

Obituary

Sara Marie Bexley was called home on November 16, 2022, into the loving arms of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Sara was born in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, on October 27, 1976, to Christian and Evelyn Abels. She graduated from Tahlequah High School in 1995, where she was a track star and cheerleader. She went on to graduate from Northeastern State University in 1999 with a bachelor of science in education, and after beginning her teaching career in her hometown of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, as a first-grade teacher, Sara moved to Plano, Texas, in 2003 to work as a physical education coach and join her brother and sister in the North Texas area. She attended Prestonwood Baptist Church where she met the love of her life, Thomas Bexley, while playing softball with Prestonwood Singles in 2004. Thomas and Sara were married on June 17, 2006. Sara dreamed of becoming a mom, and with the birth of their first child, Evie Lynn Bexley in 2008, Sara stepped away from teaching to raise her family. Their second daughter, Sadie Mae Bexley, was born in 2010, and their family was complete.

Sara was an incredible mother and fiercely loved her family. Her girls were her pride and joy, and she loved raising them to be godly young women, teaching them the life skills passed down to her. She enjoyed cooking, baking (including the most wonderful birthday cakes for her girls every year), crocheting, sewing, and quilting. Sara adored her Rubie Lou, the golden doodle that joined their family on Christmas 2017 when Sara's cancer came back a second time. Sara was Rubie's favorite, and Rubie proved to be the perfect comforter when Sara needed it most. Sara also found comfort and encouragement in the community her family gained through Prestonwood Christian Academy, which the girls joined in the fall of 2017. She was so proud of their involvement at PCA and incredibly thankful for their kingdom-minded education.

When she wasn't cheering on her girls at one of their many activities, Sara channeled that enthusiasm as the family "travel agent," planning vacations with her extended family that included annual trips to Branson and specifically Silver Dollar City, float trips down the Illinois River in her hometown, and trips to the beach in Mexico. And oh, how she loved the holidays and birthdays! She loved celebrating others, and she didn't celebrate birth *days*, but rather birthday *months*. Other passions of Sara's included her Rodan+Fields business and taking care of her customers and all the friends she made across the country through R+F, as well as a passion of all things burnt orange (while Sara wasn't always a Texas Longhorns fan, marrying Thomas quickly changed that!).

Above all else, she loved Jesus, which was evident by the way she lived her life. She was the epitome of "walking the walk." When Sara was diagnosed with cancer in 2015, she didn't ask, "Why me?" but rather, "How can I use this to glorify God and point people to Him?" Through all of her surgeries, chemo treatments, radiation treatments, and six reoccurrences, she looked to Him and held tightly to her faith. Sara chose joy in all circumstances and was a beautiful example to everyone who followed her story of how to face trials with the hope of Jesus. Most importantly, her two girls had a front row seat to her courage, strength and faith. Prior to her diagnosis in 2015, Sara's pastor encouraged everyone to choose a word for the year, and she chose OVERCOME. Two months later, OVERCOME took on a whole new meaning, and John 16:33 became her battle cry. "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Jesus gave her peace and went before her to overcome her cancer, and she walked by faith, arm in arm with Him every day until He called her home. Sara's legacy will live on through her daughters, her husband, and all of those she impacted.

Sara is survived by her loving husband, Thomas Bexley; daughters Evie and Sadie Bexley; father Cris "Doc" Abels; siblings Amy Hinkle and her husband, David, Erin Markes and her husband, Travis, and Chris Abels and his wife, Andrea; father- and mother-in-law, Bill and Joan Bexley; brothers- and sisters-in-law, Bill "Trey" Bexley and his wife, Carlene, Paul Bexley and his wife, Lisa; nieces and nephews, Caley and Blake Hinkle, Bekah, Hannah and Leah Markes, Drew Morgans, Emily, Callie and Jackson Bexley, Truman and Ella Bexley, and her golden doodle fur baby, Rubie Lou. She was preceded in death by her mother, Evelyn Abels.

If desired, contributions may be made in Sara's name to Prestonwood Christian Academy to Sponsor-A-Lion, prestonwoodchristian.org, (972) 820-5300 or Ally's Wish, allyswish.org.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF



SARA MARIE BEXLEY

OCTOBER 27, 1976 – NOVEMBER 16, 2022

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." —John 16:33



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2022

11:00 AM

WORSHIP CENTER

PRESTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH



6801 W. PARK BLVD. | PLANO, TEXAS 75093 | 972.820.5000
PRESTONWOOD.ORG | POWERPOINT.ORG

“You Cover Me”

*Even though I walk
Through the valley of despair
When I can barely offer up a prayer
Still You hear the cry in my heart
Before I speak
You hide me in the shelter
Of Your wings
You cover me, You cover me
I'm resting in Your shadow
You're my strength and bravery
You cover me, You cover me
I'm safe inside Your presence
You hold back the enemy
You cover me
Every doubt is conquered
By Your goodness and Your love
Your faithfulness, a refuge for my soul
I will fear no evil
You are with me through it all
And in the struggle
I can hear Your song
I'm free, from the terror by night
Or the arrows by day
You are my strength
I'm free, come disaster or threat
You are my defense
You are my shield*

Order of Service



PRELUDE

SEATING OF THE FAMILY

WELCOME & PRAYER
DR. JACK GRAHAM

“YOU COVER ME”
EMILY INMAN

TRIBUTE
LAUREN EASTBURN
LAINIE MONTGOMERY

“VICTOR’S CROWN”
CONGREGATIONAL LED BY HEBRON ROAD

MESSAGE
DR. JARRETT STEPHENS

“CITY OF JOY”
CONGREGATIONAL LED BY KALEB MOORE

PRAYER
DAVID HINKLE

RINGING OF THE VICTORY BELL

POSTLUDE

*THE FAMILY WILL RECEIVE FRIENDS IN THE ATRIUM
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.*