

Memorial Book



In Loving Memory of

Madeleine Claire Pitot

(May 27, 1986 - October 31, 2006)



*"A butterfly lights beside us like a sunbeam,
and for a brief moment its glory and beauty
belong to our world. But then it flies on
again, and though we wish it could have
stayed, we feel lucky to have seen it at all."*

This memorial website was created by her father to remember our dearest **Madeleine Claire Pitot** who was born in **Australia Brisbane** on **May 27, 1986** and passed away on **October 31, 2007**. She was 20 years old. You will live forever in our memories and hearts.

Maddy's Song

*one dimple two
open eyes upwards and down
falling chin, or a lip sealed smile
all shapes and sizes*

*a mile long to this point
we've now come....*



*without a doubt her smile
carried a thousand definitions
a thousand mishaps
and sometimes
a thousand misleadings
it just takes a little while
to fully gain
all knowledge of her smile
her smile language
look now, look now to this point
we have come*

*with her quiet gaze
in a maze of defining
her expressions
she always knows
but sometimes we forget
this must be so frustrating
but she knows
we've just misread her smile
her smile language...*

*.... It's all just another way
It's said you really don't need words
Just a smile instead.*

Thanks to Oliva for the words and Brett for the music. Both from Cascade Place



The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are set against a textured, mottled background of warm, earthy tones, including shades of beige, tan, and light brown. The roses are rendered in a soft, slightly faded style, blending into the background.

Gallery

so sweet, so unforgettable...



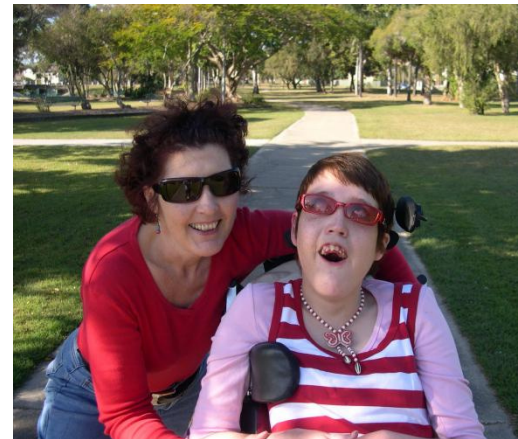
my little punk rocker



me and my dad



Sisters together



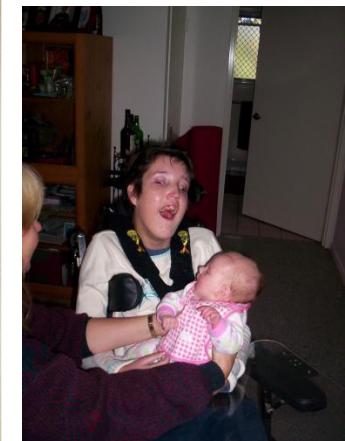
mum and me



Dad, Tracey & I



granny & I



Aunty Madda



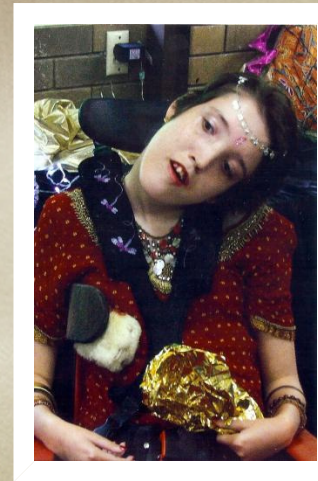
beautiful always



look at my shiny paper



future bollywood star





me and my grand'mere



all I want for chrissy is my 2 front teeth



I'll Never Be the Same

*Confusion reigns within my heart,
Within my soul,
because I know I cannot ever be
The man I once was.*

*How can I be complete and whole
When part of me is gone...
A special part ... a precious part ...
The part that was my daughter?*

*Conceived in love how gratefully
I bore you ... filled with pride:
A bit of my heart, a bit of my soul
Went with you when you died.*

*One cannot lose a child to death
And still remain the same,
Untouched by tears of emptiness,
Undaunted by the pain.*

*The cruellest nightmares come to pass,
Life's bitterest pill to swallow;
In light of this, I can endure
All else that's yet to follow.*

*There's nothing that can fill
the empty Spaces that remain:
I've tried and failed so many times,
I cannot try again.*

*No trying to regain the past ...
That's all a bitter shame
It's time that I resign myself
To being who I am.*

*To be the man I've become
(No acting out a part) ...
A father with a shattered dream
And a broken heart.*

*Adapted from a poem written by Peggy
Kociscin*

NATIVE AMERICAN PRAYER

I give you this one thought to keep -
I am with you still - I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift, uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not think of me as gone -
I am with you still - in each new dawn

SAYING GOODBYE

Into this world, so hard you came
Nana's fourth grandchild

Death came too soon
It isn't fair
An Angel you've become

Never to see you again
Always in our hearts you'll be

Kissed you goodbye
Even now it doesn't seem real
Special Angel that you are

Evening stars now have a new meaning
Darting from star to star, is how I see you
Reaching out to those in need

In the heavens, with your wings
Cherished are the memories you left us here
Years now lay heavy, wanting you near

Why?

Why do I hate the world?
Why am I so angry?
Why doesn't the sun shine anymore?
Why did it have to happen to you?
Why do I blame myself?
Why don't the nightmares go away?
Why aren't two kids enough?
Why do I keep missing you?
Why don't I just get on with my life?
Because you belong amongst the living
and not the dead.
Because you had the heart of a lion,
Because your smile lit up the world,
Because you were special,
Because there will never be another
you.

Wishing You Near

I have come
To realize
That time is so dear
When you are no
Longer here
I cling to memories,
Sweet bitter memories
That brings you near
If only
I can touch you again
Without bringing back the pain
Feeling your presence
That you are not really
Very far away
That would bring back
The joy and magic
Of being again
Together
I know you are
Just a whisper away.

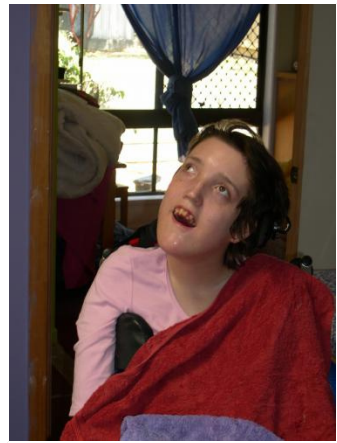
From Dad



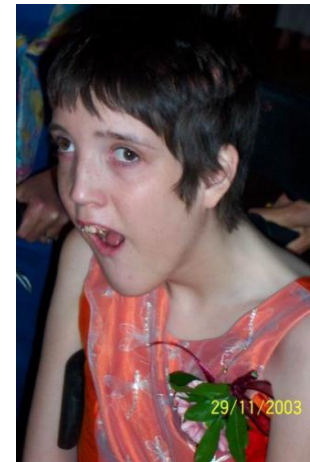
I talked with my eyes



what ever!!!!



an angel





two little feet



beautiful little hands

The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are rendered in a light, almost ethereal tone against a textured, olive-green background. The roses appear to be made of a delicate material, possibly paper or fabric, and are slightly out of focus, creating a soft, nostalgic atmosphere.

Memorial Candles

our words, your light...

04/06/2007

Dad, Tracey and Christopher

Happy Easter Mada. We'll miss you on Sunday but our thoughts will be of you. Love always

04/01/2007

Mick & Marilyn

Marky Boy, please accept our sincerest condolences on your sad loss, our thoughts are with you and the rest of your family

03/03/2007

Tahlia & Chloe

We were playing with Chris the other day and missed you xx

02/19/2007

Jacque

How lucky i was to be a part of your life. You made my day when id came to see you. You are so special, i will never forget you.xo

01/28/2007

Laura

You are such a beautiful young lady, and missed so much by family and friends. Love you lots Mada.

01/26/2007

Brett

I'll always remember the way you smiled when I sang for you Maddie, I'm so blessed to have known you. You made music fun.

01/22/2007

Cousin Matt

I'm sooooo looking forward to the day when you Madeleine, and Xave lead me to the greatest party of all time....heaven! xxx

01/21/2007

Tracey

Your special smile keeps haunting me in my dreams and keeps me close to you always. I miss you more than I can say. xxxxx

01/19/2007

Janet Strothman

Our angel spoke with his eyes too , with an eternal beautiful smile, maddie & austin no longer wheelchair bound fly free angels

01/18/2007

Rosemary

I miss your smiling face and cheeky ways. Bless you Maddie - you brought such joy to so many people. Fly free sweetheart!

01/18/2007

Mum

My darling daughter I carry a bag of sad for me every day but a heart full of your joyous presence and dauntless courage.

01/16/2007

Zahirra (Passing By)

I am so sorry for your Loss. Your daughter in now in Heaven with the Lord! She is now and forever you little Angel! God Bless!

01/15/2007

Dad

*Missing you everyday.
Thinking about you
everyday. Loving you more
everyday.*

The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are rendered in a soft, monochromatic style that blends with the background. The background is a textured, mottled brownish-gold color with subtle variations in tone and some faint, larger-scale floral patterns.

Condolences

from the deepest of our hearts...

Dad

Can This Be?

February 5, 2007

Can This Be?

*As I stand over you
I watch your lifeless body
Waiting for you to take a breath
Waiting for you to wake up,
As I'm sobbing
"Why won't you breathe for me?"
What is this that I see?
All of your beauty and glory fading
I'm begging you,
I'm pleading,
Don't leave me.
Mada, I love you,
Why don't you believe me?
Oh God, I can't believe what I'm seeing
I can't believe this is really happening
You're no longer with me
Happy and alive
This is the hardest thing,
I'm sorry, Mada
For all the things that I didn't do,
I can't stop this pain inside,
I've gone numb
My beloved daughter
Rest in peace.*

Olivia

Friend

February 3, 2007

Miss Maddy, the title always used for the poems and stories we wrote together, the early morning "hello"

that always followed with a "miss maddy", the irony now is a little bit funny, its a little bit hard, because i MISS you MADDY... and i miss that giggle that i had just finally always manage you to do on cue, i miss being a little self concious that maybe you were just giggling at me, not with me, but it never stopped me from giggling along with you. It hurts when i think that i missed a friendship we could have built stronger, one of the last mornings at cascade we had together, i remember thinking 'wow, you finally and fully trust me' and you wouldnt let anyone else assist you but me. I felt so touched and so proud to be apart of your life, not just a fleeting person amongst the crowd at cascade. You are so very speacial and will always be in my thoughts, forever. love love love, olivia. x o

Grand'mere

Grandmother

January 21, 2007

My love for your Madeleine will last forever with grand'mere

(copied from condolence book)

***Charlotte, Gerard,
Mikael***

Cousins

January 21, 2007

Love you always.

Keep smiling Madeleine

Love from

(copied from condolence book)

Jacquie

Carer

January 21, 2007

It's been a pleasure knowing you Madda.

Thank you for all the smiles and screams!

I will miss you very much.

(copies from condolence book)

Laura

Carer

January 21, 2007

Thanks for all of the fun times Mada.

Keep on squealing

Lots of love always

(copied from condolence book)

Kezzie

Cousin

January 21, 2007

Miss your smile

love you Maddie

(Copied from condolence book)

Tira

Carer

January 21, 2007

Miss you Mamma

Love you always

(copied from condolence book)

Tahlia

Friend

January 21, 2007

Tahlia  

Chloe

Friend

January 21, 2007

Chloe 

Alison

Aunt

January 21, 2007

Hey beautiful girl,
I will miss those knowing eyes of yours.
I will miss your smile, your freckles, your beautiful noisy presence; in fact, everything that is you. But you
are imprinted in my heart, darling Madeleine, always

(copied from condolence book)

Eve

Cousin

January 21, 2007

Beautiful Maddie,
I will always remember your lovely smile and cheeky look. You are an angel of heaven now.
Until we are all together again.... Love you

(copied from condolence book)

Gabby

Cousin

January 21, 2007

Hello Maddie,
I wish you were here right now, but I know that you'll have a better time in heaven.

I love you

(copied from condolence book)

Isi

Cousin

January 21, 2007

Hey Maddie,
You are a beautiful girl and I will always remember you.

Lots of love

(copied from condolence book)

Dear Maddy

You truly were a beautiful person ! Full of life, funky laugh and cheeky grin ! That's how I will always remember you ! Thanks for everything you brought to my life ! I'll always remember you !

Love always

(copied from condolence book)

The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are rendered in a light, monochromatic tone that blends with the overall sepia background. The background has a mottled, aged texture with subtle variations in brown and beige tones.

Shared Memoirs

all the gray you turned into colors...

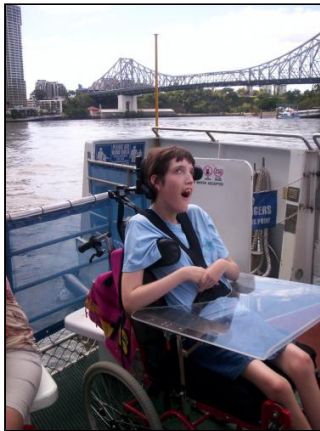
Dad



Wishing You Near

I have come to realize that time is so dear
When you are no longer here
I cling to memories, sweet bitter memories
That brings you near
If only I can touch you again
Without bringing back the pain
Feeling your presence
That you are not really very far away
That would bring back the joy and magic
Of being again together
I know you are just a whisper away.

Tracey



I loved your cheeky grin and how you would squeal with sheer delight
Even at 3 in the morning that was quite alright

The way your face lit up at the sound of Dad's guitar
Music was so much fun to you

Although our time together has not been long enough
You have given me a special daughter's love

As a Mother have been blessed with many beautiful girls
You my Madda I am glad to say are one of them

My love for you is eternal and I will never say good-bye
Thank you beautiful Madeleine
Stay beautiful for ever

Big Sister



Showering you on our last day together (in this lifetime). I think back to this often. You were screaming with joy, I was singing to you, and washing your hair. I was worried you would wriggle out of your shower chair from excitement. I told you I loved you whenever we were together. I told you mum loved you, dad too. Now, I whisper a million thankyou's for your wisdom and encouragement. Constant as the sun, you are my inspiration. I live to hear your whispers in every breeze that brushes my face and every note on the tip of my fingers. I love you, little sister. God Bless.

Mum



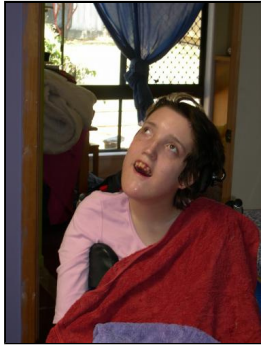
My last summer with you in the pool was always an opportunity to have a cuddle with a very tall girl and being a short mum it was lovely. A friend had made your swimmers so that you could look 'cool' and trendy. You loved the water on hot summer days and so we struggled to get you into the pool safely as you grew. I had so many schemes to get you to that water when I could no longer lift you by myself. But it was worth all of that. All of that for you my lovely one. I miss you.

The image features two roses, one smaller and one larger, positioned in the upper right quadrant. They are set against a textured, mottled background in shades of olive green and brown. The roses are rendered in a soft, slightly faded style, blending into the background.

Life Story

every hour, every thought, every smile...

January 18, 2007



Eulogy for my beautiful Madeleine Claire

Her clock determined that she came into the world 3-4 weeks early, a little 5 lb thing struggling to learn things newborns had on tap. And pretty much chaos ruled from then. Life with Maddy has often been continuous lurching from chaos to chaos as she and we took on the rigors of dealing with her complex needs. But along the way we learnt that connecting with Madeleine was an intense and profoundly dynamic relationship. Note the silver foil you all have. The silver foil was a constant companion which she used as visual stimulation, to pull herself out of seizures and to tease Chris her brother! It is our connection to Madeleine today. Connections make our meaning in life so wave that silver foil for Maddy!

So how did people connect with Madeleine?

Blood Connections: Wave that silver foil.

Since the end of 2004 when I could no longer care for Maddy and Chris full time due to my own failing health, they have been with their father. Maddy was always a 'Daddy's Girl' and would light up every time she ever heard her dad's voice and so it gives me a sense of peace to know that she was in his loving hands in the end. He has been a tremendously dedicated father and I always knew she was safe with him.

Christopher that big man over there, always wanted what Maddy had and she delighted in teasing him with her things. She would wickedly laugh if he got into trouble too for wanting her stuff. However, they called out to each other in the morning early and he would always listen for her and watch for her and giggle whenever he heard her. But I think that he needed her a lot more than Maddy needed a little brother around... she was quite secure in herself I suspect.

Simone believes her sister to have political intelligence as we often would observe a new carer struggle with trying to give Maddy food and Maddy would steadfastly refuse to eat and smile at the carer and giggle at the distress she was causing! Simone's connection to Madeleine is as a musical critic to a musician; Madeleine as a critic and Simone as the poor struggling musician. But the thing about Maddy is that she was also Simone's greatest fan. She and Simone share their Dad's passion for music.

However, when Simone was little she used to refer to her brother and sister as electric instead of epileptic brother and sister and really I think electric is a good word to describe Maddy's personality. When she was pugged in she really lit up!

From me I think what connect and meaning Madeleine gave me was about so many things

- Unconditional love
- To fight hard for what is just and the rights of people with disability
- I learnt to watch, listen and to observe acutely to her every breath for her communication to me. She was the tic and toc of a life where getting up at least 3 times a night for 18 years to turn her so that she was comfortable was like living in twilight zone but normal. Her father has had that pleasure of that particular twilight zone for the past 2 years.

I can remember the times when she slept the Madeleine time table – that is, 12 noon go to sleep and 12 midnight get up as somebody is throwing a party. I then would get up and say loudly: 'Madeleine for heavens sake go to sleep!' and she would giggle.

Friends/carer and support connections: Wave that silver foil

Many years ago a little girl in the street came to visit as part of her care and concern for her school. She came for years every Friday almost without fail and astounded me with her insight and acceptance and real friendship to us as a family. The first Christmas she bought the kids satin pillow cases so that their hair would not become matted and look lovely!

Many in our life have been there as paid support but have become friends as well.

How can you work for a human services industry and not become involved? Maddy has had some carers for 10 year block and still in contact. I think that often vulnerability in others reminds us of our own humanity. Thank you for your connection and gifts of your humanity to Madeleine.

Especially I needed to say at this point the male carer population of Cascade Place which I am sure she enjoyed! Madeleine was a bit too connected to the male voice I must say.

Madeleine's connection to us: Wave that silver foil

According to the Big G (Granny) – she liked her granny. Madeleine was the only grandchild who was a captive audience to the big G! However the truth is that Madeleine really loved to be an audience and the

party.

She just loved people.

She loved babies and little children.

She would shop until you dropped and would squeal in a blood curdling manner and stick her legs out stiffly in a statement of pure joy when she went shopping.

She loved noise and commotion.

She was passionate about music – Bob Marley being a latest favourite.

She adored milk shakes and cheese cake and eating sweet things mostly.

She loved girly sessions and having hair done and especially to be told she looked beautiful.

She loved perfume.

She loved riding in cars and going somewhere- and bumpy roads in particular.

She loved to be roughed up (as much as you could for her fragile frame) in mock wrestle sessions.

She loved the rim of her ear being tickled.

She had one of the most determined personalities and had a talent for letting people know what she did not like quite volubly.

Wave that silver foil.....

Conclusion:

We all connected to her in so many diverse ways and she to us. Twenty years of joy in a unique human being and a unique perception of life.

As she chose to come into this world early so too she with her end.

I think maybe we have all learnt more from Madeleine that she has from us.

Maddy'e Dad has written something for her that concludes this part of our eulogy and celebration:

It goes:

Madeleine, my little princess, my beautiful butterfly

Your eyes taught me everything I needed to know about love

Your smile lit up the earth and the sky above

I loved the way you screamed and shouted

I loved the way our jumped about

I loved the way you laughed and cried

I loved the way you filled by life

So fly my little butterfly
Unhindered
Unharnessed
Unshackled

Feel the wind beneath your wings
And enjoy the freedom

I will miss you terribly but you will live in my heart till the day I die

Dad

May 27, 2007

Born in **Australia Brisbane** on **May 27, 1986**.

October 31, 2007

Passed away on **October 31, 2007**.

Our Deepest Sympathy
WWW.LAST-MEMORIES.COM