

January 1

Keeping Her in Our Lives by Perpetuating Her Life's Purpose

Abbie was born with all the bells and whistles. A ball of fire, she would walk up to anyone and ask, "Hey, what's your name?" People loved the way she welcomed them into her life. Her most adoring fan was her sister Annie. Whatever Abbie did, Annie, two years younger, would yell, "Me, too!" Receiving her calling early, Abbie loved pretending to be a nurse and covering Annie, her willing patient, in Band-Aids and gauze. By the time Nurse Abbie gave her permission to leave the doctor's office, little Annie looked like a big marshmallow.

On April 22, 2015, Abbie and four fellow nursing students from Georgia Southern University lost their lives in an accident while traveling to the local hospital in Savannah on their last day of class. I didn't want my Abbie remembered that way.



Establishing the Abbie DeLoach Foundation allowed me to revise my daughter's story. No longer "one of the nursing students killed on the interstate," Abbie now inspires scholarship recipients to pursue their dreams.

Above all, as a Christian, I've put my hope in Jesus Christ. Knowing I'm going to see Abbie again gives me peace and comfort. I read constantly to fortify my faith and gain inspiration, and the right words, like the following verses, always seem to appear at the right time:

"But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast, can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me" (2 Samuel 12:23).

"And we know that all things GOD works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Jimmy DeLoach, Jr., Abbie's Dad