

Laila Al-Matrouk

Aug 30, 2018



Laila Al-Matrouk of Belfast passed away on Aug. 7, 2018, as a result of injuries suffered in a cycling accident.

She is survived by her mother, Susanne Isteero and partner Trenor Goodell of Belfast; her father, Ali Al-Matrouk and wife Raghad Al-Kazemi of Kuwait; her siblings, Yousef, Noura, Fouad, Alaa, Zahraa (Zooz), and Zain Al-Matrouk; maternal

grandmother Jean Woodbury Isteero; paternal grandparents, Fouad Al-Matrouk and Asmaa Al-Kazemi; great-uncle Roger Woodbury and his wife Michele of Morrill; aunts, Christine Isteero and partner Jonathan Lindsay of Baltimore, Md., and Sandy Reeves and husband Jack Reeves of Winnabow, N.C.; aunts and uncles in Kuwait: Alyaa, Aliah, Abdullah, Sarah, Huda, and Ahmed Al-Matrouk; cousins Benjamin, Nicholas, and Samuel Reeves of Winnabow, N.C.; cousin Jennifer McKee, her husband Alan, and daughters Alexandra and Maya Nixon of Virginia; and cousins in Kuwait, Asmaa Faraj, Aayah and Mariam Haider, Ahmad, Mariam, and Mohammed Al Sarraf, Nama'an and Mariam Al-Kazemi, Fatima, Zeinab, Fuda'a, and Maleeka Al-Matrouk, Kawther and Sara Hussain, and AbdulMohsen, Jumana, and Haya Al-Matrouk.

Laila was predeceased by her grandfather Albert Isteero Farag and great-grandparents Roger Mansfield Woodbury, Sr. and Alice Cushman Woodbury.

Laila was born Feb. 26, 2002, in Kuwait. She attended school in Kuwait until 2010, when she moved to Belfast with her mother and siblings. Laila studied at Captain Albert Stevens School, Troy Howard Middle School, and completed grades 9 and 10 at Belfast Area High School. She was a talented musician, actress and a voracious reader.

Laila also enjoyed writing poetry and essays.

She was an athlete as well, and a member of the soccer, swim, and tennis teams.

Laila participated the civil rights team and assisted with the Liberian Education Fund.

Laila was very passionate about social justice and education for everyone and took the opportunity to write and speak out for peace and against oppression whenever she had the chance.

She was an active member of Seeds of Peace and the Maine Youth Action Network.

Laila was a friend to many in the community and around the world.

Her compassion, strength, natural curiosity and love of life and people helped her to connect with others on a deep level and she will be greatly missed.

A celebration of life will be held for Laila at The First Church of Belfast on Saturday, Sept. 15, at 2 p.m. All are welcome to attend. In lieu of flowers, friends and family may donate to a scholarship fund that has been created in Laila's name. Donations may be sent

to: Higher Ground, 246 Searsport Ave., Belfast, ME 04915. Please specify that donations are for the Laila Al-Matrouk Scholarship Fund.