

Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy

Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy, 7 months, became an angel on Sunday, January 15, 2012 from injuries sustained in a house fire.

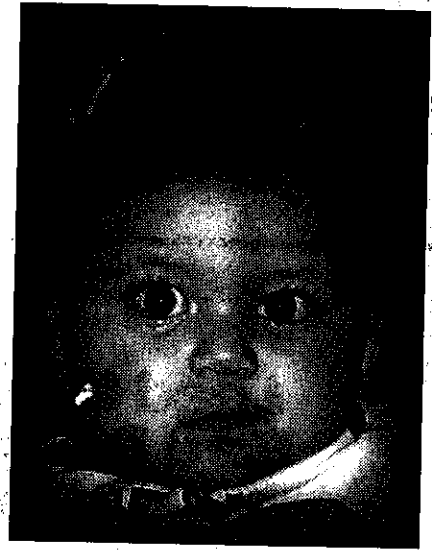
A memorial service will be held 11:00 a.m., Friday, January 27, 2012 at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell. There will be no visitation.

Memorials may be directed to the Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy Memorial Fund and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy was welcomed into this world on Saturday, June 4, 2011 in Grinnell, Iowa to Courtney Heckman and Chollana Chhouy. Her brother wasn't too thrilled at first, but grew to love helping with his baby sister.

Alyanna was always a happy girl. She loved playing with her brother and her toys. Her first tooth was just starting to come through and she was just starting to crawl. Alyanna's favorite foods were mangos and sweet potatoes. She will never be forgotten.

Those left to remember her are her mom and dad; her brother, Jace McDonough; her grandparents Wendy (Steve) Nault, Brian Heckman and Susan Carter, all of South Bend, Indiana, Khmao (Vy lan) Chhouy of Grinnell and Sophan Choun of Tacoma, Washington; several aunts and uncles, Channa (Emily) Chhouy, Robert Chhouy, Sarica Chhouy, Lisa Chhouy, Dana (William) Tapman, Jacqueline Heckman, Bryan Heckman and Adam Wilkie; and several dear friends and loved ones.



Fundraiser planned to help victims of fire

The generosity of Grinnellians has furnished and equipped a new apartment for Courtney Heckman, 22, and her family which lost a family member and all its belongings in a tragic fire last weekend. Heckman returned to Grinnell yesterday, Jan. 18, where she is recovering in a new apartment. Friends and family are planning a benefit dinner to raise funds for the family for Jan. 28 and have opened a bank account for those who wish to contribute.

Heckman and her seven-month-old daughter Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy were trapped in a blazing trailer early on the morning of Jan. 14. Grinnell firefighters rescued both from the trailer, and the fire victims were flown to University Hospitals in Iowa City in critical condition. Heckman, improving much more quickly than doctors predicted, was able to return to Grinnell Jan. 18. Alyanna remained on life support

in Iowa City for several days after the fire and died Jan. 17. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

Chelsi Rockwell is a family friend of both Heckman and Heckman's fiancé Chollana Chhouy. Yumi's Bakery, co-owned by Chelsi's parents Sam and Heidi Rockwell, became a center for donations as the extent of the fire's damage became known, Heidi says. Clothing, furniture, and everything needed for a new residence for the Heckman family was dropped off at Yumi's over the days since the fire.

Heidi has marveled at the determination of friends of the stricken family who have spent hours sorting donations, doing laundry and working to set up a new apartment into which Heckman could move when released

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FUND-RAISER PLANNED -

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Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy

Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy, age 7 months, died from injuries sustained in a house fire. A memorial service is pending at the time. Memorials may be directed to the Alyanna Jasmine Chhouy Memorial Fund and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.