

Angela Nicole Nicklas of rural St. Charles: Services for Angela Nicole Nicklas, 'Angel Nicole Sunflower,' age 7, will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, at Hosannah Lutheran Church, Crane and Randall Roads, St. Charles. The Rev. Barry Scott will officiate. Born Aug. 8, 1991, in Elmhurst, she died early Sunday, May 16, 1999, surrounded by her loving family. Angela and her family had previously made their home in Bloomingdale and Glendale Heights before moving to rural St. Charles in 1998. She was a vibrant child, even as an infant. With her ready smile and the twinkle in her eyes, she made friends easily. With Angela, each day was more than an adventure, it was a full-blown expedition in which she was the lead explorer. It was a way of life that continued when cancer entered her world. From diagnosis to treatment, trips to the hospital and test after test, Angela endured with a resilient spirit that refused to stay sad. She enjoyed reading Arthur books, excelled at art and Tae Kwon Do, but swimming was her favorite pastime. Even when receiving treatments, she was determined to ride her bike, so her mom ran along beside her, IV bag in hand. Angela loved her American Girl dolls and enjoyed playing with her older sister, Jaclyn. Angela knew what lay ahead and prepared herself, as well as everyone else, for the day she would become an 'angel.' Her friends in Mrs. Taylor's second grade at Wasco Grade School knew her as a classmate with an outgoing, tell-it-like-it-is attitude than never let them dwell on the reality that cancer would take her life. What was always more important was what they would do together with every single moment they shared. Though her illness often made her the center of attention, she never forgot to share with her sister when gifts were given. Understanding illness, she was also very kind and considerate of others who suffered and she was filled with a wisdom well beyond her years. Her observations and conclusions often caught adults by surprise. She could sum up the meaning of life in a single sentence and then go on to matters of the moment with barely a breath in between. Surviving are her mother, Ingela (Robert) Hooker of St. Charles; sister, Jaclyn; maternal grandmother, Agneta Josefsson of Sweden; the Hooker family; several aunts and uncles; her godparents, Diane and Mark; and many friends at school, at home, and at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. Visitation will be from 3 p.m. until the time of services at 7 p.m. Tuesday, at the church. Contributions in Angela's memory may be mailed to her mother, c/o PO Box 66, Elburn, IL 60119. Arrangements were made by Conley Funeral Home, Elburn. For information, (630) 365-6414.

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