



## Melanie M. Bierma

November 7, 1977 - April 8, 2003

On April 8, 2003, she went to Heaven to dance with Jesus. Melanie is survived by her parents, Richard and Jewyl Bierma; sister, Caroline Bierma; brother, Caleb Bierma; maternal grandmother, Marie Marsh; paternal grandparents, Raymond and Selma Bierma; many aunts, uncles, cousins and loving friends. Friends may call Friday, 2-4, 7-9 PM at the Anthony Funeral Chapel 1031 Ridge Road, WEBSTER. You are invited to bring a written memory or favorite photograph of Melanie for the family's Memory Book. A Funeral Service will be held Saturday, 11 AM at the Webster Christian Reformed Church, 1344 State Road, Webster, NY. Interment will be private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Attn: Parent/Infant Pre-School Services, 3417 Volta Place NW, Washington, DC 20007-2778.

# Events

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**APR** **Visitation** 12:00AM - 12:00AM

**11**

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Webster Christian Reformed Church  
1344 State Rd., Webster, NY, US, 14580

**APR** **Visitation** 11:00AM - 11:00AM

**12**

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Webster Christian Reformed Church  
1344 State Rd., Webster, NY, US, 14580

# Comments

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“ Dear Melanie, Why is this year so much harder than past??? Can not quite answer that one. Well, either way, I miss you. I miss having a sister. I miss our conversations, and I miss the way you made me laugh. I am sure you are able to look down and see your nieces. Can you see the personality resemblance in Olivia.. (rolling eyes) haha. Maylin is getting big. I feel bad they will never be able to meet you here on Earth. Your friends have had lovely and sweet things to say about you on Facebook. You are remembered, and there are many people grieving and remembering today. I miss you SO much. Save a room next to you for me :) Love, your sis.

Caroline - April 08, 2010 at 06:02 PM

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“ Hi Melanie, 6 years ago today, huh. Some days it seems like it was so recent, but other days, it seems so long ago. I guess every day it gets further away. I think about you every day, still see you sometime when I look in the mirror... I am so thankful that I have no doubt where you ended up. I can imagine you and Jesus are inseperable up there, I bet you do special projects for him. I miss you every day. Let God know Grandma is ready to come home to you, Grandpa and Jesus. I love you, Lisa

Lisa Thomas - April 08, 2009 at 12:51 PM

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“ so, i have not written in a while, sorry. I thought i would let you know you randomly popped in my head right now and i just wanted to write this and tell you that i miss you the same as i always have and love you! Olivia is something and i often think about how you and her would get along. you and her are both strong willed. ;) She signs more, please, and help. her kisses and hugs are wonderful, and i wish you could be here to experience them. well i miss you melanie and i miss our weekend trouble making. I love you.

your sister - December 07, 2008 at 06:18 AM

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“ Hi Melanie. It's been kinda lonely at holidays without you. sometimes I look at myself in the mirror and see you. It makes me happy. I never realized that we actually have some of the same features. I wish I could have gone to your funeral, but you know that. Grandma is ready to be with you and Grandpa. I know you will lead her home one of these days soon. I miss you. I love you.

Lisa - October 21, 2008 at 12:25 PM

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“ Hey sis! Well it's been five years now. How is heaven, well i guess thats a stupid question. Anyways, you have a neice now which i am assuming you have noticed. Did you know she signs " more " though now she uses it for everything. Don't you worry, she will never grow up not knowing who were, cause you were my best friend! I miss you terribly, though I can't wait to meet you up there. I saw a Third Day concert with dad, you would have liked it... ( with ear plugs in he he he ) Well sis, tell everyone I said hi! I love you! Caroline

Caroline - April 09, 2008 at 12:31 AM

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“ Back on April 14th, the Canisius crew got together. There were seven of us for dinner plus one empty chair. (Michelle, Tom, Sue, Christina, Megan, Cori and me) It made me smile b/c I know you were there, laughing at all of our craziness and rolling your eyes. It was fun to remember the craziness of our year at Canisius. Like the time I stabbed myself with a Swiss Army knife and came to your room laughing hysterically. I still think of you often and know it's you who kicks my butt when I get frustrated w/ teaching. At your memorial, your dad told me "to take care of those kids, cause it's what Melanie would have wanted." I try to remember that everyday. I think of you often.

Marcia - May 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM

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“ Hey there Melanie, I thought I would type you a messege just saying "hi". I guess it is a little diferent seeing as how we would always converse on IM together. Well, Melanie....I havn't given up yet. I keep pushing through. I can hear you say.."You can't give up yet. You don't know what God has in store for you. You have to keep pushing." I must admitt that it hasn't been easy. I struggle every day, though I find that God has granted me the strength, wisdom, and humbleness to keep trying. I often think about you when I think about my future. What would you say to me now? Would you be proud? It is so hard to not be able to hear and remember your voice, your laughter, your touch. I am getting baptized two days after your two year aniversary. I wish you could be there to hear my testimony. I wish you could help me sign in church. You would love the praise band. You talent of bringing communication into worlds so silent has gracfully slid into my shoes at work often. People always ask me where I learned to sign. Everytime I tell them of my sister to dutifully taught me, though it started to just have a way to talk in church. Well Melanie, You don't know how much I miss you. Stay close to me in this tough times K? Love you you sis

you sis - April 06, 2005 at 04:52 AM

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“ It will be 2 years April 8 since my Melanie died. \*\*\*\*\* To My Lovely Purple Girl: Every day as Praise songs flow from my radio on the way to work I think of you. The songs to my Lord are our connection. You gave me a love for much of the current Christian music. Caleb and his friends wrecked my Praise Cd you gave me with the player. I have to find a new copy. I should have learned from you. You always used a copy, not the original. Thank you so much for the Boom Box. I use it in my work shop. Your presence is there whenever the music is on. Third Day has become my favorite. Your sister has been struggling again. She misses you. She hasn't laughed the same since you went home to live with our Lord Jesus. Someone at Sunday School today had memorized John 14:1-2 and I was reminded of the day we placed your earthly body in the ground. Your cousin Terri described how she told her boys about you leaving. She made it so beautiful. "your room was ready". What does it look like? I miss you creative decorating. I miss that contagious laughter. I remember the strong hugs that you gave me when Caroline was sick. I can't smell raspberry hand cream or soap without seeing you in my mind. I cried with the Bank clerk the other day because she had purple on and had a purple flower on her desk. She wanted to know about you. We still get mail from so many deaf ed places. Getting the mail can make me cry. Your purple dishes are still around the house. They say "Melanie" on them in the way only you could write. Grandpa Bierma talks about you often. You got your Bierma looks from him.....Sorry. We received a nice gift from Harv and Sue in remembrance of you. It was another donation to the Alexander Graham Bell Foundation. I want to get there to talk with them about their work. You would have loved to show me. I remember our trip to Washington DC. I am glad for those memories. I ride through Brighton some times and see the street bench on Monroe AVe that we would sit on as we took our walks each evening. We would talk to the cars. Just like sitting on the top of the swing set I made in the yard and us talking to the garage roof. Maybe I contributed to your crazy sense of humor. Your loving friend Tania has been faithful in stoping by. She laughs over so many lovely memories of your highscool group. Laurie is off training to go to war as a medic. She has been giving herself to help people like you did. I love your smile. Please dance a dance today for me. Give Jesus my hug. Save some places to investigate with me when I get there. Love , Da Da

Da Da(how I signed my emails} - March 20, 2005 at 09:23 PM

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“ It's hard to believe it's been nearly two years. I haven't even taken you out of my email address book. I think of you often and it's what gets me through the days when I wonder how the heck I ended up teaching the deaf. I was in a bar in Buffalo this summer and heard the mighty Taco jingle and burst into tears. I miss you. I wonder a lot. Why you and not me. I am planning my 30th birthday party. I hope you'll be there, dancing right along side of me.

Marcia Keefe - January 20, 2005 at 05:08 PM

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“ You are truly the friend of a wounded heart....sometimes I used to wonder why God gave me an unusually long memory, a gift especially for details. Now I know, but I'd rather just still have you. Maybe that is selfish of me Melanie...but I miss you. I do know though, that when I listen to Wayne in my car, that you are singing with me. Remember that you sing the first verse, and I sing the second one for "Almighty", and it is the other way around for "Home Free"! Ha ha. Listening to those songs makes me cry. But it made me remember that you wrote Wayne a letter, that we left behind the strings of his guitar at the concert we went to. So, I wrote him too. I wanted him to know the beauty that you brought into my life, and all the others around you, and where his music now fits into my life, remembering you, and how God brought us together. I miss you. I miss you a lot. If I had been a little less selfish with my time, I may have been able to say these things before. Forgive me friend. There are tears in my eyes even now. I know that you are safe with Jesus, but it is hard to deal with sometimes. You were always there, in a way that I could talk or laugh with you. Now it is silent. No one else really understands. I was in the grocery store, and a friend bumped into me. Wonderful person. But, we were talking about advances in medical care. I mentioned that my father would have had another sister, but she passed away at about 1 week old with Spina Bifida. I went on in my sentence talking about you and how miracles really do happen, and thanks to God, you were able to live and change all of our lives. That person looked at me as if they wanted to respond but, were afraid to go on. Why are they afraid Melanie? You are physically gone, and maybe God is teaching me things in all of this, but you were never really gone. You are a part of my daily life. A part that no one can take from me, and that no one else could give either. But it is up to me, to talk and reach out with your name and memory continuously in my own circles. This is not the way I would've preferred to learn some things about friendship and God, but I will not allow the message to go unnoticed. That is the best way I can think to honor you now, my sister. Thank you for a life of memories and gifts of love. I will always save a verse for you, when I belt out Wayne Watson in my car, or in the house...I promise you that. You are the best friend I have ever had. I love you Melanie.

Laurie Cappadonia - April 21, 2004 at 08:23 PM

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“ You are truly the friend of a wounded heart....sometimes I used to wonder why God gave me an unusually long memory, a gift especially for details. Now I know, but I'd rather just still have you. Maybe that is selfish of me Melanie...but I miss you. I do know though, that when I listen to Wayne in my car, that you are singing with me. Remember that you sing the first verse, and I sing the second one for "Almighty", and it is the other way around for "Home Free"! Ha ha. Listening to those songs makes me cry. But it made me remember that you wrote Wayne a letter, that we left behind the strings of his guitar at the concert we went to. So, I wrote him too. I wanted him to know the beauty that you brought into my life, and all the others around you, and where his music now fits into my life, remembering you, and how God brought us together. I miss you. I miss you a lot. If I had been a little less selfish with my time, I may have been able to say these things before. Forgive me friend. There are tears in my eyes even now. I know that you are safe with Jesus, but it is hard to deal with

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Laurie Cappadonia - April 21, 2004 at 08:19 PM

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“ You are truly the friend of a wounded heart....sometimes I used to wonder why God gave me an unusually long memory, a gift especially for details. Now I know, but I'd rather just still have you. Maybe that is selfish of me Melanie...but I miss you. I do know though, that when I listen to Wayne in my car, that you are singing with me. Remember that you sing the first verse, and I sing the second one for "Almighty", and it is the other way around for "Home Free"! Ha ha. Listening to those songs makes me cry. But it made me remember that you wrote Wayne a letter, that we left behind the strings of his guitar at the concert we went to. So, I wrote him too. I wanted him to know the beauty that you brought into my life, and all the others around you, and where his music now fits into my life, remembering you, and how God brought us together. I miss you. I miss you a lot. If I had been a little less selfish with my time, I may have been able to say these things before. Forgive me friend. There are tears in my eyes even now. I know that you are safe with Jesus, but it is hard to deal with sometimes. You were always there, in a way that I could talk or laugh with you. Now it is silent. No one else really understands. I was in the grocery store, and a member of the WCRC congregation bumped into me. Wonderful person. But, we were talking about advances in medical care. I mentioned that my father would have had another sister, but she passed away at about 1 week old with Spina Bifida. I went on in my sentence talking about you and how miracles really do happen, and thanks to God, you were able to live and change all of our lives. That person looked at me as if he wanted to respond but, was afraid to go on. Why are they afraid Melanie? You are physically gone, and maybe God is teaching me things in all of this, but you were never really gone. You are a part of my daily life. A part that no one can take from me, and that no one else could give either. But it is up to me, to talk and reach out with your name and memory continuously in my own circles. This is not the way I would've preferred to learn some things about friendship and God, but I will not allow the message to go unnoticed. That is the best way I can think to honor you now, my

sister. Thank you for a life of memories and gifts of love. I will always save a verse for you, when I belt out Wayne Watson in my car, or in the house...I promise you that. You are the best friend I have ever had. I love you Melanie.

Laurie Cappadonia - April 21, 2004 at 08:18 PM

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“ One Year, Some people say, "A year. Wow, it's been that long, huh?" Well Melanie. I am missing you and hurting like it was yesterday. I am sure you are still dancing with Jesus. God worked through you, and still does today. You are missed. Loving you Caroline

Your Sister - April 08, 2004 at 01:43 PM

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“ My dear sister, Melanie, I miss you so much. My heart hurts. I look at your picture, and I am trying to tell myself that you see me, and that I am talking to you. I wish you were here to see me through this. I missed you at graduation, I miss telling you about work and school. I miss ultimately the most, laughing with you. I haven't been able to laugh like that since you left. I put you in my speech for graduation, and everytime I see those pictures I think, hey, melanie's missing. You were such a beautiful women of God, and I can only strive to know Him like you. You were my everything, you were my best friend, and though I feel so lost and alone without you, I know that you will never be lonely. Say Hi to God for me sweetie. Dance Melanie, dance. With more love then words can describe, Caroline

your sister - August 14, 2003 at 06:42 PM

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“ Hey everyone, I don't know exactly what to say and that is why I have taken so long. I will always hold many fond memories of Melanie from riding the minibike to the snakes to being the first infant I fed and many others. She is the first person that I have seen from an infant to an adult and my life has been richer having known her. The lord's plans are not known by us however I have to believe that there is a reason for everything. Know that you all are always in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Mike, Lynn, Kristin and Ben

Mike and Lynn - April 26, 2003 at 10:58 PM

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“ God gives us people in our lives that teach us about the true meaning of acceptance and His love. Melanie was one of those people!! She loved life, Loved God, and loved all that she came in contact with. she was a wonderful teacher and a great friend to all who knew her. Although God said her work here was done, and He took her to be with Him, her work continues on here, as her memory continues to touch

and move and change the people who knew her. We will miss Mel and all that she was... Love and Prayers to her family, Jess Meissner Teacher of the Deaf Canisius College/St. Mary's School for the Deaf Class of 2001

**Jess Meissner** - April 25, 2003 at 07:22 PM

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“ I attended SUNY Geneseo with Melanie. I remember her as a kind soul and I wish her peace in heaven.

**lissa** - April 21, 2003 at 03:47 PM

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“ Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bierma, Caroline and Caleb: I'm sure you all know how much I love Melanie and she was one of my closest friends. We met in 8th grade, when I was 13 and we always kept in touch. I remember when we met in technology class that year as we partnered up for a stupid project. Neither of us had much talent for technology, but we learned we had a lot in common and became fast friends. There are so many memories that I have of her; that I always will have. That night we both fell out of the van when we were going to the movies. Me always having to call her to say "which intersection is it to get to your house" when my mom would drive me there. Reading 500 corny jokes at 3 AM. So many things. She touched so many lives and I thank God that she touched mine. God Bless Love, Tania

**Tania Rose** - April 21, 2003 at 03:52 AM

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“ I didn't know Melanie, but I am truly sorry for her families loss. God bless you.

**Cindy Breitfeld** - April 19, 2003 at 12:56 PM

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“ Melanie, She was the one who was always so nice and caring about others. She was always willing to do things for people- like her family and friends. I rememeber all the good times we all had together there. She loved working with the Deaf/HOH kids. You will be deeply missed. Let the Lord embrace you into his life.

**Susan Samson** - April 18, 2003 at 12:50 AM

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“ Dear Rich and Family: We are so very sorry for your great loss. Melanie and your entire family are in our family prayers at this time.



“ Melanie you will be so missed. I know you loved the students you worked with and you have definitely positively touched their lives, and so many others.

Carrie Madalena - April 14, 2003 at 08:20 PM

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“ I knew her from the Christian fellowship at SUNY Geneseo. I remember her sweetness, serenity, and her obvious love for Christ, and I greatly admired her for these qualities. She was one of those who made me feel so welcome when I joined the fellowship.

Julia Epping - April 14, 2003 at 03:04 PM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Rich and his good Christian family at this tragic time. Although we never met Melanie, we can tell by her confident smile that she knew well our best friend, Jesus. We look forward to someday meeting and dancing with Melanie in the Throne room of our King.

Charlie and Nadejda Donegan - April 14, 2003 at 02:43 AM

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“ Dear Rich, Jewyl, Caroline, and Caleb, Our deepest sympathy, love, thoughts, and prayers, are with you during this most difficult of times. May the love of family, friends, and your deep faith sustain and comfort you. We were blessed to have Melanie in our lives for the first eight years of her young life. She was such a wonderful "big sister" to Brooke. Melanie was always there to teach Brooke new things and entertain her for hours. Her bright blue eyes were a reflection of her kind and gentle spirit. We shall keep the memory of your beautiful daughter, Melanie, close to our hearts forever. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. With our love , Steve and Camille

Steve and Camille Taylor - April 14, 2003 at 12:55 AM

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“ Melanie's 23rd birthday, that she received her bible for was spent in Buffalo. All of us residing in SMSD, took her out to dinner for her birthday as a thank you for being so generous when we didn't have phones and she let us check our email so we could connect with the outside world. Her generosity didn't end there - she shared books, class materials, rides when cars died. Her dedication to working with Deaf kids is an inspiration to the rest of us. She will be missed and remembered fondly.

Marcia Keefe - April 12, 2003 at 07:02 PM

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“ We got to know Melanie during the past year through our church, Fulton Alliance. Her love and care for children was immediately evident as she shared about her trip to Ireland to help troubled youth. We were so pleased when Melanie was willing to lead the opening for children's Sunday School and included signing as part of the teaching. She came to our first and second grade classroom just 2 weeks ago to start to teach us how to sign Genesis 1:1 and the 6 days of creation. Had it not been for the ice storm closing church last Sunday, she would have continued until we knew it all. Bob and I are saddened by our loss and our class will be, too. Although we do not understand why our Lord would call Melanie home in the prime of life, we do know He does not make mistakes. Melanie's life has left a lasting impression on many people's lives and because of her, His name is glorified. Sincerely, Bob and Ruth Sheldon

Bob & Ruth Sheldon - April 12, 2003 at 02:12 AM

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“ I didn't know Melanie real well, but I remember the first time I talked with her in the church nursery. She inspired me to keep trying to teach my 1 year old daughter (who can hear) sign language. I went home that afternoon and started teaching her and she learned please and more in 2 days. Also, Melanie had just planned a luncheon for the young adults of our church for last Sunday 4/6, but church was canceled. I am sad that now she will not be around to get the group going. She was such a servant. I don't many other single people who devote themselves so willingly to spreading Jesus' love instead pursuing materialism and personal pleasures like Melanie did. She will be missed.

Liz Zimmerman - April 12, 2003 at 01:29 AM

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“ Dear Rich and Family, Very sorry to hear of the tragic loss of your daughter. My thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time.

Chris Towner - April 11, 2003 at 10:28 PM

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“ I attend the Fulton Alliance Church, and saw Melanie many times. She was ALWAYS smiling, and hurrying to help young people. She was truly a blessing to all who new her. In Christ, Paula Greenwood In Christ, Paula Greenwood

Paula Greenwood - April 11, 2003 at 10:27 PM



“ I will always remember that Melanie was the first person to spark my interest in sign language during high school. She was also my first of several sign language teachers. My thoughts and prayers are with her and her family.

**Kirsten Doehler** - April 11, 2003 at 08:34 PM

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“ Melanie and I had many good memories together over many year. She was an inspiration and encouragement to me during her life. I will miss you, Melanie!

**Rachel VanWagnen** - April 11, 2003 at 07:45 PM

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“ Dear Rich and Family, Please know my thoughts are with you during this time of loss.

**Neva Hoyt** - April 11, 2003 at 06:35 PM

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“ Dear Jewyl, Rich, Caroline & Caleb. You are in my deepest thoughts and prayers. May the Grace of God surround you with his comfort and love. Melanie was like a kiss from God. She shared her Love of God by kissing others with her life. Love and Blessings Cheryl Reeves

**Cheryl Reeves** - April 11, 2003 at 01:56 PM

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“ Rich, My sincere sympathy to you and your family with the tradgic death of your daughter. You are in my prayers

**Pamela O'Connor-Chapman** - April 11, 2003 at 10:42 AM

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“ Our prayers and thoughts are with you. May God provide the comfort and blessing needed during these moments of sorrow.

**Ron and Bessie Lorenzo** - April 11, 2003 at 10:41 AM

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“ May the Lord be with you to comfort you in your time of sorrow

**laurie cuthbert** - April 11, 2003 at 08:09 AM

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April 11, 2003 at 07:08 AM

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“ Rich and Family, having lost a child in recent years, I know and feel your loss and pain...please know my family's thoughts and prayers are with your family at this difficult time.

**Scott Cusenz** - April 11, 2003 at 06:38 AM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you Caleb and your family. May you find comfort in knowing that the Lord is with you during your loss. May he bring you and your family peace and healing as he receives Melanie into his loving arms.

**Mr. Cappiello** - April 11, 2003 at 03:08 AM

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“ Melanie, You were a good friend and a good leader for all of the freshman girls. We had a great time, and I'll miss you. You have been in my thoughts for a while. Thank you for everything you've done. Your family will be in my prayers. Allison Vandenberg Barringer

**Allison (Vandenberg) Barringer** - April 11, 2003 at 02:32 AM

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“ I had the pleasure of knowing Melanie professionally when she worked with a student attending my preschool classroom. Melanie was generous with her time and I am grateful for the positive impact she made on this little boy. I send my deepest sympathies to melanie's family. Sincerely, Robyn Yorker

**Robyn Yorker** - April 11, 2003 at 02:25 AM

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“ You should be so proud of Melanie. We remember her at Piseco when she was little. She came to our camp for the campfire and marshmallows. She always had a smile on her face. We will miss her, but we know that she has gone home to be with God. She will make a beautiful angel.

**Bill & Charlotte Apel** - April 11, 2003 at 02:21 AM

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“ I had the pleasure of teaching Melanie in two different professional development classes. She was always thoughtful and an asset to the class. You could see that she put the welfare of her students ahead of everything. She will be missed in the teaching profession.

**Cindy Pauldine** - April 11, 2003 at 01:48 AM

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“ Although I did not know your daughter/sister Melanie, my heart goes out to all of you in the Bierma family. I too lost my 19 year old daughter in a similar accident on December 16th 2002. She lost control of her car on on icy roads as well. Please know that you are all in my prayers and may your faith in God comfort you and see you through this tragic loss.

**Sarah Dodd** - April 10, 2003 at 11:08 PM

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“ Melanie and I went to Canisius together and lived at St. Mary's during that school year. My first thought of Melanie was that she was always dedicated and sincere with her work, her friends, and her family. It was evident in her life that her faith in God was important to her and she lived it everywhere she went. She touched many lives and I will always remember her smile since she shared it with everyone. My sincerest condolences to her family; many are praying for you.

**Angela Beckman** - April 10, 2003 at 09:23 PM

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“ All the students she touched will miss Melanie. I enjoyed working with her at Oswego County BOCES and was disappointed to see her have to move on to another Boces. She was a friend to all and a great teacher. God Bless you all in your loss. In Christian Love, Ed Grant Speech Therapist Oswego County BOCES

**Ed Grant** - April 10, 2003 at 06:03 PM

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“ May all the Bierma Family realize that Melanie left a particularly loving mark on all of us at Canisius College. Her quiet ways made her special. We always knew that she would achieve great things. Her short time as a Teacher of the Deaf has definitely affected the lives of her children. May we turn to the heavens, now and see Melanie in the arms of the Lord with a glorious reward for her short life.

**Dr. Pat Chrosniak and The Canisius College Graduat** - April 10, 2003 at 03:55 PM

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“ Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bierma, I'm a team leader at the BOCES program for the deaf and Hard-of-Hearing at Onondaga Rd.in Syr. Melanie started working with us in Sept.,2002 and was a speech therapist to 3 of the students in our room. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the calling hours but I wanted to let you know how we all felt about your daughter. She had a wonderful soul and spirit that all of us felt including the students she worked with. She always had a smile no matter what the children were doing, good or bad. When the children saw her they would run to her and start talking and signing to her. Your daughter was such a wonderful help and inspiration to the staff and students in our program. She will be missed by everyone she touched. I am so glad I was able to get to know her. May God bless you and your family. You will be in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Barbara Brigham

**Barbara Brigham** - April 10, 2003 at 03:30 PM

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“ Rich & Family, My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

**Jim Schoeneman** - April 10, 2003 at 12:52 PM

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“ Melanie, Heaven will be a brighter place with you there. I will always remember your gentle way with the children. You will be truly missed by everyone but mostly by those children that you touched in the short time that you were with them. Your beautiful spirit will always be with us at BOCES. God Bless

**Evelyn Hanna** - April 10, 2003 at 10:56 AM