-too-short time here on earth. You are in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##The Fiorentini Family##imported-end##

September 19, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I also have a daughter that is a freshman at U of D and my heart goes out to you and your family for the loss of your beautiful daughter. Know that your daughter was an important part of the community and will always be remembered. May God Bless you and your family. I will keep you in my prayers. Mrs. Parico##imported-begin##Doris Parico##imported-end##

September 19, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers are with the entire Payne family and friends during your time of grief.##imported-begin##Ellen Heyward##imported-end##

September 19, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ As a parent of a UD student, I extend my sympathies to the family of this young lady. You and yours are in our prayers.##imported-begin##Tresa Arena##imported-end##

September 19, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Our church is praying for your family. We are so very sorry for the loss of Rachel.##imported-begin##Rev & Mrs. D. Clinger##imported-end##

September 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Payne Family - Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. My son is a 2nd year student at Udel but did not know you daughter. Her loss greatly touched him and a lot of his friends. Your daughter was a very talented person. May God offer comfort to you at your time of loss.##imported-begin##Cindy Tyrseck##imported-end##

September 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Payne Family,
I am very sorry for your loss. I could not begin to tell you how sorry I am for you. Although I never knew your daughter, the things I have heard about her has been amazing. You should be proud of Rachel, for she was a truly amazing young woman, and you should be proud of yourself for raising such a truly astounding young woman. She has brought joy to the life of those she has met and even those she did not. UD is a better place because of her. I wish you the best of luck in your in future. In addition, may God guide you in the years ahead.
Sincerely, Cindy Kealty##imported-begin##Cindy Kealty##imported-end##

September 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I did not have the chance to know Rachel as well as I wanted to, but she will be sorely missed in all of our hearts. My heart and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Ryan McWilliams##imported-end##

September 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I have never met your daughter, but the news that I read in the paper have saddened me tremendously. I couldn't imagine what it is like to lose a child.
Just know that one day, you will be together with your daughter in a place where there is no pain and sorrow.
Until that day, may you find comfort in the sweet memories you and your daughter Rachel shared.
Rest assured that she is with you every step of the way.##imported-begin##Rose Powell##imported-end##

September 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill,
I had the pleasure of working for you in at PaineWebber in Hartford and, although I never met Rachel personally, I know how proud you are of both of your children and how much they mean to you. My husband and I are so sorry for your loss and want to extend our deepest sympathies to your entire family. You are in our thoughts and our prayers.

Susan and Glenn Frye##imported-begin##Susan Frye##imported-end##

September 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Polly and I were saddened to hear of your tragic loss of Rachel. Our thoughts and prayer are with you all.##imported-begin##Polly & Bob Woods##imported-end##

September 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Words cannot express how sorry I am for your loss. I am a senior at UDel, originally from Woodbury, CT, and I wanted to express my sorrows about your loss. While you will never get over this horrific accident, you will get through it and please know that the entire UDel community is behind you with prayers and support. Though Rachel was here only a short time, her legacy will live on at UDel forever and she will be remembered each and every day that passes. We are praying for you...##imported-begin##Gina Zanella##imported-end##

September 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Payne Family,
I have thought of you and prayed for you often since hearing of the tragedy of Rachel's death. I cannot imagine your pain because it must be unfathomable; nothing compares to the loss of a child. My prayer for you is that God soon replaces your grief with wonderful, precious, memories. Rachel's picture is that of a lovely young woman, whom you must have been most proud of. She had many accomplishments in her young life and I hope you find much comfort that she had a good, happy life for the short time that she was here.
Most sincerely,
Donna, Ashley, and Christine Gordy
another U of D family##imported-begin##Donna Gordy##imported-end##

September 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Payne family:
I never had the honor of meeting your daughter, but UD has certainly been shaken by her tragic death. As an editor of the campus newspaper, I was hoping that we'd write articles about Rachel's achievements and talent, not her untimely passing. Reporting on such an emotional tragedy can be truly heart-wrenching. I promise to you that we will remain diligent in investigating and reporting on your daughter's death and bring you closure on this terrible accident.##imported-begin##Mike Fox##imported-end##

September 17, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I'd like to express my deepest and most sincere condolences to Rachel's family and friends. When tragic events such as this occur, it baffles me how life can seem to be so cruel. I cannot imagine your loss but please understand that it has greatly effected me as well as so many others. I am a senior at UD and remember my freshman year fondly. Although I know her experience here was cut far too short it is evident that Rachel's presence impacted so many and will carry on her memory.

My friends and I, as well as fellow co-workers, have all been saddened by Rachel's departure. Being from Connecticut myself, I felt an even greater sense of loss. Even though I was never fortunate enough to know your daughter, I will never forget her and I hope that something positive will come of this in helping to keep every student at UD and all universities safe from harm.

My thoughts and prayers will be with you always.##imported-begin##Jamie L. Damato##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mr. & Mrs. Payne,

We, like you, delivered our precious child to the Univ of Delaware this fall, all of us hoping and praying that they would stay safe and well as they began making decisions all on their own and finding their way into adulthood. Your Rachel was clearly a kind, bright and talented young woman, brimming with possibility for her future. I am so very sorry for your loss.

Sincerely,

Kathy Garcia##imported-begin##Kathy Garcia##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *I attend Monmouth University in NJ, but my friend lives in Pencader at the University of Delaware. Such a tragedy, my sympathies go out to the family, friends, and all of the University in coping with the loss of such a wonderful, beautiful student, daughter, and friend. Although I never knew Elizabeth, she will be never forgotten.##imported-begin##Brian Madden##imported-end##*

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mr. & Mrs Payne and Andrew,

I remember sitting in painting class on Monday and after hearing Rachel's news I was not able to concentrate, because I was so shocked. Last year I was a freshman on Hall's JV tennis team, and remember Rachel as one of Varsity's team captains. I was also Nicole's neighbor, and remember her always talking highly of Rachel. Rachel was a great tennis player, and an amazing artist. She was naturally talented. I would always see her smiling, and was an inspiration to everyone. Rachel was a beautiful girl, and there will always be a place in my heart for her.

My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

Fondly,

Blair Balchunas##imported-begin##Blair Balchunas##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ As a fellow member of the class of 2008, as well as a part of Rachel's Pencader community at UD, I would like to express my sympathies to Rachel's family, friends, and to all who cared for her. Although I was never able to spend quality time with Rachel, I know that she was deeply cared for here at the University and throughout her life. This tragedy has greatly affected us all, and she will be missed. We will be sure to always keep her memory alive.##imported-begin##Kristen Mastrola##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ You don't know me...I work at the University of Delaware. I want you to know how sad I feel about Rachel's accident I want to offer support to her family and friends. My niece is a sophomore here and I can't imagine the pain you must be feeling. Words are so inadequate at times like this. I have worked on this campus for 17 years and if something happens to any of our students I feel the loss. But, I feel especially upset and sad about Rachel. Please know that I share your grief and hope you can find some peace.##imported-begin##Beth Breylinger##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry for your tragic loss. Although I and many others here at UD never had the chance to meet your daughter, we still mourn the loss of one of our own. My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Melissa Csengeto##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Family of Rachel E. Payne:

I am a continuing education student taking graduate courses at the University of Delaware.

I wanted to express my sincere condolences about Rachel's death. I also wanted to mention that I think Rachel's accomplishments have been excellent in the field of art. I wish so much I would have gotten to know her better before all of this had happened to her.

I also wanted to say that I will keep Rachel's memory in my thoughts and prayers every day. I hope that Rachel will have an impact on me even though I will never get to physically see her or talk to her anymore. My guess is that her spirit will be with everyone at the University of Delaware for all of eternity even though she can't be with us anymore.

I see all the support on this website for Rachel's accomplishments and I sincerely hope that she is always remembered by the campus community. I think that a plaque should be put in her honor at the University of Delaware.

My sincerest condolences once again,

Jason R. Norris

jnorris@udel.edu##imported-begin##Jason R. Norris##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our daughter is also a freshman at Univ. Of Delaware. Our deepest sympathies, thoughts, and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Kim & Ken Dietz##imported-end##*

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept my deepest condolences at your tragic loss. As the parent of a UDel senior and an educator who works with freshmen students , I have felt Rachel's loss deeply. I cannot even imagine that pain you must be feeling. Be assured that UDel is a caring community and Rachel will be remembered there. And take confidence in the words in the Psalms: "Weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning" Rachel is experiencing that joy now; I am sure she will paint the heavens with glorious colors for all eternity; I will pray that same joy will be yours again in the future.
Sincerely
Charlene Stephens##imported-begin##Charlene Stephens##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I did not know Rachel, I just wanted to say that I am so sorry for your loss. God is by your side right now, I know there are so many questions that are unanswered right now, but I have lost loved ones, just remember that Rachel will always be with you. Again, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.##imported-begin##Brandi##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the Payne Family -*

We did not know Rachel personally but our son, Garrett, graduated from Hall with her and our daughter, Emily, went to Hall with Andrew.

Words are inadequate under these circumstances - your loss has affected us deeply. You have experienced the unimaginable. Our thoughts are with you at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Kevin and Mary Chase##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Payne Family,*

Words cannot express my deep sympathy for the loss of your daughtersister,Rachel.I was shocked to read about the accident in the paper.I remember Rachel when she was a student at Webster Hill Elementary School. You are in my prayers and thoughts. God Bless your family.

Sincerely,June Mitchell,retired Library Media Specialist from Webster Hill School.##imported-begin##June Mitchell##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *To Rachel's Family and Friends:*

I too have a daughter who is a UD freshman who lives on campus. Although my daughter didn't know Rachel, when she heard the tragic news, she was upset and called me to tell me what had happened. I know our sadness can no way compare to yours. I'm sure that like me, you were just getting used to her living away from home and dealing with her absence. But to now have to deal with what you are dealing with must be unbearable. I am so sorry that this has happened. Perhaps there is a lesson/message to be learned from this that is unclear right now. There must have been a need for another angel to paint the rainbows in the sky.##imported-begin##gail##imported-end##

September 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *We are the parents of a freshman UD student. Our son, Jeff, resides at Pencader, several doors down from Rachel. He has mentioned your daughter to us several times, always saying how friendly and nice she was. We know she will be missed. Please know that our family's thoughts and prayers are with you at this very difficult time.*

With sincere sympathy,

Louise & Ray Miller##imported-begin##Louise & Ray Miller##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ As an employee of the University of Delaware, resident of the City of Newark, alumni of the UD and the mother of two college students, my heart and prayers go out to your family. May your memories of your beautiful daughter and all that she contributed during her lifetime be a comfort to you in the future.##imported-begin##Kim Philipp##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I too am a freshman at the University of Delaware. While I don't believe I ever met Rachel, upon hearing the news of her death, I was extremely saddened. I cannot find the words to express my deepest sympathy to you as parents and the rest of her friends and family. We will all be praying for you.##imported-begin##Lauren McKently##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ While I had not yet met Rachel I can assure you that most faculty and staff at the University of Delaware have deeply felt her loss as we view all students as extensions of our own families. Personally speaking, I have sent two daughters to college and your family has realized the darkest of my fears. Words can't express to you how deeply sorry I am for your loss. Please, when you are better able to deal with this great loss make aware to all those who knew her and are away in school that all college campuses have a Security/Public Safety department who are there to help. All young adults away from home for the first time push the limits of experience. Especially the most artistic and sensitive, this is where their creativity comes from. Your family are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Nancy Deputy##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ While I did not know Rachel, my daughter is just beginning her second year at UDE, so hearing of Rachel's tragic death was deeply felt by me. I am so sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to your family.##imported-begin##Beth Rumsey##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My wife Karin, and I, send our deepest condolences to the Payne family. My wife and I live in Farmington, and regreably, have also experienced the sudden loss of a daughter. On September 11, 2002, our daughter age 25 made a decision to take her own life. This tragic event came as a complete and total surprise to us, as we were notified by Farmington police that day of her passing. We had calling hours for Kristina on September 14, 2002, at the Molloy Funeral home. The Molloy staff helped us immensely, and to this day, we continue to be in touch with them. Although we've never met her, it's clear to us that your beautiful daughter was a gifted and talented artist. We know you will forever hold her dearly in your heart, as we do our beloved Kristina Ann. May God bless you and help you heal in this terrible time of sorrow. You are in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##William K. Stahl##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To Rachael's Family,

I never had the honor of meeting your talented daughter but I want you to know how saddened I am to hear of your loss. I cannot know your anguish, nor will I feel the void in your lives, but may God give you the strength you will all need to cope with the pain. And may your memories of Rachael's good deeds and her bright smile, and knowing how many lives she touched, bring comfort to you in the future.

Sincerely, Judy Wright##imported-begin##Judy Wright##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am terribly saddened by your tragic loss. While I never had the opportunity to meet Rachel, I am inspired by the outpouring of heartfelt expression from friends and fellow students who had a personal insight into the wonderful talents of your beloved daughter.

When children leave the nest to pursue higher education, there is always a parental expectation that they will flourish and ultimately reach their highest of goals. I am devastated for your family, as your daughter's life was cut short before she could really start off on her journey. I will always remember her, and as I work hard to pursue my own goals in life God willing, I promise to always carry the torch for Rachel in celebration of her passion, warmth, and beauty.##imported-begin##Daron Harper##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



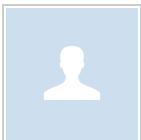
“ My heart aches for you. We too lost our daughter this past January in a tragic car accident in NY. She was a Senior in college pursuing her passion of Art. My prayers and thoughts will be with you through this most difficult time of your life. May you find peace in the love you shared.##imported-begin##Nancy Watson##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ As a parent of a freshman at the University of Delaware I can only imagine the pain and heartbreak you must be going through. It's a parent's worst nightmare. My heartfelt condolences to you. Though my daughter did not know yours, Rachel's death has impacted her life. Though the circumstances of your daughter's death have not been fully publicized, it has made the students aware of the need to travel in groups - to have at least one person on whom you can depend.
There are no words that can lessen the pain you must be going through. I am so very sorry.##imported-begin##Eileen R.##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I read the article about your daughter and I am deeply sorry for your tragedy. She was such a beautiful young lady with a great future. Words cannot express the sadness that is in your hearts. All I know is in this world that we live in, things happen that are very sad, unexplainable and beyond our control, that is why we rely on our faith. I am very sorry for your loss.

Mark##imported-begin##M. Lewis##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Rachel lived below me in Pencader and I went out to eat with her one of our first days at Delaware. She was one of the nicest girls I knew here and I was so glad that I met her so soon. She was so much fun to be around and always had a smile on her face. She will be greatly missed here at Delaware and I'm praying for your family every day.##imported-begin##Lauren Greer##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Payne Family, I am a faculty member in the Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management Program at the University of Delaware, as well as an alum of the University. I did not have the pleasure of meeting Rachel, however, I wanted to express my true grief and sorrow about your loss. I become very close to all of my students. We have had the tragedy of losing students from our program and it is a devastating experience to everyone. You, as well as Rachel, are in my prayers. It is wonderful that a fund will be set up in her honor. My hope is that her talent will be passed on to others through her spirit and live on forever. Sincerely, Debbie Ellingsworth##imported-begin##Debbie Ellingsworth##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Rachel was a beautiful, talented, and kind person who will forever be in my heart. It is such a shame that her life was cut short. My thoughts, prayers, and sympathy go out to those who have lost her. Rachel- you will always be remembered and deeply missed.##imported-begin##Colby Wyckoff##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Even though I did not know Rachel when hearing of her tragedy I prayed for her and you the family. Reading about how talent she was and what she could have offered really touched me. I can not image your pain and loss. I hope her memories live on. I get a visual after seeing her beautiful picture up in heaven doing glorious artwork for the Lord. God bless you and keep you in this unbearable time. Gwen Jones###imported-begin##Gwen Jones###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Family of Rachel Payne...I am sorry for your loss i didn't know your daughter personally but i know that she was a great person..and i can only say that i wish i were able to trade places cause i know she has a wonderful family who will always love her...i live here in delaware and i am trying to put things in order to where i can make it for the ceremony. I also would like to speak with the parents of Rachel about putting a memorial plot in the delaware area for their daughter so please contact me anytime.###imported-begin##Matt Negrepont###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Nancy,

Words cannot express how deeply saddened I was to hear of your daughter Rachel's sudden death. What a remarkable person she was, and what a beautiful tribute was made to her in the newspaper! I haven't seen you in awhile, ever since I left the Simsbury Tennis House, but I just wanted you to know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. May God grant you the strength to get you through this tragedy. Take care of yourself, Nancy.

Kim Grogan###imported-begin###Kim Grogan###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Family of Rachel,

Most heart felt condolences for you in this overwhelming loss. As a member of U of D faculty, let me say that this weighs heavily on our hearts and you are all in our thoughts and our prayers.

Sincerely,

Deb. Detzel

English Language Institute, UD###imported-begin###Deborah Detzel###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *I work at the University of Delaware and just wanted my sympathy acknowledged to the family. I am very sorry for your loss. From what I have read. You must have been very proud of your daughter, she had so much to offer. I wish the best for you and your entire family at this sad time in your lives.###imported-begin###Holly Williamson###imported-end##*

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Words cannot express the deep sorrow in my heart upon hearing the tragic death of your daughter. I am a sophomore at U of D and although I was not acquainted with Rachel, I have only heard the most bright and wonderful things about her. I hope you can find some comfort in knowing the ripple effect your daughter has had on people she never knew here at the University. Your family is in my prayers. May God give the strength to cope.##imported-begin##Lynsey Schoonover##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



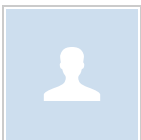
“ My heartfelt condolences to the family. Having lost a stepson at age 19 in a tragic car accident 1993, my husband and I know the grief you are experiencing. Our prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Mary##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am a senior at the University of Delaware and I did not know Rachel but the news of her death deeply saddened me. My older sister, a recent UD graduate, was killed in a car accident on Christmas Eve and my entire family is heartbroken by her absence, as no doubt you are by Rachel's. My family grieves with yours and you are all in our prayers.##imported-begin##Katherine Begor##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am terribly sorry to hear about your tradgic loss. May God be with you and your family.##imported-begin##Amy Gonzales##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill,

I was devastated by the tragic news in the Hartford Courant this morning. My heart goes out to you and your family.

I lost a brother that was 2 years younger than me, while he attended Rochester Institute of Technology. That was back in 1981. It was a shock to my family too. When I read in the newspaper that you were doing yard work when they came to tell you, tears filled my eyes as I remember my parents saying how they too were just doing chores around the house when our hometown police officer came knocking on our door with the news of my brother's death.

Only time will ease your pain. Hold tight to your memories and know that you were blessed to share life with Rachel, however short it seemed.

Sending you peace in your time of sorrow.

*Bonnie Christopher
formerly of Granby##imported-begin##Bonnie
Christopher##imported-end##*

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am very sorry to hear and read of your lost. To read about your daughters accomplishment our over welling. What wonderful young lady. May God and friends help your family through this sadden times.##imported-begin##Deborah A. Williams##imported-end##*

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I did not know Rachel, but I just want to send my condolences to the friends and family. I know that she is in heaven watching over us all. As a freshman girl at UD I have learned alot from tradgedy as, I'm sure, many others have. My prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Simma Rosner##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Although I did not know Rachel I want your family to know that I am keeping you in my thoughts and prayers. Two years ago I lost two best friends in a tragic car accident and it was a very tough time in my life. I know you must have been very proud of Rachel and all of her accomplishments. This is a very tough time for you but I want you to know that I along with thousands of other UD students are keeping you in our hearts. God Bless.##imported-begin##Kate Dieffenbach##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of your tragic loss of your loved one. Rachel is in my thoughts and prayers. She is now with God in a far better place then we are. My thought and prayers are with you all as well.##imported-begin##Kristin Huxta##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Although we didn't know your beautiful daughter, we would like to express our sympathy. We have a daughter at UD in her junior year and can't even imagine losing her in such a tragic way. A parent can never really know what it's like to lose a child until it happens. We are so sorry that you have had to experience such a loss. We have said a prayer for Rachel today and hope this gives you a bit of comfort.##imported-begin##Allevi Family##imported-end##

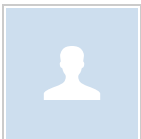
September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To Rachel's Family:

I am the parent of a freshman at UD too. I can not even begin to imagine your pain and sorrow. Please know that my deepest sympathies go out to your family for your beautiful daughter. Rachel seemed exceptional in every sense of the word. May you cherish her wonderful memory forever. She will be sadly missed by all.##imported-begin##Denise Wolfe##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am truly sorry for the loss you have suffered. I have only known Rachel for a short period of time, but I will never forget all the wonderful memories we have shared together at Delaware. Rachel was a beautiful, funny, and talented girl. I will be keeping her and your family in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Elizabeth Sulick##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Payne family: Please know that the loss of Rachel is a tragic loss for all of us as parents, especially parents of the Hall High Class of 2004, as the West Hartford community, and the world at large. We have very fond memories of Rachel from the town softball league and ballet classes. Peace to Rachel. Peace to you.##imported-begin##Paige Farnham & Bob Miller##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ The University of Delaware is unique in that although it is large and diverse, the campus community is like a family when biological families are miles away. Therefore, upon news of Rachel's passing, a united wave of sadness washed over the school because every student here makes UD what it is and Rachel was undoubtedly a member of our UD family. As a senior here, I have never had the privilege of meeting Rachel but I have a sister who just started Freshman year of college and I also remember the excitement of beginning the semester a few years ago. While Rachel's death was unexpected and undeniably tragic, if she had to go to Heaven so young, I'm glad she was able to experience the initial energy of Freshman year at UD and that God blessed our UD family with her presence, temporary though it was. While no one can possibly quell the unspeakable pain Rachel's family is feeling, hopefully they will find an element of peace in knowing they raised a daughter who touched people with her personality and talent in life and though physically no longer here, will continue to be part of her UD family.##imported-begin##Erin##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I did not know Rachel, but I am a student at the University of Delaware and I just wanted to send my condolences to the family and friends, and may God be with you in your time of sorrow. God Bless###imported-begin##LaVante' Dorsey###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Even though I have never met Rachel, I am deeply saddened for the loss of your family. I heard about the tragedy days afterward, but I find myself thinking about this talented, young woman all the time afterwards. I truly wish I could have known her. Please accept my deepest sympathies.###imported-begin##Marissa Daidone###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Payne Family-
My deepest condolences go out to you at a very difficult time. Although I never knew Rachel, through friends I have heard of how special and amazing a person she was. Her presence will surely be missed, but the memory of a talented, beautiful young woman will live on in the hearts of all she's touched.###imported-begin##Allie Kloepfer###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am deeply sorry that this pain has come upon your family but she is finally at her true home with God. May you be together forever when the time comes.

~Brian Best~###imported-begin##Brian Best###imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill, Vivian and I are heartsick to learn of the loss of Rachael, so bright, vibrant, beautiful, and full of life. Priests tell us that it is a mystery why the good die young but in Ecclesiastes we learn that God takes certain pure souls who have a lock on salvation to prevent them from losing it later in life. When you look at the sky at twilight, you will see your artist helping God paint His sunset.##imported-begin##Joe Krakol & Vivian Russek##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ The Paynes:
I am so sorry to hear of what happened, and am just in shock. I have amazing memories with Rachel from our days on Thomson Road together. If it was riding in a red battery jeep up and down the street, or swinging on the treehouse out back, or dousing pinecones with perfume to sell to old ladies on the street, she always has a special place in my heart. She was such a kindred person to me and she will always be remembered fondly.

Much love,

Laura##imported-begin##Laura MacGougan##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I was shocked when I heard about Rachel. Although I never really got to know her. I had seen her smiling as she walked through the hallways. She will always remain in my thoughts.##imported-begin##Jen Elman##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Bill & Nancy:
We can not begin to completely understand your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Andrew.
Dennis, Tammy, Andrew & Erica###imported-begin##The Joy Family###imported-end##*

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Payne Family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.###imported-begin##Andrew Joy###imported-end##*

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Payne Family,
My thoughts and prayers are truly with you in this time of need and always.
Sincerely,
Erica Joy###imported-begin##Erica Joy###imported-end##*

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Family of Rachel Payne,
I am a sophomore at UD and although I did not have the pleasure of knowing your daughter, it saddened me to hear about what happened. Whenever a young person is taken from the world it always puts things in perspective for me that life is too short and unpredictable and that we need to make the most of it. Reading about Rachel I know that she made the most of her life and touched so many people, even people that didn't know her, including myself. A close family friend who was 23 died in a car accident in January and his death greatly effected our community, as Rachel's death has effected the UD community. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.##imported-begin##Kelly Balczuk##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Payne Family,
Although I never got the chance to meet your daughter, I am deeply saddened by her death. I am a JR at the University of Delaware and would like to express how her passing has deeply affected my friends and I. Just remember although she may not be here with us, her memory will live on and I know that I personally will never forget this tragic event. My prayers are with your family in this time of your sorrow.##imported-begin##Jennifer##imported-end##

September 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ We know of no words and have no life experiences to draw on to help us express our sorrow, our grief and our condolences to you. Your nightmare of a year can get no worse and you will hopefully gain some strength from the knowledge that friends, family and acquaintances care about all of you.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Bob, Rhonda and Jimmy Sattin##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Payne family, we send our love and condolences to you at this painful time in you're lives. Rachel was a beautiful young lady with her whole life ahead of her, and for this we are thankful to have known her. She will be sadly missed.##imported-begin##Brent, Eduardo & Rosemary Marcelino##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Payne Family-
I am so so sorry for your loss. Rachel was a beautiful girl in every way possible. I remember our summers of walks and bike rides like they were yesterday. Those memories made my childhood. There are no words to express how much Rachel will be missed. I feel blessed to have known her and will miss her. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Love.##imported-begin##Jessica Markowitz##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bill and Family,

I am saddened to learn of your great loss and I wish to extend my sympathy to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Gates##imported-begin##Michael Gates##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ DEAR NANCY,BILL,AND ANDREW,
I AM SO TERRIBLY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. PLEASE KNOW
THAT I RECOGNIZED WHAT AN EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG
WOMAN RACHEL WAS.
I WII REMEMBER HER FONDLY.
SHE WILL BE FOREVER IN MY HEART.
PHYLLIS MCGUIRE##imported-begin##PHYLLIS
MCGUIRE##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Bill, Nancy & Andrew,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this most tragic time. In Rachel's short time in this world she made big footprints on all our hearts. We don't pretend to know what you are feeling, but please know that we care deeply.##imported-begin##Gary, Kathy, Dana, Steve Hunt##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am a student at the University of Delaware and I had never met your daughter Rachel, but from looking at her picture and reading the obituary from Molloy Funeral Home, I can tell how beautiful and talented she was. I know she will be greatly missed. My thoughts are with you and your family in this time of loss.##imported-begin##Catherine Perasso##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I did not know Rachel, but I am sure she was a beautiful young woman and a joy to know. My heart truly goes out to her entire family. You have my deepest sympathies.##imported-begin##Tya Pope##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Nancy and family, I never met Rachel but your smile when you talked about her, at the tennis club, let me know how special she was. I'm so sorry for your loss and wanted you to know that my thoughts are with you at this very sad time. Fondly, Linda Miller##imported-begin##Linda Daniels-Miller##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to all of your family. I have a freshman daughter, Elizabeth at UD and can only imagine that you are inconsolable. May God give all of you the strength to somehow heal from this terrible tragedy. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. May her beautiful spirit live on in all of you.
Sincerely,
Debbie Zaleski###imported-begin##Debbie Zaleski###imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Payne Family-
I just wanted to say how truly sorry I am to hear about Rachel. While I didn't know her well I played soccer with her and worked at LoxStock for a little while with her. She was an amazing girl and I can't begin to imagine what you are going through. I will always remember her. My prayers are with your family.###imported-begin##Megan Lemp###imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My condolences to you on the loss of your loved one. Words cannot convey the sadness that I feel. It is always sad to lose someone you love especially one so young. May your memories of her help to see you through these trying times.###imported-begin##Ms. D. Chapman###imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathies are with the parents, brother, grandparents and the rest of the family. We hope and pray that God would comfort you and give you peace at this time of tragic and untimely loss.*

We are the parents of a son who is a freshman at the University of Delaware.##imported-begin##Rajeev & Maxin Dhanawade##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mr. and Mrs. Payne:

I know that no words can express the loss of your daughter, but I read about the incident in the newspaper and have seen Rachel before on campus. I wanted to express my sincerest condolences to you and your entire family. If there is anything I can do to help your family please feel free to contact me. I am extremely saddened by the death of your daughter and I wish there was something that I could do to help out with anything.

Although I did not know Rachel extremely well, I still feel extremely bad about the situation and would be eager to help you and your family deal with this terrible tragedy.

My email address is jnorris@udel.edu if you need to reach me.

I express my sincere condolences to you and the entire Payne family. I believe that Rachel was an extremely important woman and artist, and no sentiment or condolence will ever be able to express the emotion of her loss.

In closing, I just want to say that Rachel will be missed by me always. I will never see her again and it has broken my heart. I did say a prayer for her last night and I cried and I hope that she is always remembered by everyone at the University of Delaware. A loss such as Rachel's can not be expressed in words or sentiments.

In remembrance of Rachel and all of her accomplishments,

Jason R. Norris

jnorris@udel.edu##imported-begin##Jason R. Norris##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the Payne family. I can't even begin to imagine the pain you are all feeling. Rachel was in my drawing class last year in which i had gotten to know her and her art. She was an amazingly sweet and talented girl. She will be deepy missed and remembered forever.##imported-begin##Sabina Alikhanov##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Family & Friends of Rachel,
I am so sorry for your tragic loss. As a parent of a UDEL student I can't imagine what words to use to be of comfort to you.I can say,that you and your beautiful daughter Rachel,will be in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, P. Russo/family.##imported-begin##Patricia Russo RN##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My daughter, Lauren, lives in Pencader. Some saddness is beyond expression. I feel we have all lost something by not having the opportunity to know Rachel, and to see her creativity flourish at UD. Please know that our family is praying for you all. Our hearts go out to you.##imported-begin##Kerry Greer##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



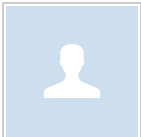
“ To the Payne Family,
I too am a student at the University of Delaware and never met your daughter, but I still wanted to send my deepest sympathy for your family and her friends during this difficult time. A parent should never have to go through this, but please know that those at UD will always be here to help in any way we can.##imported-begin##Jacqueline Scott##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am deeply sorry that such a tragedy happened to such a young girl. I am the president of a fraternity at the University of Delaware and I promise that I will work to provide a safe ride program that allows students to obtain free rides home instead of having to walk. I will pray for your daughter, even though I did not know her. The entire Greek community feels the loss of a young women who had so much of her life ahead of her.##imported-begin##Giancarlo Villanella##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your daughter. Our daughter is a freshman at U of Del and an art major. She has heard wonderful things about your daughter. Our prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Debbie and Shlomo Lang##imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I'm a junior at UD. Although I did not have the privelege of knowing your daughter Rachel, I've heard and read so many great things about how talented she was in art. My thoughts and prayers are with your family and friends during this difficult time...
-Christina###imported-begin###Christina Mack###imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear The Payne Family,
I am a JR at UD, and even though I never got to meet Rachel, I feel like I lost someone in my family. I am so sad by her loss. I want you to know that she is still with us here at UD in sprit. Words can not express what you are going through, but know that we here at Delaware pray for you and Rachel everyday. She is in a better place now and will look down upon Delaware and West Hartford Conn, and make sure things are going right. My thoughts and prayers are with you in this tough time.

Saul Rafel-Frankel
Jr. University of Delaware###imported-begin###Saul Rafel-Frankel###imported-end##

September 14, 2004 at 12:00 AM