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6-25-2017 Robin Joan (Lucas) Elliott

Robin Joan (Lucas) Elliott, 43, of Grinnell, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at Mercy Hospice House in Johnston. Robin courageously fought breast cancer for five years, carrying her through a crusade of traditional treatments and ultimately two clinical studies in the hopes of not only prolonging her own life, but those of other cancer patients in the future.



A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, May 27, 2017, at the First Baptist Church in Grinnell with the Rev. Dr. Dondrea Walker Sr. officiating. Organist will be Allen Ricks. Bridget Pargulski will offer personal comments. A reception will be held in the church hall following the memorial service.

Friends may call at the Smith Funeral Home in Grinnell beginning at 12:00 noon on Friday and the family will be present at the funeral home from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday.

Memorials may be directed to the Ronald McDonald House or to Katie's Crusaders and sent in care of the Smith Funeral Home, P.O. Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Robin was born on September 16, 1973, in Des Moines, Iowa, to Gary and Joan (Taylor) Lucas. Robin was raised in Indianola, Iowa, and while in high school, was a member of the track team that participated at the Drake Relays and the Iowa High School Track Meet. She also played volleyball for Indianola High School. Robin had a passion for dance and dedicated 17 years of her life to lessons and recitals.

Following high school graduation she enrolled at Iowa State University, where she received a BA degree in early childhood education. In 1997, Robin began her career in education and worked as a substitute teacher in the BGM school district at Brooklyn. Later, she became employed for Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA) in Grinnell. For the past 15 years at Bailey Park Elementary School, Robin taught kindergarten for 12 years and then second grade for three years. During these years of working and motherhood, she also found time to work on her Master's Degree from Viterbo University in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

Robin was a loving mother of two daughters, Madison and McKinze, and they were the light of Robin's eyes.

Robin was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2012. Her journey to educate, fund and fight cancer had its ups and downs, but she was always involved in the fight, albeit her own or for others. She became a volunteer for the Ronald McDonald House and was involved in Iowa legislation for breast cancer dense tissue training and detection.

Robin was a dedicated mother, and she especially liked to ride mules with the girls and her father-in-law at the Elliott farm and golf outings at Oakland Acres. Spending time with her family on their vacations to Birch Lake in Minnesota were some of her fondest memories. What better time could a daughter ask for than fishing with her dad?

Those left to cherish Robin's memory are her two daughters, Madison and McKinze; her parents, Gary and Joan Lucas of Indianola; her sister, Brooke Lucas of Nashville, TN; and her nephew, Jaden.

To all who knew and loved me....LOL!!!