Miki Sedivy – Mom

Hannah Elise – Forever 16 10.19.05 – 12.07.21 Lakewood, CO

I will start with that Hannah Elise was not an addict. Hannah was beautiful, smart, caring, and very loving; Hannah made a positive impact on those she met. She also had quite a spark in her, she told things as it was whether it was good or bad. Her high school counselor called Hannah "Tenacious", this fit her. She had tried a few different drugs prior to the end of April 2021 and didn't like how they made her feel. Hannah wanted to be in control...yet she wasn't able to control her anxiety. Hannah's anxiety was high, which then went overboard when the lockdowns began. Psychiatrists weren't available, so we did what we could with her pediatric Dr. and we kept up on appointments.

Hannah was an accountable young lady and was respected for having this at such a young age. Hannah was doing really well in school and her teachers really liked and cared about her. She was always positive, did her work, and eagerly jumped in to help others. The one thing they said was she would talk too much at times, yet you could see the smile on their faces as they said it and Hannah would be giggling. Hannah started dating a guy at the school at the beginning of her sophomore year; she was very positive with him and "lifted" him. The only problem was that she could not seem to get herself to school on time. Several occasions I spoke with the admin gal at the school and it got to the point where we would laugh because I would be sitting in my car waiting for her and would say, "Hey, guess where I am again". At one point we had to meet with the principal regarding her being late, he kept her at the school even though they had an attendance policy, because she had As and 1 B which was almost an A. Hannah was ecstatic about her grades and on track to catching up on credits (thanks to the pandemic) and was even looking to get a part time job. The school had a picture of Hannah on the corkboard with a book in her hand, because it was the 1st book she had finished for a really long time. She was so proud of the picture.

The most memorable things about Hannah. If Hannah saw anyone sitting by themselves at school, she would go over to them because she never wanted anyone to sit alone. This stemmed from what she saw with her younger brother, 2 years younger, and has high ADHD. She was strong in her conviction of helping others. Her teachers loved her, the worst I ever heard was she can talk a bit too much. They looked to her for her compassion and how she would jump to help others. Hannah was always randomly complimenting people whether it be their hair, shoes, eyeliner, etc. She would talk to people on the light-rail, even one time giving encouragement to a lady on her way to Golden for a job interview.

Hannah also didn't know what her purpose in life was. I said that being a kid/teenager was what she needed to be during this time. I also told her that although she didn't see it, she was impacting the people she met and with her conversations with them. Hannah hid her anxiety to the outside world, she didn't trust adults. Family and friends knew the truth behind it, it was because they never helped her family in the past. She never believed there would be justice and she was so fiercely protective over her brother; she was scared that he would be left behind. My home was her safe place and that's when it came out because she knew I was there no matter what. Myself, my family, and friends where by her side. Hannah knew this.

Hannah was in a very serious car accident October 13, 2021, 6 days before her 16th birthday. Even with the severity of her injuries, she was very responsible taking the prescriptions even in her immense pain and we worked together to keep track of them. At the beginning of November Hannah was asked if she was still taking drugs and she replied yes. I said, "Hannah, will you please say what drugs you are taking." Her response," ... Tylenol and ibuprofen. I rarely use the Neurontin for my foot". During this time, we grew really close, she opened up and we spoke about everything. Hannah was very adamant when she said that she would not take blues or fentanyl, she didn't want to mess with it. She had seen what it did to people, including losing her 17 y.o. friend who passed away just shy of 4 months before her.

She had gone to her friend's house the night of December 6th. The morning of the 7th she was full of life and spirit. It was the last time she said, "Good morning Beautiful" and "I love you so very much". Hannah took a Xanax, which unknowingly was laced with fentanyl. I was gone for 3 hours, when I got home it was too late. It was surreal…not my beautiful girl. Our lives are forever changed, we lost an amazing light and soul. I lost my child, our children aren't supposed to leave before us.

Hannah did not want or choose to die. The toll it has taken has been immense. We will make sure her story lives on. We fight for our children and others. We speak for those who are unable to. As you read these biographies, make sure to say their name. The loss and continued losses were preventable, yet you (congress) chose to do nothing.

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ALL ABOUT HANNAH - BY SAMMIE, 7, HANNAH'S NIECE (age at time of Hannah's passing)

"I was with Hannah all the time. Hannah was my aunt and she was 16 years old and Hannah loved me so much. We always play games. Hannah had beautiful hair. Hannah was tall. Hannah colored with me. Hannah use to go for a long walk with me. Hannah was nice."