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## A Letter to My Daughter Jamie's on Her 42<sup>nd</sup> Birthday

Happy Heavenly Birthday my sweet angel. I pray you are celebrating today with all those who love you. We are doing our best to celebrate you and your life down here today. May God continue to bless your sweet soul.

I have realized as I think about you each and every day that during your life here on earth that you made Jesus come alive. He was alive in you in all your waking moments and all of your good deeds and random acts of kindness. We are working hard to keep you alive and Jesus alive through you and the example of how you showed us that a life should be lived. Your life, even though cut short, was a blessing to so many people but especially me since God blessed me to be your Dad. So now we go on without you and we are guided by the thought WWJD What Would Jamie Do because we know that you were guided by What Would Jesus Do?

While you were with us you changed the world one small gift and one person at a time. At times it was something as simple as your radiant smile giving encouragement, and other times it was in something bigger that you worked hard to figure out for a very serious problem, and in other times it was in the quiet moments of your prayers at home or in church lighting candles for all of us in need. Now you continue to touch us from Heaven by all the work being done here on earth in your honor because of the example that you set for all of us.

If we pay attention, your greatest gift is showing us how to live and treat others here on earth so that we can live special lives and find our way to you in Heaven. God had so many plans for you and he continues to watch over us to be sure they are carried out. The world is missing your bright light and love for others.

I read not too long ago that those you love never die as long as we say their name and keep them close in our hearts. We, your family and friends, are committed to keep you alive. My heart is still broken, and it still aches. The heartache is so deep at times I don't think I can take it. I miss you with every ounce of my being and I continue to look for you everywhere and once in a while I get a small glimpse of you my beautiful little girl and I know you are right here with me. It makes me laugh, it makes me cry, at times it makes me scream but it always continues to make my love for you grow. Nothing will ever be quite right until I am with you again.

In closing, thanks to all who read these letters and posts about Jamie. Thanks to all of you who support our family so much during every day of the year in so many ways. My friends I hate to ask you to do anything else but I must. Please talk about Jamie and remember her "one of a kind" smile and all the kindness she has spread while with us. If she affected you or helped you or someone you know, tell the story. Keep praying for her life's work to have continued success and to touch many kids and families in need. God Bless you all!

xoxo

Dad