



## Lauren Knickerbocker

June 23, 1980 - July 17, 2023

Lauren Knickerbocker's precious life with us ended on July 17, 2023, nearly three years after being diagnosed with stage IV metastatic colorectal cancer. She was at home in Hartsdale, NY surrounded by the love of her family at the time of her passing. Our family was so thankful for the support and guidance of Brenda Marie Kranitzky Relyea, aka "Nurse BiBi", in caring for Lauren's medical needs at home. Lauren, even at the end of her life, did not resign herself to death. She continued to live her life as she always had, with a strong commitment to the wellbeing of her two young sons, Nolan (8) and William (5), and husband, Daniel Thomas Relyea. All her family, friends and patients were beneficiaries of Lauren's love, compassionate insight, and enthusiasm for life.

Lauren was born in Gainesville, Florida on June 23, 1980. She was the first of two children born to her parents, Margaret "Holly" Dougherty and Jeffrey John Knickerbocker. She became a 'big sister' to her brother, Daniel John Knickerbocker, in 1983. Lauren moved with her family and attended grade schools in Fort Collins, CO, Oklahoma City, OK and Miami, FL. She graduated from Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School in Miami, FL and went on to earn her B.S. degree from the University of Florida, M.S. degree from San Diego State University, Ph.D. degree from SUNY, Stony Brook, and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Psychology Department at New York University.

Following completion of her fellowship, she was hired as a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. Over the next 10 years, until her death, she served as Co-Director for the Selective Mutism and Early Childhood Programs where she helped improve the lives of countless children and families.

Lauren's death is being mourned by her entire family, friends, colleagues and patients. We thank all of you who have sent us your loving support.

Lauren's family has a personal message to all young people in their 20's, 30's and 40's...get screened for colorectal cancer. Oncologists are seeing a significant rise in cases of colorectal cancer in younger people. Since insurance companies do not cover colorectal cancer screening until 45 years of age, lifesaving screening is being delayed. Delayed detection is a death sentence.

In lieu of flowers, Lauren's department at NYU has set up a GOFUNDME page for Lauren's family: <https://gofundme.com/f/lauren-knickerbocker> .

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ I had the pleasure and privilege to work with Lauren during my brief 18 months at the NYU Department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. We were both Floridians and Miamians and shared laughs about certain odd aesthetics from our former stomping ground. Lauren was a valuable member of our Perinatal and Early Childhood Service (PECS) at NYU and even after I left to return to Switzerland, we remained in touch and Lauren was very generous in sharing with me advice informed by her deep knowledge of selective mutism and the materials she created to help professionals in one my patient's network. In light of her loss, I am only comforted by fond memories of Lauren and of her joy in speaking about her family and her dedication to help her patients and nurture her supervisees. My heart goes out to all of you in her family, to her friends, and our colleagues!

Daniel Schechter - August 07, 2023 at 05:41 PM

TR

“ Lauren and I lived together when she was going to SDSU. We had so much fun together and made a million memories. I will cherish the time I had with her.



Tracy - August 03, 2023 at 04:28 PM

NS

“ We have had the pleasure of working with Dr. Knickerbocker since 2020. My 6 year old enjoyed working with her through the camp courage virtual weekly camps and later during the in person camps. I will miss her soothing reassurances giving us hope through our very stressful times. May she rest in peace. 🙏

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**Naisha Sostrè** - July 24, 2023 at 02:53 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lauren Knickerbocker.



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July 23, 2023 at 01:48 PM

EL

“ Lauren was my best mom friend, meeting on the playground in Long Island City, when Nolan and Alexandra became fast friends. She was so smart, kind and fun. She was a professional psychologist and also such a real mom. She taught me all sorts of parenting tips in the most undaunting and fun ways. Then we both had our second kids at the same time, and the friendship endured. We took Nolan and Alexandra to see Harry Potter together on Broadway and met up to see the Rockefeller Center tree. Will never forget her excitement planning a chef for Dan’s birthday. What a party! Looked forward to raising our kids together - she will be so missed and never forgotten. Sending so much to Dan, the boys and her entire family. Love you all.



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**Elaina Loizou** - July 23, 2023 at 09:19 AM

RG

“ Lauren granted me the great privilege of sharing her thoughtful, caring presence as a colleague and friend after we made the extremely wise decision to invite her to our postdoctoral program. She started the lives of two great kids and added to the life of her husband. Her creativity and compassion has and will have a lasting ripple effect with the families and children who benefited from their treatment contacts with her. She was a consummate professional and beautiful human being. She will be missed but her impact will not fade.

*Richard Gallagher*

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**Richard Gallagher** - July 22, 2023 at 01:56 PM

AD

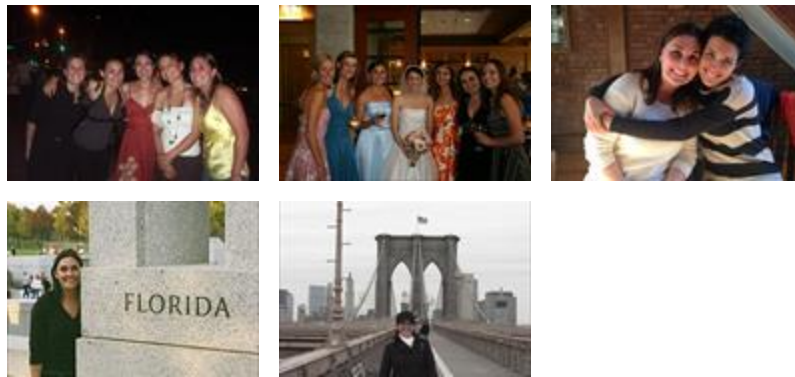
“ *Ann Dougherty lit a candle in memory of Lauren Knickerbocker*



Ann Dougherty - July 22, 2023 at 01:23 PM

SH

“ *Lauren was so wise and so kind. I miss her and am sending all my love and my deepest condolences to her family and friends.*



Susie Horn - July 20, 2023 at 10:51 PM

JG

*Love the pictures*

Julie Knickerbocker Gammon - July 21, 2023 at 10:44 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lauren Knickerbocker.*



July 20, 2023 at 09:31 PM

LF

“ Truly very saddens to hear of Lauren’s passing. Holding on to beautiful memories. My deepest condolences to Lauren’s family. My prayers are with you.

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**Lourdes Fernandez** - July 20, 2023 at 11:20 AM