



Elaine Poulos Atalis



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Elaine Poulos Atalis

On October 17th we said goodbye to our cherished wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, cousin, Godmother and friend, Elaine Poulos Atalis. Her faith in Christ and the love of family and friends helped her battle the challenges she faced during her courageous seven-year fight against ovarian cancer. She was a role-model for all of us, embodying her anchor verse from Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path.” Born May 8, 1963, in Lansing, MI, to The Rev. John C. and Alexandra Poulos, Elaine grew up in Lansing, attending Eastern High School and Michigan State University, where she earned a degree in journalism. She moved to Dallas, TX, for an internship at a magazine sponsored by the Dallas Chamber of Commerce . On May 23, 1987, Elaine married the love of her life, Andy Atalis, and celebrated 30 years of marriage this year. Early in their marriage, Elaine worked for several years for the Plano Star Courier, making her way up from the police beat, to Lifestyles editor, to copy desk chief. When Andy and Elaine started their family, Elaine became a stay-at-home mom to the pride and joy of her life, her children Alexandra, Sam and John. She immersed herself in many volunteer jobs within the kids’ schools, writing newsletters, serving on PTA and choir boards, being a Cub Scout den mother. As a devoted parishioner of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church during all the years she lived in Dallas, Elaine gave of her time in many ways. She tirelessly served the St. Barbara’s Philoptochos Society board with steadfast commitment for many years, and was an admired and talented president of the organization for four years. Philoptochos was always very dear to Elaine’s heart for its philanthropic works within the church, community and nationwide. Without a doubt, it reflected her own heart and the lives she touched through her faith, compassion, intellect, kindness, strength and humor. Elaine is preceded in death by her beloved father, Rev. John Poulos. She is survived by her dear husband, Andy and her wonderful children, Alexandra, Sam and John; her



Obituary

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mother, Alexandra Poulos of Plano; sister and brother-in-law, Maria and Joe Kerbow and nephews Bennett and Gregory of Benbrook; Step nephew and wife Justin and Christa and children Cory and Cecily, of Lansing, MI; brother and sister-in-law, Constantine and Myranda Poulos of Waco; mother-in-law, Anthe Atalis of Wichita Falls; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Janette and Tom Holley of Wichita Falls; niece and nephew-in-law Anthea and Michael Danby and great niece Vivienne of Dallas; and nephew Thomas Holley of Wichita Falls; aunt Bettina Pontikes of Allen; aunt Vasiliki Poulos of Greece; many cousins and Godchildren, and an immeasurable number of Koumbari and friends who cherished her friendship, trust, solidarity, and love. We thank our clergy for honoring Elaine: Rev. Peter Kostakis, Rev. Jordan Brown, Rev. Dn. Mark Pakes, and our chanter Presvytera Marika Brown. We also thank our pallbearers who loved and honor our beautiful wife, mother, daughter and sister: Chris Pontikes, Scott Pontikes, Michael Geroulis, John Geroulis, Stephen Konstans, John Pappadas, Harry Tomasides, and Mike Spahis. Services will be held at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. The Trisagion prayer service will be on Friday, October 20th at 7pm and funeral services will be on Saturday, October 21st at 1pm. We pray her blessed memory eternal. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Barbara's Philoptochos Society and/or Holy Trinity Academy, both at 13555 Hillcrest Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75240.



Tribute Wall

Elaine Poulos Atalis

RG

Robin Quinn Gilton posted:

Elaine was one of my first and best friends growing up. We grew up together in band, track, homeroom, and in spirit. I was fortunate to have wonderful times with her family. Elaine stands out to me for her beautiful smiling eyes, her positive attitude, and her kindness. We lost touch after HS graduation, but I thought of her and her family often. To the family, please accept my sincerest condolences on your loss. Her love will live on. Robin Quinn Gilton

October 21 at 6:35 AM

KL

Kittie Lynch posted:

My heart is heavy. I have known Elaine since 7th grade where we were on the swim and track teams together throughout junior high school. She was a friend I looked forward to seeing everyday. Time may have separated us, but my memories and heart always had a special place for her. We were able to connect a few times over the many years and shared Christmas cards as our children were growing up. Elaine, I will hold your smile, your kindness, your common sense, humor and honesty forever in my mind. Say hello to Tom and Pat for us! ??

October 21 at 4:07 AM

LS

Laura Mccomb Schmelter posted:

One of the greatest blessings in my life was my friendship with Elaine. Our hearts grew closer with the passing of time, and I will always cherish every precious moment I had with her. She was the role-model for kindness, courage, fun, love, and faith, and the epitome of a best friend for a lifetime. My heart hurts. I will miss her so much. ?? Heaven has gained a true angel. Love you always and forever until we meet again. ?? Laura

October 20 at 9:45 AM

FK

Frances & Pete Katsiris posted:

It is with great sadness that I write this message. Please know that we think of you always and now pray for God's hand to touch your heavy hearts with comfort. Zoi se sas

October 20 at 9:05 AM



Tribute Wall

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SL

Suzanne Laidlaw posted:

Your UT Sig Ep Family mourns the loss of Elaine. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Atalis family and we are deeply saddened by your loss.

October 19 at 3:22 PM

KH

Kevin Heath Headley posted:

My DEEPEST Condolences on the loss of your Mother. I know exactly what you and your Brothers are going through at this time as I just lost my Father last October. MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALWAYS!!

October 19 at 3:04 PM

JK

Jim Kavalaris posted:

It is with deep sadness that we learn of Elaine's passing. We will remember her many smiles and enthusiastic leadership in the parish during her years growing-up in Lansing, MI. She was always kind and welcoming. Both in Lansing, and during a visit to Dallas many years ago that Jim took to see old friends at Church from the Greek Orthodox Young Adult League (YAL). Elaine was very involved in the genesis of this movement that was a blessed & balanced spiritual and social ministry throughout the United States. Her work and passion for the cause, both individually & as part of the founding team, paved the way for many people (thousands) to grow in spirit and friendship to be better people today than before they went to an original YAL event. Our sincere condolences to the entire family. Michigan may be far from Texas in miles, but you've always been close in spirit. Love, the Kavalaris family.

October 19 at 8:30 AM

TV

Tom And Veronica posted:

The loss of our dear, sweet Elaine has left a hole in our hearts. We have so many cherished memories as across-the-street neighbors for many years, watching our children grow up together. Our daughters, who could never get enough of Elaine, used to stand at the front window keeping a lookout for her. And whenever they saw her out front, they would shout with delight "Laine, Laine." While we will miss Elaine dearly, we know it's only temporary as we look forward to joining her someday with our Savior and Lord. We love you, Elaine, and all of your dear family.

October 19 at 4:18 AM



Tribute Wall

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MM

Maria Mitchell posted:

Andy, Alexandra, Sam, and John, My heartfelt thoughts are with you. I was fortunate to know Elaine and enjoy that delightful laugh of hers. Elaine was extra special, and so very kind. I pray for God to offer you peace, while you try to live the days ahead of you. Love, Maria Mitchell

October 18 at 7:23 PM

AP

Aphrodite Georgalis Paulos posted:

I cannot express my sadness! The world has lost an amazing woman ... she always lit up the room with her beautiful smile and carried herself with kindness, grace and elegance. I think of her as an amazing mother, wife, and friend to so many people she touched. A few years ago, I took a picture of her in Nafpaktos, sitting at a table alone, reading while enjoying the ocean-view sunset. I later approached her and shared the photo and we talked a while. She was so calm and happy.... i will forever remember her beautiful spirit, as she was on that beautiful day!!!

October 18 at 6:18 PM

MB

Mary Benson posted:

I will miss you terribly sweet Elaine. I thank God for your friendship and love. You are my hero! You fought with grace and always a smile and asking and praying for others. You memory is eternal in my heart!!! Mary

October 18 at 12:07 PM

RG

Rodney Grass posted:

I am so sorry for your lost Brother. Cancer has taken my Mother and Father too soon an I pray to God that one day it will be wiped for the face of the earth. I grief with you and your family and I pray to our loving God that he will give you comfort in knowing that she is now in His care and cancer free forever.

October 18 at 9:07 AM

AG

Adria Ger posted:

My condolences to all the family for the loss of a lovely and gracious mother, wife, daughter and friend. It was a pleasure to know Elaine and to call her a friend. Me agape, Adria Sigalos Ger

October 18 at 8:03 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Elaine by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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