



“I Just Lost My Friend . . .”

A life cut way too short



Cancer is a cruel and, often, under-terred force. And, pancreatic cancer may be its most insidious and deadly iteration. It is hard, if not impossible, to diagnose, and generally, once the disease is discovered, it's grip is so powerful that treatment oftentimes yields few results.

Pancreatic cancer has claimed a number of famous and high-profile victims - actors Patrick Swayze and Michael Landon, singer Luciano Pavarotti, composer Henry Mancini, astronaut Sally Ride, actress Donna Reed, anthropologist Margaret Mead and Apple Computer founder, Steve Jobs.

And, now, it has taken my friend, Kasey.

Sandye and I found out Kasey was sick last July 5, 2014. We were coming back from a trip to the beach when Sandye saw a Facebook message on her cell phone announcing Kasey's diagnosis. At first we thought it might be a cruel hoax - in fact, we HOPED it was a hoax. But, after making a handful of phone calls, we learned that it was true.

Kasey, and her husband Kevin, immediately began an intensive and furious investigation into treatment

options. This search had them traveling to different parts of the country; even venturing outside the U.S. seeking help.



And Kasey fought! She fought harder than anyone I have ever known. Her strength, resolve and courage in the face of looming odds is what I will remember most about her struggle.

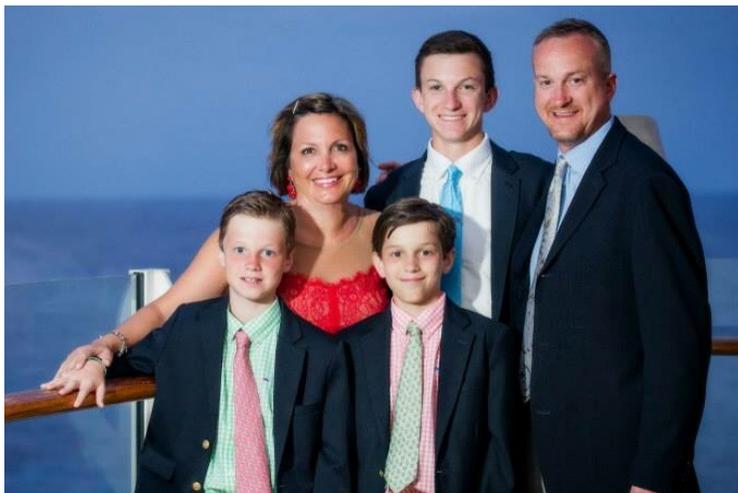
What I will also remember is the remarkable way she touched others

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Team Member Profile:

Colleen Collins

Meet Colleen Collins, the newest member on our team! Colleen grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. She attended Gilmour Academy where she was on the tennis team. After graduation, she headed east to attend Fairfield University in



Connecticut. There she continued her interest in tennis, playing on the university's team and enjoyed the wonderful lifestyle of living on the Long Island Sound! She graduated with a BS in Business Management.

During her time in college, she was able to participate in a summer training program back in her hometown, and acquire work experience as an intern at National City Bank. For two summers she interned for the bank and was eventually offered a full-time position upon graduation. It's no surprise that she jumped at the chance to head back home because she had met her husband, Paul during her

summers in Cleveland. Soon after graduation Colleen and Paul tied the knot. Fast forward 20 years, they now have three boys; Will, who is a Junior at Starr's Mill High School, and who has ambitions to someday play college baseball; Zach an 8th grader at Rising Star Middle School, who enjoys golf, basketball and computers; and Ryan, a sixth grader at The Bedford School who enjoys swimming, basketball and soccer. With a houseful of boys and all their activities, both Colleen and Paul have their weekends filled!

So what exactly does the newest member of our team do? Colleen is our Senior Case Manager and it's her job to compile all the necessary research that Ray will need as he prepares for your appointments. All totaled, she has 21 years of financial services industry experience, most recently as a client executive for Citigroup. In our office, she also works on special projects, prepares insurance quotes and Social Security benefit analysis. It's not uncommon for her to reach out to you, should she need additional information as she collects her data. So, if you receive a phone call from Colleen, know that she is busy assisting Ray as he manages your financial plan.

**"Marry a man your own age
. as your beauty fades, so will his eyesight."**

~ Phyllis Diller



Ask Jennifer

Q. What are your office hours and when is the best time to drop something off?

A. Our office hours are Monday - Thursday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm and Friday from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. And feel free to stop by! We always love to see our clients! If, however, you need to bring something by, but can't make it during our office hours, we do have a secure drop-box. It is located just outside the first set of doors to our office, mounted on one of the pillars on our front porch.



Kasey . . .

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with her charm, warmth and, above all, her sense of humor.

The last time we saw Kasey was in New Orleans this past April. She and Kevin were there to celebrate Kevin's birthday and their wedding anniversary. The highlight of the weekend was Kevin's "Roast," with his good friends poking fun and making jokes at his expense. But Kasey, as one of the presenters, easily stole the show! She spent about fifteen minutes rib-



bing her husband unmercifully with the kind of wit and sarcasm that truly drew people to her.

In fact, there were over 50 people who traveled to New Orleans to be a part of this joint celebration - one more indication of just how universally she was loved.

Now, Kasey wore many hats - she was our next-door neighbor for about four years; she was a business owner and an entrepreneur, starting her own H.R. Consulting business; she served on the Board of our Homeowner's association for two years . . . but the most important role she took on was that of a Mom.

Kasey and Kevin have two extraordinary little girls, Kasin and Karson, now six and five, respectively. And, as sad as it is to think about them growing up without their mother, the extended "village" that Kasey established through her family and, especially, her remarkable network of friends (including Sandye and me) will all be on board to help in any and every possible way.

And, true to her nature, Kasey did not want a traditional funeral. Instead, there will be a celebration of her life sometime this Fall. Honestly, that is how we will all remember her - laughing, joking and surrounded by friends and loved ones.

Kasey Shana Jones Obariski
1968 - 2015

Ray



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Hope everyone had a wonderful summer and your children and grandchildren have made it back to school safely. Thanks for sharing all of your adventures with us during these past few months...you make retirement look so easy!! We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new clients and a special thanks to our friends who have introduced them to us. **Jennifer Wilkerson** (Fayetteville), **Ginny Smith** (Peachtree City) and **Christina Martin** (Peachtree City). **Ann & Ed Williams** (Peachtree City) welcomed a new grandson, Ryan Parker Williams, weighing in at 6lbs 10ozs. Ryan and big brother Brady are doing great! Ann was also able to enjoy a New England/Canada cruise with her twin sister Marie and their friend Robbie.

Cheryll Billups (Atlanta) married **Charles Hammonds** on July 4th and had a beautiful celebration with their friends and family in Atlanta. They're also thrilled with the birth of their newest granddaughter, Marlowe. **Kay & James Heard** (Waco) are head over heels with the birth of their newest granddaughter Lyndi Caroline Lovvorn. Lyndi weighed 7lbs 15 oz and big sister Lily is as proud as ever. **Joe & Sandy Romino** (Waconia, MN) are proud to announce the June 7th arrival of their grandson Blake Aaron Johnson weighing in at 8 lbs 3 ozs. **Jim & Penny Hyman** (Peachtree City) just welcomed their 3rd grandchild Dylan Harrison. Dylan weighed 7 lbs 13 ozs ... **Carlton & Libby Floyd** (Newnan) enjoyed 12 fun filled days in California, **Tim & Barbara Chowns** (Carrollton) had a wonderful trip to Iceland, **Robert & Lisa Smith** (Newnan) headed to Cancun, Mexico to celebrate their 30th Wedding Anniversary. **Tom & Dot Richardson** (Douglasville) enjoyed a Caribbean cruise, **Abe & Lynn Winters** (Fayetteville) enjoyed a road trip down the Pacific Coast Highway. Abe, a professional tree climber, planned to climb a tree in both Oregon and Washington State this summer - this will make all 48 contiguous states! Congratulations **Glen & Jeanne Brewer** (Fayetteville) on your 65th Wedding anniversary. Family and friends from near and far arrived in Atlanta to share in the celebration! So what's been happening around the office? **Ray & Sandye's** daughter Jessica just got engaged! The bride and groom are planning a May wedding. Ray & Sandye also enjoyed a little R&R in Ray's hometown of Rochester, NY. **Allison & Ryan** have two new twin nieces, Blair and Bailey. **Jennifer** headed to Boston for some extended training, **Colleen & Paul** both went back to their hometowns for some fun and good eats! And my husband **Brian** and I visited our daughter, Katie and son-in-law, James in New Mexico. We hope everyone enjoys the very last bit of summer as we look forward to pulling out our fall sweaters, watching the leaves change color and enjoying a little football!

Linda's News & Notes

Linda