



Sofia Marchessault

September 29, 2004

Marchessault Sofia Ann Marchessault, Aug. 14, 1987-Sept. 24, 2004, of Orlando, FL. With great sadness we announce the death of our daughter, sister and friend. Sofia brought much love, laughter and joy into our lives and will be in our hearts forever. She is survived by parents, Joe Marchessault & Kim Kosmides; sisters, Jessica and Leah Marchessault; grand- parents, Paul & Lois Marchessault, George Kosmides and Mary Langaard; and by many loving aunts, uncles and cousins. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Sofia Marchessault Fund in c/o the family. Visitation Friday, October 1, 6-8 PM, with prayer service at 7 PM, both at: Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel W. 50th St. & Hwy 100 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall

NK

“ *Sofia, it's been 6 years now and i can't believe it. i feel like it was just yesterday you and i were sitting at papou's house playing guitar together. We all love and miss you every day. To my aunt kim: you are the strongest of the strong, i admire you more than you will ever know, we are all here for you.*

~

Nick Kosmides,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Nick Kosmides - September 27, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *A wife who loses a husband is a widow, a man who loses a wife is a widower, a child who loses parents is an orphan. There is no word, however to describe someone who has lost a child. I am grateful to all my family and friends. Love Kim*

September 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *Sofia the beautiful. I think of you so very often and it makes me smile. The radio played "Dust in the Wind" yesterday and made me so sad but also made me remember your quick smile and sense of humor. I will always love you and you will always remain my little flower girl.*

~

Aunt Seaeen MacKay,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Aunt Seaeen MacKay - September 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ *The passing of 3 years have not erased the wonderful memories and love that we have for Sofia. Every candle that I light at church and each memorial prayer I pray for Sofia. May her memory be eternal. Keep Kim, Joe, Jessica and Leah in your thoughts and prayers.*

~

Paul Kosmides,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Paul Kosmides - September 24, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Hey my little flower girl,
I keep a picture of you, Leah and your mom on my desk and think of
you daily. Today though I am thinking of you and how gorgeous you
are. I send kisses up to you.
Love ya, Seaen

~

Seaen MacKay,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Seaen MacKay - August 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ One year gone past. Thank you to all friends and family for your kindness. Often I day dream of Sofia and I smile. She is missed greatly.

~

Kim Kosmides (mom),

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Kim Kosmides (mom) - December 29, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Dear Joe, Kim, Jessica & Leah,
I want you to know I think of Sofia every day. I'm grateful for the memories of her bright eyes, her genuine smile, and her spirit for life, and for fun. Sofia was a talented performer, and musician and was softly courageous in the way she loved life and all her people. I share your grief. Sofia will remain on my mind, in my heart, and in my prayers forever.
With Love,

~

Mary Simonson,

Lakeville, Minnesota

Mary Simonson - December 18, 2004 at 12:00 AM

WG

“ *To the Marchessault Family,*

I was greatly saddened to hear of the tragic death of your granddaughter, daughter, niece and sister.

Nothing anyone can say can soften the blow from such a tremendous loss. However, I do believe the only comfort is knowing that Sofia is now in that state of complete peace, love, and tranquility. It is only the ones left behind that have to find a way to cope with this loss through prayer, understanding and forgiveness.

Death to the body is final in this life but the spirit is everlasting. I believe that death to the body is only a transitional phase for the spirit which is destined to the ultimate state of bliss in God's presence.

My prayer is that we all learn to cherish and respect this life to the fullest with our loved ones and to focus on our final destination in the presence of God's everlasting life.

This is where we will all meet again!

Sincerely, Willy Gardner

~

William (Willy) Gardner,

Oakland, California

Contact Me

William (Willy) Gardner - October 19, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ Sofia was a wonderful girl who was always smiling and happy. I went to Holy Family Catholic school with her through eighth grade. She always brought a smile to my face, and just always brought a cheerful atmosphere to the class. She was also the most positively influencing person to me, she made me feel good about myself, and taught me how to enjoy life no matter what it throws at you.

As hard as it is right now to put a smile on our faces, and go out and laugh and have fun, its what we need to do. Go out, love life and live life to the fullest! I can't wait until that day i do see my bud Sofa again, I know she's going to be there waiting for us all at the gates of heaven with her beautiful smile on her face, and the biggest hug ever waiting for us. But, until that day does come, I'm going to go out and enjoy life, always with Sofia in mind.

*Sofa, you meant so much to all of us. You were the most wonderful girl. We're gunna miss you alot. Can't wait to see you again.
I Love you bud. -Alex Dutton*

~

Alex Dutton,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Alex Dutton - October 16, 2004 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ I didn't know Sophia very well, I just talked to her at lunch occassionally, but I can say from what I know about her is that she is one of the kindest and most generous people I've ever met. My boyfriend went to Holy Family with her and always said great things about her... I give the family and friends my condolences on behalf of my boyfriend, Kyle Malone, and I, Heather Fosnaugh.

~

Heather Fosnaugh,

Orlando, Florida

Heather Fosnaugh - October 05, 2004 at 12:00 AM

NL

“ *Dear Marchessaults,*
We are am so so sorry for your incredible loss. Sofia was a blessed soul. She was beautiful and talented and loved. What more can you ask for. She will be missed by all. We are here for anything you guys may need. Please just let us know of anything that can make this time a little easier, although we know that may not be possible. Please know that all of our love and prayers are with you.
The Legus's

~

Nichole Legus,

Bloomington, Minnesota

Contact Me

Nichole Legus - October 04, 2004 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ *Dear Marchessault's*

I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Sofia. My Mom (Marge Reid) called me so as I could pray for your family. Lot's of fond memories of our families growing up together. Please know that all the Reid's are praying for Our Lord to bring you through this unimanagable loss.

Love, MaryRita (Reid) Tipler

~

MaryRita Reid Tipler,

Savage, Minnesota

MaryRita Reid Tipler - October 02, 2004 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Joe, Kim, Jess and Leah,
I just want you four to know how truly sorry I am for you loosing your daughter and sister. Sofia will always live on in our hearts. JESSICA & LEAH: I love you girls so much, you both have shown me these past couple of days how strong you both are. Just know that I am here and will always be here for you girls. Nobody knows the reason she was taken, but now by loosing her you both can live for Sophia and keep her alive through you. I love you guys. I will continue to pray that God keeps all of you strong through this time.

~

Leanne LeBeau,

Detroit, Michigan

Contact Me

Leanne LeBeau - October 01, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I never got to know my niece like I would have liked to because of her growing up in Orlando but the hundreds of friends that knew her traveled from their hurricane ravaged homes Wednesday over water soaked roads to spend thier evening in the 100 degree (no power) funeral home to tell us how much they loved her and pay their last respects and remind us all of just how special Sofia was. To Joe, Kim, Jessica & Leah I'm so very sorry. Love, Jer

~

Jerry Marchessault,

Lakeville, Minnesota

Contact Me

Jerry Marchessault - October 01, 2004 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ Joe & Kim,

*We are truely sorry for your loss. We met Sophia at Jim & Judy's house the summer she was in Minnesota. I walked away thinking, what a beautifull girl she is and at her age I was so amazed at how easy she was to talk to. We can't imagine the pain and suffering you are going through. Our prayers are with you and your family.
Bern & Monie Roehning*

~

Ramona Roehning,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Ramona Roehning - October 01, 2004 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ *Kim, Joe, Jessica, Leah and Family:*

We are so very sorry for your loss. Having two children of our own we cannot imagine the pain you must have. Our hearts go out to you and your family. Although we left Florida many years ago, we can still remember Sofia as a beautiful little girl and how outgoing and funny she was. May God continue to be with your family during this difficult time, and always.

~

Maria & Leon LeBeau,

Saint Clair Shores, Michigan

Maria & Leon LeBeau - October 01, 2004 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ Kim,

I cannot begin to understand the pain that you must bear....but I want you to know that I care very much. I am unable to attend the service tonight because I am still sick, but I want you to know that I am thinking of you at this time...you are in my thoughts and prayers.

~

Lori Overweg,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Lori Overweg - October 01, 2004 at 12:00 AM

IK

“ *wishing your spirit comfort...
...wishing your soul ease*

~

Ione Glenna Katz,

Memphis, Tennessee

Contact Me

Ione Glenna Katz - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ To Jessica and family in hopes of a recovery from this devastating event. I wish all of you well.

Rodney P. Schropp

~

Rodney Schropp,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Rodney Schropp - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ I have a 17 year old son, and can't imagine his loss, please accept my condolences.

~

Brad Obbink,

Chicago, Illinois

Contact Me

Brad Obbink - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ We are the Class of 2009 at Holy Family Catholic School. As Sofia graduated from 8th grade here, we are praying for her and her family in 3A. May God's peace be with you.

~

Class 3A Lorenz-Clark

September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ *Kim and Family,*
You will forever be in my prayers. I have a 24 yr old and he's my buddy. I didn't know Sofia but looking at her photos last night said a thousand words. Kim, if ever you need anything either here in MCO or MSP (I go home once a month to MSP) please let me know.
Karen

~

Karen Lee Garlington,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Karen Lee Garlington - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

HA

“ *Sofia was a great person at heart, Me and Sofia had English class together and we were in DECA last year. I always remembered her beautiful smile. It lit up the whole room when she walked in, all the conversations we ever had she never said anything bad about anyone. She's an angel, she will always be missed and remembered. I send her family my love and prayers.*

~

Heba Aloussi,

Orlando, Florida

Heba Aloussi - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Ever since I was little I've known Sofia we went to preschool, Elementary, Middle and Highschool together. Through the years we built a friendship that i will remember forever. Sofia was a fun, loving, crazy girl that I enjoyed spending time with. She will always be in my thoughts, prayers, and heart. I love you Sopia. I send my love to the family as well.

~

Ashley Mendez,

Orlando, Florida

Ashley Mendez - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ When I think of my cousin Sofia I imagine a smiley four-year-old wrapped in six layers of winter clothes. I don't know if I have ever seen someone so excited to play in the snow as Sofia was on that winter day. That beautiful smile was unforgettable. Years later and two feet taller Sofia still shined with that gorgeous smile. This is how I remember Sofia. She was simply a friendly person who seemed to explode with happiness. Joe, Kim, Jessica and Leah, I am terribly sorry that you lost such a wonderful person. I am here for you guys so feel free to call me anytime you wish. Sofia will always remain in my heart. Keep up the positive attitude. "No one's death comes to pass without making some impression, and those close to the deceased inherit part of the liberated soul and become richer in their humanness." ~ Hermann Broch
With much love,

~

Craig Marchessault,

Prior Lake, Minnesota

Contact Me

Craig Marchessault - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ I do not even know where to start. My earliest memory of Sofia was in 4th grade. She was the first person I met when I moved to Orlando. She reassured me that there was nothing to worry about and she would be there for me. Even at such a young age, she cared so much about people. I love her and she means everything to me. Sofia was the most beautiful, outgoing, fun loving, caring, happiest, most amazing person I have ever known. This is one of the worst things that could possibly happen in this entire world. I would do anything just to see her one more time. Every time something bad happened or something went wrong, Sofia always had a smile on her face and somehow she always made the best of things. It was impossible to be down around her. She was just too full of life. I will always have the regret of not being as close as we used to be but now, in a way we are closer then ever. Sofia did not deserve this, but she did deserve to be happy. I will never forget all that has happened between us. We were best friends at one time along with other people from Holy Family. She will be missed more then anything. It is so hard to accept the fact that she is gone but we have to try hard to make our lives better and live them for her in a way. I thank God that she was put on this earth. She had such a great impact on so many people who love her so greatly. Sofia meant so much to me and to so many people and she always will. I love you Sofia and miss you immensely. xoxoxoxoxo Love you always and forever!

~

Angela Parton,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Angela Parton - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

CI

“ Sofia touched many people's lives and there is always going to be the gap for all of us that she left behind. I met Sofia through Act III Acting Studio doing a show when I was in fifth grade. I remember thinking how gorgeous she was and how she was always ready to talk to someone and just offer her genuine, unique friendship. I have never in my life seen Sofia angry or be mean to anyone. I ache for the family and your pains. Know that we are sharing the grief and we all have to be here for each other to lean on. Nothing can be accomplished in life without the support of others. I pray that your pain is mended soon and that you can see what a blessing Sofia was in all of our lives, especially the family, even if it was only for a short while.

Contact me if I can help with anything.

~

Chris Interdonato,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Chris Interdonato - September 30, 2004 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ I knew Sofia through VPA theatre freshmen and sophomore year at DPHS. I wasn't able to get AS close to her..but we were as close as two people were able to be in that amount of time. Even when she wasn't in the program she would stop **WHATEVER** it was that she was doing and go out of her way to come say hello to me. I loved her happiness and her joy that she brought to everyone around her. She will remain in my prayers and my heart. It was such an amazing service tonight. So beautiful for such a beautiful person.

~

Kara Latkowski,

Orlando, Florida

Kara Latkowski - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ I remember the first day i met Sofia, she and i were both working out at the YMCA, and a friend of ours introduced us to eachother. She had this undescrivable glow about her. A natural beauty. And even though we were working out, she kept that glow and didnt break a sweat. She had something about her that just made you feel like you knew her your whole life, i guess you could say "We clicked." As time went on i saw her at school and we became friends.

As many may say "she always had a smile on her face" I couldnt understand why she was always so happy. I guess she cherished life. Its unfortunate that something like this makes you realize how important life is. I have really put things into perspective. No matter what, Sofia will always be remembered in my heart as well as the hearts others', as the girl with the big smile and the big heart. I cant wait until the day where we meet again. Just remember she is smiling down on us! =]

My prayers are with her family.

love,
lauren

~

Lauren Nieman,

Orlando, Florida

Lauren Nieman - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ *I remember meeting Sofia through Mandy. And I'll always remember trick-or-treating every year on rollerblades. Sofia was probably the sweetest person I've ever met, never saying a bad thing about anyone. After grade school we didn't really talk, then last year I saw her again and she was so sweet and the first thing she said to me was "Remember Bay Lakes?" How could I forget. Hearing about what happened to Sofia broke my heart. My sympathies go out to her family. Sofia will always be a big part of my growing up and a big part of my memories from Bay Lakes.*

~

Ashley O'Connor,

Orlando, Florida

Ashley O'Connor - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ August 14, 1987 - September 24, 2004

You look at those dates and you realize that it's not the month, day, or year that matters...the part that matters is the dash in between the 2 dates. Although, Sofia's dash was 17 years short in those 17 years she touched the lives, hearts, and souls of many. What really matters is what goes on between those 2 dates.

For anyone that knew Sofia knew that she loved life and she was always that smiling face in the hall. You could always count on her for that smile that was contagious. How could it not be?

Sofia-you'll be missed by more people that you could ever imagine.

~

Kim Arena,

Orlando, Florida

Kim Arena - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ I went to Holy Family when Sofia went their. I only talked to her a few times, but when I did she was always happy. So many people care about her and I never heard anyone say anything negative about her. She brought a lot of joy to many people. She will be missed a lot.

~

Jake Charrette,

West Palm Beach, Florida

Contact Me

Jake Charrette - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ I can remeber Sophia as the goofy girl at cheerleading practice. Even tho she didn't know a cheer she acted like she did. Sophia always knew how to make me laugh. I was lucky enough to know Sophia almost all of my life. We cheered together on Pop Warner, then we survived Holy Family(and the uniforms we both joked about), and finally we made it to Dr. Phillips High School together. Even tho we were not in the same grade and had diffrent friends,Sophia always made it a point to say hi to me in the hallway or come and give me hug. Instead of saying ill miss her, ill say I will ALWAYS remember her.

~

Kelly Eklund,

Orlando, Florida

Kelly Eklund - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ Sofia was one of my first friends from when i moved into orlando in the 6th grade.. She was such a fun person to be with, and could always make me laugh. Just thinking right now that she is gone, brings tears to my eyes, and i know that even though she lives on in all of our hearts, she will be missed.. I havent seen or heard much from sophia, since she left bishop moore in the 9th grade, but i know, she had so much more to live for, and this is such a tradgic thing, that had happened to such a wonderful person. Sofia, i miss you

~

John Varley,

Orlando, Florida

John Varley - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ Sofia was one of my first friends from when i moved into orlando in the 6th grade.. She was such a fun person to be with, and could always make me laugh. Just thinking right now that she is gone, brings tears to my eyes, and i know that even though she lives on in all of our hearts, she will be missed.. I havent seen or heard much from sophia, since she left bishop moore in the 9th grade, but i know, she had so much more to live for, and this is such a tradgic thing, that had happened to such a wonderful person. Sophia, i miss you

~

John Varley,

Orlando, Florida

John Varley - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ To the family,love ones and friends of Sofia, I extend my sincere condolences. My daughters Amber & Ashley were friends of Sofia and through them and other friends I am experiencing the loss of a young girl who is loved by many. As a mother and parent my heart goes out to Sofia's parents. May God cradle you with his love and send peace to your hearts. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Faryln Stapleton

~

Faryln Stapleton,

Orlando, Florida

Faryln Stapleton - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Sue and I are so sorry to hear the news. We would have loved to have met her! As always we never know the time or place when these things happen. Our prayers are with you and the family.

Tony & Sue.

~

TONY MARCHESSEULT,

Eustis,, Florida

[Contact Me](#)

TONY MARCHESSEULT - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ my memories of sofia and i started back when i moved here in 1st grade to the bay lakes neighborhood. i will never forget some of the fun times we had growing up together. sharing our laughs and secrets as little girls. even though in the past couple of years we haven't kept in touch, in my heart sofia will never be forgotten. to all of her family i send you my love and prayers.

~

erin landow,

orlando, Florida

Contact Me

erin landow - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ We are all so sorry that Sofia has passed. Words cannot describe how each one of us feels. Life will go on for all of us, but we will all remember her in our hearts, forever. Sofia was a beautiful person inside and out. Who knows why she was taken, except that it seems like such a tragedy to us. Kim, my best friend, I am here for you and your family. Losing your child is devastating. Hold on to your hopes and dreams because I know that Sofia will be forever in your heart and mind.

With love susan steve, andy and cat

~

Susan, Cat, Andy Floyd, Steve Mountfort,

orlando, Florida

Susan, Cat, Andy Floyd, Steve Mountfort - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ There are some things you can change, and there are some things you cant. We can't change this tradegy no matter how hard we try or no matter how hard we pray. Sofia brought great joy into all our lives. She was beautiful, she was funny, and she was caring. She was so kind and so nice to everyone. I will always remember the times we had together and the things you and I talked about Sofia. I once told you that you can count on me to be there for you, and im here now to say im still here and I will see you in a better place....

~

Cole Minard,

Orlando, Florida

Cole Minard - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

SI

“ When I first heard of this tragedy, I cried for hours. Even though I was never extremely close to her, she was always smiling and saying hello to me, and to everyone around her. I never once saw her angry, upset, or anything besides happy. Sofia was absolutely a positive influence, and I know many people, including myself, love her, and will miss her dearly. My brother dated her for a short time, and that is the time when I got to know her a little.

In time of pain like this, nothing is better than to have close family and friends near by, and I know that with an amazing girl like Sofia, there will be plenty of supporters around the family.

~Rest in Peace Dear Sofia~

~

Sivan,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Sivan - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ I'm not sure if I can express my feelings for Sofia. The tears inside me well up because I cared for her so much. She was one of the most sweetest girls I have ever known. I never knew a moment where she would let someone or something get to her. She was always smiling and laughing and we always had fun when we would hang out. Sofia will be dearly missed and I know there won't be a day that goes by that she won't cross my mind. God said it was her time and now she is everywhere around us. To her family: I am so sorry for your loss. I pray that God will pour peace over your souls. We all loved Sofia and she'll always be in our hearts forever. She was an awesome person and I always will love her. May she rest in peace and see her again one day.

~

Ashley Stapleton,

Orlando, Florida

Ashley Stapleton - September 29, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ To the Marchessault family and Ms.Kosmides, I met Sofia in my 10th grade year of high school at Dr.Phillips. She was probably THE most fun person i've ever been around. She was always so happy and never seemed to let anything really get her down and always had some funny thing to say when i myself was feeling a little down. FUN is a word i can use to describe how our friendship was. Just hanging out at someone's house, her playing the guitar with me on the drums just playing around making "music". I love Sofia and i will always miss her but i know one day i will see her again. She was a great person and all i can think of are happy times when i was with her. I'm very sorry for your loss but know that you have one another to hold eachother up knowing that you will see your daughter/sister again. I love you all and have all of you in my prayers. Sofia was an inspiration to me and to everyone.I dedicate the class of 2005 to her.As Sof would always say...PEACE.

With love,
Amber

~

Amber Stapleton,

Florida

Contact Me

Amber Stapleton - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ To all the family,
All of our hearts go out to you during this painful time. The hundreds of friends of Sofias are all here to support you all. All though i was never too close with Sofia, she was always such a friendly face in the crowd, a fun girl to chat on the school bus with, and a wonderful and bright smiling young lady. Somethings in life are unchangeable, and some people in life are absolutly unforgettable. Sofia...your smile, your beauty and your pleasent presence... will never be forgotten.
In our memories forever,
and to Sofias family, all of my prayers and hopes are with you.

~

Liz Warren,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Liz Warren - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

NK

“ Sophia was my cousin and my friend, we shared many happy memories together. I can still remember when we were young and would play together whenever she came to visit. She was always so kind to me and would always let me win. She was the kind of person who could make you feel better if you were having a bad day. I cannot remember one moment when she did not have a shining smile on her face. To my aunt Kim, my uncle Joe and my cousins Jessica and Leah please know that we all loved Sophia and she will be remembered in our hearts and our minds every day. Every day we pray for you Sophia. Our happy memories of you give us the strength we need to go on in life. To Kim, Joe, Jessica and Leah please know that we are all here for you for whatever you need. We all miss you Sophia, rest in peace.

~

Nick Kosmides,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Nick Kosmides - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ The one you never knew so much about

Having a friend who you care about, trust and love is an awesome part of life. The one person you have no doubt about. The one that your so close to and don't even know it. You don't know much about them but you know they are worthy enough to be your friend. Being in the same classes and the same program at school (Dr. Phillips Theatre Program) gets you to know that person. After moving away and not seeing them for a while you forget to keep in touch with all your friends. You think about them every once in a while about how they are and what they are up to but cant really do much to find out how they are or even to hang out. When you're so busy and so far away now.

It was my freshman year when I met Sofia (now im a senior). The one who was so passionate for acting and it came so naturally. As much as we hated the program we got through it. James, and I still member all those fun time we can just think about and laugh at nothing because there was nothing else to do. Sofia's smile, voice and looks made her such an awesome person. We only hung out at school for class or acting functions, but what a person she was. I wish I had gotten closer to her although we were good friends. The last day I talked to any of my friends was the last day of school. Until that one day and someone mentions her name and you say "Oh her, I remember her." Then what you would never expect, "Well she died on Friday night." Your heart drops. The girl that's so beautiful and she's just an all around great person. You never thought that someone with such an awesome personality could have something that bad happen to her. That smile that never left her face can't be found anymore. Then you think only if I would have talked to her these past years or if I never left her side. You don't know what you lost till its gone. Since my old school, I haven't found someone with such a personality like her and now it doesn't matter because she's gone. You can't go back in time and keep her close and hang out once a month. You have to say oh well. But you cant just thinking about it makes me sick. Knowing someone that was so happy and that would have made a big difference in life cant

be replaced.

To all her family and friends, Know she's in heaven a place where we may reunite and never have to leave again. I know she's looking down on all of us and the thought of her should put a smile on your face like it does mine.

*My Love and Regards,
Andrea Mylonakis*

~

Andrea Mylonakis,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Andrea Mylonakis - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sofia was a wonderful person. I remember meeting her the first day of class. She was such a positive person to be around. I will never forget her smile. God has taken back an angel. Sofia, watch over us. I love you, Sofia.*

September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Kim, Leah, Jessica and Joe
I am Sofias cousin. I remember when she came up to Minnesota in the summer and we went to Valley Fair. We went on the Screaming Yellow Eagle together and then we both enjoyed numerous foods for the majority of the day. I am very sorry for the loss of a family member. It was a lesson about that you should tell each other everyday that you love each other love your cousin Tony*

~

Tony Kosmides,

Chanhassen, Minnesota

Tony Kosmides - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Having grown up with Joe in Richfield, Minnesota, I can now see by the lovely words written about his daughter; that she was a wonderful person just like her parents. My sympathies to Kim and Joe and family. Please know that she was the spark that ignited everyones heart. Remember the good times and try to get through these difficult days ahead. Cherish the memories.*

Your friend always,

Mary

~

Mary Catherine McKenna,

Prior Lake, Minnesota

Contact Me

Mary Catherine McKenna - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

YO

“ *I love this girl...she was the best...theres not a word that exists that will totally express how she made me feel from just being with her...*

I love you Sofia...i miss you already...

~

Yong Oh,

Orlando, Florida

Yong Oh - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ memories of growing up in bay lakes consist of nothing but memories of sofia and i. we were together every day for about 10 years and i can honestly say that she was my first best friend in my entire life. even though we haven't talked in a while, i still think about the times we used to share to this day. playing on the trampoline, climbing trees, watching movies, all the birthday parties we went to together, playing basketbell, hanging out at the park with the neighborhood kids, the numerous amount of sleep overs, etc. she was always so incredibly happy, and no matter what wrong turns were brought her way, she faced them with a smile. i spent practically my entire childhood with her. growing up was a little more difficult, but still keeping in contact, though not as well. coming into high school we began to talk again, still not as much as i'm sure both of us would have liked. but no matter what, her smile never failed to shine whenever i would see her in the hallways or at a party or someplace else along those lines. some of the best times of my childhood and my life were spent with sofia, and they will remain in my heart and mind forever. hearing of this tragic accident created a huge hole in my heart. i still sit here, writing this in shock and disbelief. when i first found out i cried all night long. how could this happen to someone who was loved by so many? i know she is up there watching over us all, and i want her to know that she will always be remembered in my heart and also by many for the amazing person she was. i send my love and sympathy to her family, who i knew well, and her friends... i love you sofia, you are greatly missed.

love always,
mandy

~

mandy rhoads,

orlando, Florida

mandy rhoads - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ *Sofia and my daughter, Mary Equels, became friends when they were in school together at Holy Family. We were deeply saddened to learn of Sofia's death. Our sincere condolences.*

~

Mary Kogut,

Winter Park, Florida

Contact Me

Mary Kogut - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ I didn't really know Sophia, my girlfriend was friends with her and that is how we met. She was probly one of the sweetest gurls I have met and I know she will be missed by everyone that knew her.

~

Chris Kirschner,

Orlando, Florida

Chris Kirschner - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Sofia was such a beautiful person and always had a smile on her face. Now shes smiling with the angels.

September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Words cannot convey the sadness in my heart for the loss of Sophia. My memories of her were of when she would play for hours with my children, eat snickerdoodle cookies until they all got sick, and sometimes sleep over and giggle half of the night. "What a precious child", I would think, with those beautiful blue eyes. To Kim, Joe, Leah and Jessica.... my deepest sympathy. My prayers will continue to be for your family.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Rev 21:4

~

Carol Landow,

Monroe, Louisiana

Contact Me

Carol Landow - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ *Kim,*

Words cannot express my deep sorrow for your loss. My hope is that, in your own time, you find peace and comfort in the wonderful memories of Sofia.

Please KNOW that I am here for you.

With sympathy and friendship,

~

Sheron Thompson,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sheron Thompson - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *i'm sorry about your loss, and you all will remain in my prayers. she will be missed =*

September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *My heart and soul~ full of thought and prayer are with Kim, Joe, Jessica & Leah. I will always have a vision of Sofia's beautiful eyes, filled with life and wonder when she spoke or just took time to pet our dogs. She was an angel on earth as she is in heaven. Always, Sandi, Rick and family*

~

Sandi Jeffreys,

Orlando, Florida

Sandi Jeffreys - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *I grew up with Jessica and knew the family. I send my love in this hard time. If my old friend Jessica needs anything, in this time of need, please feel free to contact me. May Sofia rest in peace.*

September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *It's been a long time since I knew Sofia, but I remeber her as little kid in diapers. I was best friends with Jessica growing up and can remember Sofia only as a little child. I send my love to the family and to an old friend Jessica. May Sofia rest in peace.*

~

Heather Fogle,

Orlando, Florida

Heather Fogle - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ Sophia, I believe we will all see each other in the future. I know you will be waiting for your family when they arrive. God bless

~

Trudy Lazar,

Memphis, Tennessee

Trudy Lazar - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

“ It is often said that words do not fully convey the thoughts and emotions that people feel in times like these. Nothing I will be able to say will capture what I truly feel for Sofia, but I will try my best to share a piece of what she means to me with all of you. Sofia came into my life during Christmas of 2001 when I was a senior at Bishop Moore High School. I often saw her around school there was something about her radiance and smile that drew me in. What began as a joke, (I was Santa Claus and I needed an elf!) turned into a long lasting friendship. Sofia became a very important person to me and came in and out of my life for the past three years. Her love for life shone through in the many moments I shared with her. Whether it was a Sunday breakfast at Perkins, me trying to show her how to play guitar, goofing off in Barnes and Noble, or our excursions to the Downtown Disney McDonalds, anytime with her was my favorite part of the week.

Sofia taught me that dreaming wasn't moping about the unattainable, but a goal towards something that just took a little more effort. Sofia was my rock during the most up-and-down part of my life while I waited anxiously to hear whether I would be coming to the University of Miami (which was my personal dream.) Always ready with a word of encouragement or a hug, she eased the nerves without even really trying. When I got the news of my acceptance, she was the first to receive a call and subsequently the first to share my joy with in person.

What I will remember most about my time with Sofia was the talks we shared at the park behind her mother's house. I will always cherish sitting on those benches in the early spring evening talking about absolutely nothing; yet those are the times that will resound in my memory forever. Whether it was sharing a laugh, an embarrassing story, a pipe dream, intense emotions, our philosophy on life, favorite music, the hot news topic of the day, or what sandwich we ate for lunch, they were some of the most enjoyable times in my entire life and no matter what happened, I never left from spending time her without feeling extremely happy.

In closing, to Ms. Kosmidis, Mr. Marchessault, Leah, Jessica, and the rest of the family, my thoughts are with you in this time of loss.

Take comfort that Sofia touched many people in her time and that I, along with many others will cherish her and the time we shared for the rest of our lives. To Sofia, I've never hoped that there is a heaven more than now, just so I can see you again. What am I talking about? I know you're there playing guitar with Kurt and Brad. You should have one of them show you how to play "Stairway" so you can teach me when I come home. Always remember to watch out for me, because you know a mindful eye wouldn't be a bad idea! Take care of everyone alright!? Petey and I will be out on our bench from time to time so come visit us.

*Love,
C-Vass*

~

Chris Vasseur,

Miami, Florida

Contact Me

Chris Vasseur - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ *In the short time I worked with Sophia you could see her great personality she was sweet and fun loving. She will be greatly missed at Chilis and I'm very sorry for your loss.*

~

Dara Thurlby,

Winter Park

Contact Me

Dara Thurlby - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I sat here today reading entry after entry about all the wonderful things Sofia did in her life and how many people she was able to touch and I wanted to comment myself but I was in such disbelief about the whole accident that I didn't know what to say. To me, I will always remember Sofia in two ways. The fun girl I used to play with when I was in Kindergarden at Bay Meadows and the fun, carefree teenager I knew at Holy Family. As I stare at a picture of the two of us playing in my pool, I remember all the times she made me laugh. And how she could turn any horrible function at Holy Family (like a dance!) and make it into a fun event where we would leave holding our stomachs because she had made us laugh so hard with her crazy dance moves and humor. Her off the wall personality and carefree spirit will be forever missed.

To Sofia, thank you for making me laugh during the years I knew you and reminding me to live life to the fullest without any regrets. To her family, my prayers are with you all but please know that she is safe in heaven with my own mom looking down on us with her beautiful smile everyday. In every heart she touched, in every life she changed, in every thought she inspired, her love lives on.

~

Diana Bamberger,

Orlando, Florida

Diana Bamberger - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ *Sitting here, looking at a picture of Sophia and I, I cannot believe she's gone. First of all I want to share my deepest sympathy and support for her family.*

As many are right now, I'm feeling so many mixed emotions...but I know for a fact Sophia would never want us to feel in any way sorry for what happened, she'd want us to look back on all the good times we had...I remember the day I met Sophia in the 1st grade. I thought she was the PRETTIEST little girl ever and I knew I wanted to be her friend. Her and I didn't talk really much until my 10th grade year and from then on she was the radiance that I looked forward to being with. I will always remember her as one who never judged people and loved living in the moment. I remember every single time I saw Sophia she always had a presence with her. No matter what had happened that day she always just lived in the moment. I'll never forget the way her eyes closed when she laughed really hard, the way she was always oblivious to everything :), her really crazy/funny/exciting stories, the way she looked while playing her guitar, how much she loved the song "Sweet Home Alabama" or all of the things that she would do to make me and Jamie laugh.

Sophia...throughout these past years all you have given me is smiles. There is not one bad memory I have of you. You made mine and many other's lives full of fun and excitement. You have and will always hold a special place in my heart and without you here I feel as though I'm missing part of me. I love you so much and know your at peace.

~

Julia Pyzik,

Orlando, Florida

Julia Pyzik - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ *I met Sofia in 9th grade at Bishop Moore Catholic High School. I remember her as a person who would never let anything get her down. When i was down she would always think of the positive ways that i could be hyappy. She was one of my good friends that year, and I am glad to have met her in my life. Heaven has just taken back an angel.*

~

Brett Painter,

Orlando, Florida

Brett Painter - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ I knew Sofia when I attended Holy Family and Dr Phillips High. I am a year older than she is, but I still had a class with her. She would light up the whole room with her presence. Sofia, I will miss you greatly. I pray every night that God will welcome you with open arms...and I'm sure He did. I love you forever. Rest in eternal peace.
Ashley

~

Ashley Schiesz,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Ashley Schiesz - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ *Kim, Joe, Jessica and Leah,*

Our hearts and prayers go out to you and your family. Sofia gave us so many wonderful memories and we are here for you.

~

Nanstiel Family,

Orlando, Florida

Nanstiel Family - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

ME

“Sofia came into my life when we both started school at Holy Family upon its opening and I have so many fond memories of her. She was my best friend after moving to Orlando. I still remember spending countless hours at her house playing Carmen Sandiego on her computer, doing yoga with her mom, making up stories together to scare my little sister with, and wandering around the playground and the lake in her neighborhood. Sofia was always so interested in acting and I remember how much fun we had taking acting classes together for a couple of years. I also remember how much she liked to rollerblade, and the excited message she left on my family's answering machine after she had broken her arm and gotten a blue cast. :) Sofia was my "buddy" for the St. Augustine trip and I remember having such a great time with her in the city. Visiting the Greek Orthodox church there is a particularly vivid memory because Sofia was always so proud of being Greek--I can still picture the "Greek Princess" poster that was on her bedroom wall.

So many little things about Sofia and her family have stuck with me, from their amazing rotating microwave, to the complicated "sign language" Sofia and I made up, to the bagels her dad made us for breakfast after a sleepover, to our nearly identical phone numbers and too many more tiny details to name here. I still remember digging around with Sofia in her bathroom looking for something and the way she said, "Ohhh, teenage sisters!" as we picked up random beauty products. Sofia was always so good at making everyone laugh and lots of her funny remarks from years ago make me smile to this day. I'm grateful for the handful of chance encounters I've had with Sofia in more recent years--she always remained a very sweet and genuine person with a good heart, and all of my close friends and family either knew Sofia or had heard enough about her over the years to feel as though they did. My heart goes out to the whole Marchessault family, whom I hold just as dear to me as I still do Sofia. Sofia/Sam/Sofa: I miss you very much and pray for you.

~

Mary Equels,

Winter Park, Florida

Contact Me

Mary Equels - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *Sophia has left behind a thousand memories that will live in your hearts forever...*

Please know that in this difficult time that you are in so many thoughts and prayers.

Thinking of you...

Shirley Ragan

~

Shirley Ragan,

Woodbury, Minnesota

Contact Me

Shirley Ragan - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

ND

“ Sophia, i remember you as my good friend and neighbor when we were younger. We would always play outside and just do what little kids do. I haven't spoken to you much over the years, but when i heard what happened i was in disbelief. Watch over us, you will always be in our hearts.

love nick

~

Nick DeMore,

Orlando, Florida

Contact Me

Nick DeMore - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ I met Sophia when I was 9 at Holy Family Catholic School. We grew up together with 61 other students. Sophia was such an outgoing, inspirational person. At every boy-girl dance, she was the one to get everyone dancing. I wish I could say that I kept good contact with her after middle school, but I did not, and I will regret that fact for the rest of my life. She was a kind, loving soul and will be greatly missed.

Holy Family Catholic School - Class of 2001

~

Alexandra McQueary-Ennis,

Windermere, Florida

Contact Me

Alexandra McQueary-Ennis - September 28, 2004 at 12:00 AM