



Samantha St. Aubyn Swartzlander

June 25, 1988 - October 31, 2018

Samantha St. Aubyn (Peluso) Swartzlander, a gifted artist and art teacher, passed away on Wednesday, October 30th, 2018. Sam had a strong passion for art, but above all, her true passion was helping others. She loved teaching her middle and high school students where she could combine the two things she loved most - art and helping others to see their potential. She was always a great listener, a great shoulder to cry on, and a wonderful person to laugh with. She was willing to help anyone at any time. She will be deeply missed by everyone who knew her.

Sam was 30 years old. She was born in New York, grew up in New Jersey, and spent her adult life in Georgia. She had a bachelor's degree in Art and Design from LaGrange College and a master's degree in Teaching from Georgia College.

She is survived by her one true love and husband, Matthew Swartzlander, her parents, Dante and Kerry Peluso, her brother, Mac Peluso, her grandparents, Darlene Tobin, Phil Tobin, Judy Tobin, Ormond Peluso and Micki Peluso, and many aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, students and a soon-to-be sister-in-law, Bronwyn Moran, who all loved her very much.

A service will be held for Samantha on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 2:00 PM in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home located at 38 Jackson Street in Newnan, GA. The family will receive friends from 1:00 PM until service time. Immediately following the service, a reception will be held at Lillian Gardens, 83 Greenville Street, Newnan, GA. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made

to the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation <https://bbrfoundation.donordrive.com/campaign/In-Memory-of-Samantha-St--Aubyn-Peluso-Swartzlander> . A tribute page has been set up in her name at www.bbrfoundation.org. Sam will be put to rest in Gulf Cemetery in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida where her parents and husband will someday join her.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com

Service

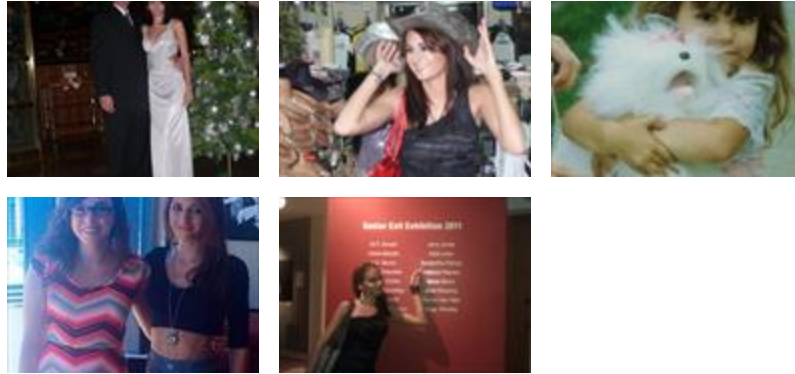
NOV 6. 2:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-4580
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Tribute Wall

KE

“ 16 files added to the album Life Tributes



Kerry - February 13, 2024 at 04:14 PM

JE

“ I am the parent of one of her students. I am thankful for the impact she had on my daughters life. With what she taught her I am certain it will help her in her future decisions with art! She is very missed, we are sorry for your loss and our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Jennifer - November 16, 2018 at 03:51 PM

EP

“ I am a student at ICMs and was lucky enough to have Mrs.S as a teacher and I believe that now she is in heaven happier than ever . She was my art teacher and art club teacher . And I really miss her. In her lessons she would go into great detail to make sure that we really got the lessons and what we were doing.. The last lesson that she taught was on day of the dead and we made suger skulls and on November 1st we were going to celebrate. She was a amazing teacher and person and I am sure that everyone at ICMS misses her and loves her. Love, Ella

ella prosser - November 06, 2018 at 12:48 PM

C.

“ I didn't know her personally (my daughter was scheduled to take her class at ICMS). I'm just saddened by the loss of a talented young artist, daughter, sister, teacher and friend. Peace be with you. ~C.E.

C.E. - November 06, 2018 at 07:40 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Samantha St. Aubyn Swartzlander.



November 05, 2018 at 11:01 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Samantha St. Aubyn Swartzlander.



November 05, 2018 at 06:37 PM

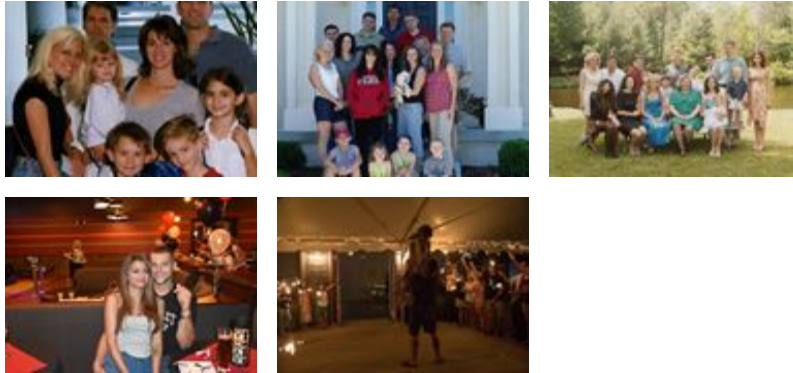
RE

“ *Mrs. Swartzlander (Pelouso) taught my daughter at ICMS. She inspired my daughter, Abigail, through her passionate love of art, especially the Fibonacci spiral. She will truly be missed.*

Rebecca - November 05, 2018 at 01:46 PM



“ 364 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - November 05, 2018 at 01:37 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of *Samantha St. Aubyn Swartzlander*.



November 05, 2018 at 12:59 PM



“ *Sam and my daughter, Julie became friends when they were only 8 years old, and we loved watching Sam grow from an adorable little girl, into a beautiful young lady. We especially treasure the week that Sam spent with us in the Outer Banks, back when the girls were teenagers. And, in recent months, Sam was always there for Julie, when Julie made the decision to quit her career in advertising and become a teacher. Sam's love of teaching and of the joy and satisfaction that it brought her, helped Julie to be sure of her decision. Samantha's and Julie's friendship will last forever.*

Patrick E. Rose - November 05, 2018 at 12:09 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Samantha St. Aubyn Swartzlander.*



November 05, 2018 at 10:57 AM



“ *My name is Yvonne I have been friends of the family for years . I asked her to talk to my oldest granddaughter Sera . Sera too is an very talented artist in part thanks to Sam . I had asked Sam to talk to Sera for me as an artist to another artist . Sera was having a heard time thinking about her art and what things she wanted to do . She dint think that art was an choice she had in life . Sam helped her to see that it is ok to be an artist , its not to just be an artist but to be an artist .*

yvonne johnson - November 05, 2018 at 10:22 AM



“ *Nancy & Mike Stahl (and girls) purchased the Str ength & Solace Spray for the family of Samantha St. Aubyn Swartzlander.*



Nancy & Mike Stahl (and girls) - November 05, 2018 at 10:08 AM



“ I also knew Samantha from the game. Bunch of us spent a lot of time there. She was a real teamplayer, always nice and fair. Fun with a good sense of humor. This came as a surprise. It is heartbreaking to hear that something like this happened. She must be in a better place now. "Shield or shelter" till we meet again. Zuli

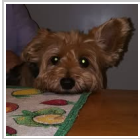
Dejan Obradovic - November 04, 2018 at 01:43 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Samantha St. Aubyn Swartzlander.



November 04, 2018 at 12:43 PM



“ I met Sammi through playing an online game. Although we had never met in real life, I got to know her by our many conversations. Some of these were deep and some were silly. I will always remember her as a caring person who would always listen and give heartfelt advice. Your light will be missed. May your soul be at peace. 💖

Sonja Siebert - November 04, 2018 at 12:15 PM



“ I am absolutely saddened by this. I also met both Sam and Matt through Lords Mobile. My in-game name is RousingPie. I thought she was bright, fun, upbeat and really caring. Anytime any of us needed anything, Sammi would be quick to help. I honestly thought she had not been online for a few days because she was busy with work - which she often was. She seemed to really enjoy her teaching job. I really loved how friendly she was, how caring and helpful she was and how kind she was. I think the game name, Athena really suited her well. She was rational, intelligent and peaceful. I hope Sam finds the peace she truly deserves. I hope she knew what she meant to us. We might have been only her online in-game friends but she was truly an integral part of our community. My true sympathies go to Matt. May you find the courage and strength to get through this terrible tragedy. Rest in peace, Sammi.

Charlene Cassar - November 04, 2018 at 11:05 AM

 Nkazi
Zitha

“ I met Sam and Matt on Lords Mobile - a game we all played - when I joined a guild they were members of, about 6months ago now. I went under the pseudonym Master Kaz and many of the guild members assumed I was a man, it wasn't until Sam found out I was a woman that she and I proper hit it off. I didn't know her very well but we did have a few chats and I genuinely liked her. She spoke a lot about her job, her life, her husband and her new home. She was empathetic in a way that only a teacher could be and I often teased her about it.

She had a way about her that was inviting and liberating. Her sarcasm and humor are some of the many things that I will miss about her.

Sam's life is a true testament that depression is not a look. Her passing comes as both a shock and a relief; We started to worry about her when she hadn't been on for a few days (and as any gamer would know, 5hours is already a long time to not be online); and, news of her passing was the last thing I expected; however, I find solace in knowing that she's at peace now.
Sleep well, Sammi

Nkazi Zitha - November 04, 2018 at 12:25 AM

LM

“ Samantha taught my child's art class. He said he really liked her, she was kind and helped him improve his grade. I talked to her on the phone once and she was very nice and helpfull. She will truly be missed.

Linda Martin - November 03, 2018 at 06:50 PM

“ Sam and Jesse grew up together, they were only a year or so apart, and we lived downstairs from mom and dad so Sam was there a lot. She'd play with Jesse until he started throwing crash dummies at her head and then she'd come find me.

Sam loved to look at all the little things on my shelves, dragons and wizards, crystal balls and things I made by hand.

On this day, Sam was 7 or so and she'd seen an upholstered, heart-shaped box. ..all decorated with lace and ribbons. I let her have it because she was always very careful with my things. She gently lifted the lid and looked inside. It was empty and she could reach in and feel the soft, upholstered bottom. She was amazed! She wanted to know how I'd got the bottom to be 'cushy'. I think because she knew I'd made it myself and wanted to know what the trick of it was. Instead of explaining I asked if she wanted to make one, and we were off.

10 minutes later my living room carpet was strewn with ribbons and lace, fabric and buttons and beads and silk flower and STUFFING! The stuffing was important. I showed her the trick of it and she nodded wisely, as if she'd thought that was the way of it all along. And we moved on. Well, I moved on, she was still stuffing the top even as she decorated it.

We worked quietly. Sam would pipe up, "glue please", and I'd slide it over. Or I'd ask for that piece of blue ribbon and she'd pass that over, stuffing sticking to her gluey fingers. Every once in a while she'd reach in the box and feel the cushy bottom. And then she was back to the top half, adding a blue silk rose...just so.

Two hours later we were done. We stood up and tried to brush the worst of the bits and pieces off ourselves. I fitted top to bottom and handed her the box. I was about to ask what she'd keep in it but she surprised me by taking the top off the box and handing me the bottom!

"Why?" I asked.

She said we'd made it together, so we each should have part. I knew she liked the top, but she loved the bottom. I snatched an armful of Sam, we hugged one-armed, carefully preserving our halves of that box.

That was Sam. If she could offer more than she kept or took, she did. Always.

My half of that box sat on every desk I had until 3 years ago when it was honorably retired. It's back in the same Tupperware bin it came out of. Sam used to tease me any time she caught sight of it, holding it's paper clips, and I shot accusations that she'd secretly kept her half too. Years and years later she confessed! She'd kept her half. I can still hear her laughing as she told me.

Sam, sweet girl, I love you.

Kimber Cole - November 03, 2018 at 01:47 PM

LH

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with the family and friends during this sad moment. Expressing your thoughts and feelings to God the hearer of prayer will give you comfort.*

Lisa Hart - November 03, 2018 at 07:24 AM

SS

“ *Samantha is dearly missed by her fellow teachers & students.*

ss - November 02, 2018 at 11:45 PM

KE

“ 1 file added to the album Griffin High School



Kerry - November 02, 2018 at 06:41 PM

KW

Love you Sam forever

Kelly L wren - November 02, 2018 at 10:59 PM

MM

Never really got to know you dear Girl but all your family I do know. You now have joined the many Angels whose address is HEAVEN.

Monica McCarthy - November 04, 2018 at 02:52 PM

DT

You live on in all my memories..you were the a wonderful gift to all who knew you. From the first day of your life when I found myself filled with overwhelming joy until all time you will be in my thoughts. You were as a child so sweet, so cooperative, so gentle and expressive. You grew to be an adult loved by many. You will always be an inspiration to me and all who knew you. I love you. May you rest in peace. Grandma

Darlene Tobin - April 08, 2019 at 11:21 PM