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MaHallie Elizabeth Martin

Your dad and I were given the best blessing parents could ever receive when God blessed us with you. Our journey through life with you as a daughter has been, as parents, a blessing beyond words. I can't believe this chapter of your life is about to close. Our hearts are saddened but yet excited as well to see what yet lies ahead. It all began with how excited you were to begin "Candy Garden," as you called it. You could not wait to start school. It all seemed like yesterday. We drove out the driveway to start your school year. You were so excited, yet I cried all night because my little girl was starting school! Little did I know, once again how so many memories would unfold in all these wonderful school years. It would begin with school parties, picnics, being room mom (which I loved), and I so loved coming to pick you up in first grade. I can remember just like it was yesterday you running to the fence to wave at me and your sweet little fingers barely making their way through the fence to make sure I saw you. I loved those days, and they got even better. Then there would be cheerleading, which has been our great pleasure. Dad and I have always gotten so much pleasure out of the games. We always looked forward to your excitement about cheering (even when you cheered as you showered)! Your love for it never ceased to amaze us. Then there was dance. You had the most graceful moves and as the teacher once said: it was a pleasure to watch you. It showed in your face how much you loved what you did. The games, dance recitals, proms, dates, driver's license, and the wonderful families we have come to know through you are the best memories we could ever ask for. Oh, and this year you reminded me you were 18 and could vote for the very first time. As we reflect on these school years, we want to say to you as parents that your accomplishments, achievements, rewards, grades, attitude, but most of all your warm, caring, and respectful personality have made us most proud. MaHallie, we are most honored to call you our daughter. As parents, we are even more excited to see what wonderful things lie ahead for you. Thank you for all the love, joy, and sunshine you give to us! The best is yet to come! Remember what we have always told you: respect takes you a long way in life; find the good in everyone; there is no such word as "can't;" you can do anything; the sky is the limit. Now, go forward and make for yourself the best life has to offer. We love you dearly.

Thanks, MaHallie.
Mom and Dad

