

Memorial Book



In Loving Memory of

JESSICA J. CHEMNITZ

(March 6, 1987 - October 5, 2008)



"Ain't nothin' that deep."

*Drill Sergeant
Compton*

know that this website is supposed to be "for people only"... but if you knew Jessica you also knew Mick, and vice versa. So, it is only fitting that they should be - and stay - together in death, as they did in life.

JESSICA

Jessica was born on 3/6/1987.

She was an easy child to raise, and I loved being her Mom.

Jessica was compassionate and had a big heart, especially for the "underdogs" in this world.

She loved school, had many friends, and was popular - but she never let that go to her head.

She wanted to become a doctor when she was small, and always told me that she wanted to provide free care for those who couldn't afford it otherwise.

She had big dreams, my daughter... one of them was to be able to adopt an

unwanted older child, and she talked about this often.
She would've made a terrific Mom some day.

Jessica was funny... she had a great sense of humor, and she smiled often.
She loved to read, write, and draw.
She was kind, compassionate, and giving.

She loved Mick, and used to call him her "pesky little brother". The two of them had a special relationship, right from the minute she discovered him under a neighbors back porch. And even though Mick ended up adopting me and being my heart dog - she never once resented him for it.

Jessica was diagnosed w/bi-polar disease when she was 13. It created much turmoil for her, but she tried to face it with courage and optimism.

She graduated from high school in 2006. She planned to go to college and decided to join the army in 2008 to help pay for her education.

MICKEY

Mick always used to say "you TALK too much"... and, in true fashion, this will be loooong - but bear with me for one last time.

First, let me share Micks last day...

I took Mick back to the vet in the morning. He hadn't been doing well, and had stopped eating a couple of days ago.

He looked tired. He seemed to be in pain and he had a hard time breathing.

He didn't put up a struggle while he was being sedated, but he did give a token growl, just to keep up appearances.

We waited for him to "go under". 30 minutes later... we still waited. The vet and I had talked in the meantime, and I knew it was bad... if your vet has tears in her eyes after having almost been mauled several times over the past three years - you know the news can't be good.

We waited some more, and finally Mick got another shot. Still, his ears kept perking up and his eyes would not close.

I asked one of the vet techs to get us an ice cream from McDonalds, and after Mick had that we got comfortable on the floor. The vet left the room and turned off the lights... I was laying on my back w/my head against the door, and Mick was next to me with his head on my chest.

We had a long talk, and every so often the tip of his tail would wag a little bit... just enough to let me know that he was listening, and agreeing... or not.

I thanked him for the best almost-seven years of my life. I told him that it was an honor to have shared my life with him, and that I knew he was only hanging on for my sake.

I promised that I would take good care of "his Jessica" for him, and that he didn't have to worry about us.

I told him I loved him so many times that he finally rolled his eyes at me and snorted.

He also got a third shot.

In true Beast fashion it took enough sedation for a 95-pound dog, and over two hours, before he finally gave in and went to sleep.

The vet did more blood work, some fine needle aspirations, and a physical exam. Micks liver and spleen were extremely swollen, the lymphnodes around his throat were so swollen that he almost couldn't swallow. Even w/a prednisone shot and/or oral chemo he might've only had 2-3 weeks left... and he would've been in pain and very uncomfortable.

I had him euthanized while he was still under sedation, and I held him until his heart stopped and he wasn't breathing anymore.

I know the neurons do their thing after death... and when Mick sort of twitched and moved... everyone except me took a quick step away from the table... pure reflex... but he would've had a big smile on his face over that one. He

scared the vet one final time, my big goof ball of a dog.

What else is there to say...

a piece of my heart died when he passed, and I will miss him.

He's been a better friend to me than most people I know, and he was my family.

Those of us whom he loved he loved completely, and without reservation. He was loyal to a fault, and the most forgiving being I've ever had the pleasure of knowing.

He was funny. He was stubborn. He was a creature of habit.

He might've hated people, but he was kind and loving towards all the little creatures that came and went through our house during his lifetime.

He was generous. He had a huge heart and a smile to match.

Most of all - he loved life. He truly lived life to the fullest whenever possible, and he was happiest when he could spend his time with us. Didn't matter where we were, or what we did... as long as he was with us, he was content.

Mick changed me in ways I never could've imagined... and I am grateful that I had the opportunity to have him in my life. He brought so much joy and happiness in my world... and that's the only reason I let him go.

I owed him that.

Be at peace now, my beautiful goofy boy.

I love you. I will miss you.

And THANK YOU for having been "mine" as long as you were.

*

*Mickey was diagnosed with lymphoma on January 3rd, 2008.
After extensive chemo therapy he lost his battle on October 3rd, 2008.*

*Jessica was diagnosed w/terminal liver cancer on September 3rd of this year... and lost her battle
on October 5th at 3:40 pm.*

*

I can't even begin to put into words how devastated I am.
Losing her and Mick within two days of each other is not something I can even comprehend yet... but
I have to believe that they will watch over each other, wherever they may be.

I don't know how I will get through this, or if I ever will. I don't know how to carry on from here, by
myself.

I do know that I will never be the same, and that this pain won't ever go away... it will be an ache in
my heart that can never be healed.

I also know that the world is so much poorer without Jessica... and a lot less bright.

Be at peace now, Jess... and know that you were the very best part of me.
I will hold you in my heart as my biggest treasure... and I will miss you more than you'll ever know.

With so much love, and so much sorrow... Mom



Down, down, down into the darkness of the grave
Gently they go, the beautiful, the tender, the kind;
Quietly they go, the intelligent, the witty, the brave.
I know.

But I do not approve.

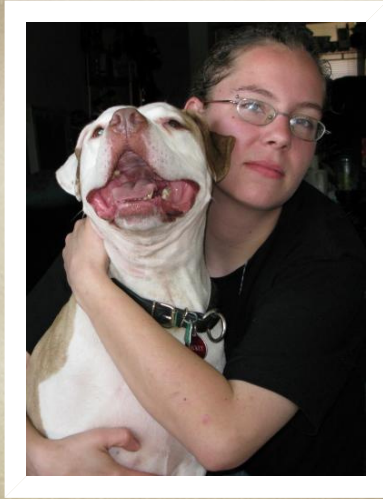
And I am not resigned.

~ Edna St. Vincent Millay ~

The background is a textured, mottled olive-green color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly curled, while the one on the right is larger and more fully bloomed. The word "Gallery" is written in a white, elegant cursive font, centered horizontally and partially overlapping the roses.

Gallery

so sweet, so unforgettable...



Jessica and Mick - my reasons for getting up in the morning



Jess and Mick August 2008



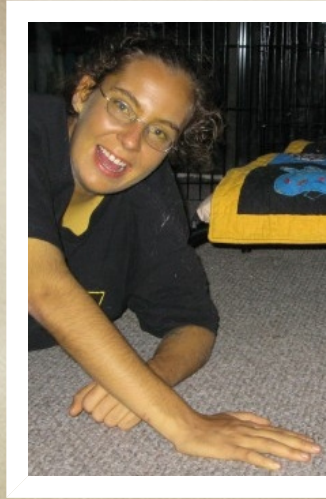
My two loves... 2007



Memorial Stone from Jeanine (BigDogBuford) from PBT... October 2008



Jess and Sophie... September 2008



September 2008



August 2008



Such a pretty girl... 2007



Aspiring model... 2007



All-time favorite snack - Pringles ROCK!!!



March 2008



August 2007



You'll be in my heart, always. September 2008



Jess LOVED being an aunt... September 2008



*A baby couldn't ask for a more loving aunt...
September 2008*



Jess and Cayley... September 2008



Jess, Mick, and Daisy... August 2008

Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The background is a textured, mottled brownish-gold color. The roses are rendered in a soft, painterly style, with delicate shading on their petals.

Memorial Candles

our words, your light...

11/08/2008

Tante

Ich denke an dich, Tante

11/05/2008

Mom

Holding you and Mick in my heart w/all the love and strength you can imagine. Love always - Mom

11/05/2008

Tante

Auch heute bist du ganz fest in meinen Gedanken, Tante

11/04/2008

Tante

In Liebe, Tante

11/04/2008

TD

I'm not so good with these sort of things. I will always remember, and will be there for your mom whenever she needs me!

11/04/2008

Debbie (stephie929)

I will miss the both of you. I promise you both that we will do our best to help your mom make it thru each day.

11/03/2008

Tante

Das Loslassen fällt schwer, du bist in meinen Gedanken und in meinem Herzen. Paß bitte auf dich und mein Baby auf, Tante

11/02/2008

Tante

Ruhe in Frieden, großer Engel!!

11/02/2008

Tante

Ich liebe dich, Tante

11/02/2008

Mom

I got my palm leaf today, you guys... thank you! Love always - Mom

11/01/2008

Becky

For Jessica and Mick always in our hearts

11/01/2008

Tante

Und auch heute denke ich wieder ganz fest an dich. In Liebe, Steffi

10/31/2008

Natalija

*Keeping you in my thoughts,
Jess, Mick and Christine ...
Forever and ever.*

10/31/2008

Beth

*Today, I light this candle for
you Jessica. I will keep you,
Mick and your Mom in my
heart everyday! Love you
much!*

10/31/2008

Tante

*Eine Kerze für Jess und eine
Kerze für Mick, Stefanie*

10/30/2008

Mom

*Missing you guys terribly...
Love - Mom*

10/30/2008

Tante

*In Gedanken bei dir und
deiner Mama, Stefanie*

10/29/2008

Tante

In Liebe, deine Tante

10/28/2008

Tante

*Jeden Tag soll eine Kerze für
dich brennen. Deine Tante*

10/27/2008

Liz & Inara

*Jessica, I truly hope you are
resting in peace, playing
fetch with Mick up in the
great beyond. Your mom is
in good hands here.*

10/27/2008

Christine

*Du trägst die Last nicht
alleine, ich leide mit dir. Ich
liebe dich, Stefanie*

10/26/2008

Aunt

*Eure Liebe zueinander ist
unsterblich. Stefanie*

10/26/2008

Mom

*Thinking of you, especially
today. Love - Mom*

10/24/2008

**Mom to ^i^ Cameron
Bieberle**

*I light this candle for you
dear Jessica. I am
heartbroken for you and
your family. May your mom
feel your love and you hers!*

<3

10/24/2008

Mom

*I love you, baby. Take good
care of each other, you and
Mick. Be at peace, know that
I miss you. Love always -
Mom*

The background of the entire image is a textured, mottled olive-green or taupe color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly curled, while the one on the right is larger and more fully bloomed. Both roses are rendered in a light, almost white tone, making them stand out against the darker, textured background.

Condolences

from the deepest of our hearts...

Lisa Schroeder

It's been a month

November 5, 2008

Christine, I wanted to stop in and let you know that I have been thinking about you and wish you peace. I attended a mass at St. Pius church in Loudonville, NY last night to remember our loved ones that have passed during the past year as part of the all souls day celebration...Jessica was remembered during the mass...when they read her name, I placed a flower in a vase on the altar, it was a celebration and a reminder that this short life that we have here on earth is just a blink of an eye, and our loved ones are now perfect, and healthy, and happy waiting for us up in heaven. I am not a religious person, but have developed a bit of faith since my father passed and hope that you have a way to comfort yourself during this time...

Much love from Lisa, Thorne, and Sparky

Deanna

Missing you

November 4, 2008

Jessica & Mickey - you are loved and greatly missed more than words can express.

I feel your laughter...

from the sway in the trees

I see your love...

from the wind in my hair

Open your heart and I'll open my arms

Hold me...

as the river passes through and the water trickles down..

Hold me

as the clouds soar the heavens above.

Hold me..

as the leaves sing their song

dancing, whirling gracefully in your eyes.

Hold me for today and for what the future will bring.
But most of all hold me for the love that is here..
 within my eyes, my breath and my soul
 painting a picture of your pure existence
 hold me now so time can not escape.

-Deanna -

Brenda Hilley

HTP Member

November 4, 2008

We remember, CC....

One Second

It's been one second, one minute, then one hour, one day
since I held her and then, finally had to let her go.
I think the pain will never end.
My head tells me it will ease, but my heart argues.
I make it through the never-ending flood of well-wishers.
They love me, I know.
But I can feel no love now over the emptiness in my heart.

Will it always feel this way?
Years from now, will I still look back?
Will I still be counting the seconds, hours, days, months and years
Since she's been gone?
I've heard the platitudes.
"Time eases all pain" ...
So THEY say.

And I know, PART of me knows, that to be true.
But this... THIS is more than pain.
It is a consuming fireball of emptiness.
But I will NOT be consumed.
I WILL carry on.
I will continue in despair if only so I can savor the precious time I had her with me.
I will remember the honesty and innocence of that short life.
Yes, I will carry on... one second, one minute, one hour and one day at a time
so I can remember...

Monica Davis-McDaniel

D Co. 3/10 IN BN Supply Sergeant

November 3, 2008

I was told today about Pvt. Chemnitz's passing last month. I was very upset to hear the news. You have my condolences, as well as that of the D 3/10 Family. We will keep you in our prayers.

Stefanie

Liebe Christine

October 28, 2008

ich bin in Gedanken jede Sekunde bei dir.

Stefanie

Stefanie Chemnitz

Hi

October 26, 2008

Liebe Christine,

deine Liebe wird Jessica immer begleiten, egal wo sie ist.

Deine Schwester Stefanie

The background is a textured, mottled brownish-gold color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly curled, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing more of its petals. The roses are rendered in a slightly darker shade of the background color, giving them a subtle, embossed appearance.

Memories

all the gray you turned into colors...

Hello Jess



I want to say that i love you and you have a specilly place in my heart. You are allways in my mind. It hurts because you´re gone, but i know we see us anytime. Please watch for my baby and give a big kiss from me.

I love you all, my angels.

Stefanie

Please don´t laugh, because my english is very bad, but i know you can understand all what i mean

Hallo Jessica

Es tut so weh, daß du gegangen bist. Ich kann nicht beschreiben, wie sehr. Auch wenn ich dich nicht kannte, meine Liebe zu dir ist dir sicher.

In Liebe, deine Tante

Hallo Jessica

ich bin jeden Tag auf dieser schönen Seite, die deine Mama für dich gemacht hat. Mit soo viel Liebe. Wenn ich hier bin, fühle ich mich dir noch näher.

Aber immer wieder frage ich mich: Warum? Warum DU? Warum jetzt schon?

Wahrscheinlich versteht man sowas erst später und alles hat doch irgendwie einen Sinn, aber momentan geht es nicht in meinen Kopf.

Tante Steffi



Hallo Jess,

leider konnte ich dich nie richtig kennenlernen, aber trotzdem bin ich dir sehr nahe.

Dein Tod hat mir den Boden unter den Füßen weggerissen, da ich auch noch selbst eine Woche vorher mein Baby verloren habe.

Aber meine Liebe zu euch ist immer bei euch und ihr beiden habt einen ganz besonderen Platz in meinem Herzen.

Es vergeht kein Tag, an dem ich nicht an euch denke.

Liebe Jess, sei dir sicher, daß wir uns irgendwann sehen werden. Und bis dahin, paß bitte gut auf euch auf.

Ich liebe euch von ganzem Herzen,

Mama und Tante Steffi

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Life Story

every hour, every thought, every smile...

March 6, 1987

Born in on **March 6, 1987**.

January 1, 2008

My daughter joined the Army in January 2008... much to my initial dismay.

I didn't think she would be able to cope with the rigorous training and the self-discipline it takes to become a soldier. Or that she would be able, and willing, to take orders from anyone... much less a Drill Sergeant or a Superior.

Well, I was wrong.

Jessica LOVED the Army even though it took her some "getting used to".

She loved the order and the routine the Army brought into her life, and she loved being part of this *new* family she was welcomed into.

When she called she was always full of stories, and her letters talked of many new friends, as well as some of the demands she had to comply with.

*

When Jessica was discharged in June she was very disappointed, but she hoped to rejoin/sign up again in January of 2009.

Through some unsent letters and some entries in her journals I have pieced together what happened to her while she was away from home for six months.

I was very saddened to think of my baby and the despair she must've felt at times... but I'm also grateful to all of you who cared for - and about - her while she was in Missouri at boot

camp.

Jess returned home with much hope for the future... something she hadn't felt in a long, long time.

She also returned home with a new appreciation for life, and a good attitude - she was starting to "come into her own", if you will.

If given the chance, she would've made a terrific soldier, some day.

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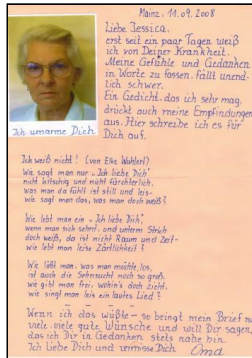
My baby girl was extremely proud to have been a part of the

D 3/10 Family.



I am extremely proud of her.

September 11, 2008



October 3, 2008



On the day Mick died... I couldn't bring myself to post anything on PBT, and I asked Michelle, the owner of PBT, to let the other members know of his passing.

Here is her tribute to my beautiful boy -

~ [quote="mnp13"]Many of you were members here on June 1, 2007, when Christine joined PBT.

She arrived with a Pit Bull that came straight out of every hyped up, stereotypical, overblown news story about our breed... but these were TRUE stories.

Most Pit Bull boards chew up owners like Christine and spit them out. The very first thing out of their members is to tell someone to kill their dog, and when they say no, they get beaten about the head with all the horrible things that their dog might someday do...

But not our board.

I will admit that I rolled my eyes when Christine joined with Mick. Another owner with a sob story about her dog's awful beginning and all sorts of excuses about why her dog was acting like an ass all the time. I just closed my eyes and wished she would go away. She didn't. She stayed and with a tenacity that is only matched by our dogs, she made us help her and Mick.

I'm glad she did.

Christine came here to learn and make her life with Mick better. We definitely helped her with that, but in the end we were the ones that ended up getting the better end of the deal. We got to watch Mick slowly change under Christine's guidance until we could all see the dog that she has seen from the beginning. The Beast was slowly being tamed.

Ten months ago, Mick was diagnosed with Lymphoma and Christine decided to try to help him beat it.

The fight was long, and they seemed to be winning... WE seemed to be winning... but today our friend lost his battle.

He stopped eating few days ago, and was in for further testing. The prognosis was grim and instead of being selfish and keeping him alive for a few more precious – but likely very uncomfortable - days or weeks, Christine gave him yet another gift of love; she ended his pain.

You can't open a section of this forum and not find pictures of Mick somewhere. The entire forum was his "gallery;" the Beast that made us smile; laugh out loud and

sometimes spit water on our keyboards (occasionally quite literally).

His pictures are everywhere, and usually very easy to find.

However, it's not always easy to find the little stories and anecdotes that end up scattered in threads all over the board.

Nothing can make the loss of a friend "easy" but sometimes sharing stories and memories can dull the pain a bit. [/quote] ~

October 5, 2008

Passed away on **October 5, 2008.**

Our Deepest Sympathy

www.last-memories.com