



## Amity Eileen Ritze

July 30, 1980 - November 27, 2020

Amity Eileen Ritze, of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Friday, November 27th, 2020 in her home surrounded by family. She was born July 30, 1980 in Tulsa, Oklahoma to Dr. Mike and Connie Ritze. With a name that means friendship, Amity spent her 40 years on this earth as a true force of nature-- positively impacting many lives with her infectious congeniality, exemplary strength, and unwavering faith.

Amity graduated high school from Trinity Christian School in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma in 1998. She received her Bachelors of Science in Biological Sciences (Pre-Medicine) from Oklahoma State University in 2004 and her Masters of Business Administration (Magna cum Laude) from Saint Leo University in 2010. She began her Juris Doctorate at Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2015; while there she received an Advanced Legal Research Award and was the SBA Outstanding Student of the Year. She completed her Juris Doctorate at The University of Tulsa College of Law in 2017 where she also served as Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity's Vice Justice. While a legal intern at the Law Offices of Sherwood, McCormick, and Robert in Tulsa, Amity became a certified member of the Oklahoma Bar Association in 2019; she was sworn in on May 29th, 2020.

She will be remembered for her love of travel, jetsetting to the most beautiful beaches, scuba-diving in the most iconic reefs, and sunbathing by the most

luxurious pools. You could either find Amity at a concert (most likely New Kids on The Block), out to dinner with friends (most likely at a hibachi-style steakhouse), or shopping (most likely adding to her famous shoe collection). If she wasn't enjoying the good life, she was making someone else's life good. Amity took great pride in her many motivational speaking engagements and planning, organizing, and executing countless philanthropic events. But her biggest passion was her family and spending every summer at Table Rock Lake.

In December of 2015, Amity was diagnosed with Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer. Rather than be defined by a disease, she used it as a platform to inspire others. Because of the awareness that Amity garnered, in 2016 Governor Mary Fallon signed House Bill 2601 into law, making Oklahoma the 26th state to report a patient's breast tissue composition through the mammography reporting results. Amity then helped establish a Tulsa chapter of Project 31, a community by and for breast cancer survivors.

Amity is preceded in death by sister Kelsey Ann Ritze; Grandparents Dr. Ted and Oka Ritze; and Grandparents Elmo and Mary Ann Wilkerson. She is survived by parents Dr. Mike and Connie Ritze; Sister Dr. Heidi Prince and her husband Dr. Andrew Prince; Brother Jamey Ritze and his wife Sydnie Ritze; and Nephews Jude Prince, Jack Prince, and James Ritze, III; Uncle Dan Wilkerson and his wife Michele; Cousins Zahn Wilkerson and his wife Kelly, Matthew Wilkerson and his wife Briana, Whitney Wilkerson and her fiancé Ryan Blackerby; Second-Cousins Kai Bishop-Wilkerson, Daniel Wilkerson, and Charles Wilkerson; and infinite friends who she made feel like family.

# Cemetery Details

## Floral Haven Memorial Gardens

6500 S. 129th E. Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74012  
(918) 252-2518

# Previous Events

## Viewing

DEC 3. 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home  
1660 South Elm Place  
Broken Arrow, OK 74012  
(918) 258-9623  
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

## Visitation

DEC 3. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home  
1660 South Elm Place  
Broken Arrow, OK 74012  
(918) 258-9623  
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

## Celebration of Life

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DEC 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

Arrow Heights Baptist Church  
3201 S. Elm Place  
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

# Tribute Wall



“ *I will always remember rooming with Amity for summer camp at Oklahoma State before we were ever old enough for college, she was a spunky and inspiring friend. God bless you, now and always.*

Charelle - February 17 at 07:36 PM



“ *Amity Eileen Ritze*

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM



“ *Heartbroken to hear of your passing... I never doubted you were going to beat this terrible disease because we all knew how determined and driven you were with everything and anything you did - after all - you were going to be President one day if I remember correctly!*

*My memories of Amity go back to our freshman year of college where we met on the fourth floor of our dorm rooms. We "signed" out every weekend to go spend at your parents house where your mom spoiled us with the BEST baked goodies and lots of Dr. Pepper. You made our (Christina and I's) freshman year something to remember - going out dancing for PE credits, Watching movies in your dorm room b/c you were the ONLY one who didn't have a roommate, making us feel like we were home even though we were thousands of miles away, fast food runs all weekend, surviving a tornado all together, spring break in FL and so many more. Grateful for our friendship during that season. You were an inspiration to so many.*

*To Amity's family - so sorry for your loss. My prayers and thoughts will continue to be with you!*

Lauren Mauriello-Clark - December 04, 2020 at 04:23 PM

JR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Jill & Ray** - December 04, 2020 at 01:38 PM

KB

“ I will always remember Amity’s sparkly eyes and vibrant smile. She was bold yet friendly, and her public speaking skills always amazed me. I remember sitting in the chapel at Trinity while she spoke on stage about something, marveling at how effortlessly she presented herself, and wishing I could be half as brave (instead of breaking out in hives like I do and getting all shaky and nervous :)  
I am praying for you, Dr and Mrs. Ritze, Heidi, Jamey, and families. My heart is broken for you. But so thankful for the Hope of heaven through Christ. ❤️

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**Kari Calvert Berryman** - December 04, 2020 at 01:30 PM

SL

“ I am so blessed to have met Amity during law school. To be really honest, I didn't love law school but I really loved Amity, and I was always happy to get to go to class because I'd get to be with my beloved friend. We sat together on the first day of class, and pretty much every class after that. When I met her, I finally felt like I'd found my people—a friend I'd love the rest of my life. I'll never forget and always cherish our memories of spending time together during downtime whether we were discussing class over coffee, laughing about a pair of ridiculous and fun shoes I wanted to buy while we ate burgers, or just talking about our day as we decompressed from a stressful class. I don't think I've ever smiled or laughed as much as when we were together. Amity, I love you and can't wait to see you again in the summer 🌞



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**susan lester** - December 04, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ There will never be anyone like Amity; she is one of a kind. Words can never do justice in describing the character, many attributes and qualities of such a beautiful soul. Amity was strong, bold, full of life, independent, thoughtful, caring, motivated, driven, beautiful, an old soul, wise beyond her years, confident, and so many more adjectives one couldn't possibly list them all.

I am proud to be her friend and grateful for the time God allowed us to experience this amazing woman. I take solace in knowing this isn't "goodbye", but rather "until we meet again". Amity, thank you for being unabashedly YOU!!, for blessing all those around you and being a positive beacon for everyone to see. You have left your mark on this world and in the lives of those who knew and loved you. I will always remember you with fondness. Until we meet again my friend.

-Andrew P

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**Andrew Post** - December 04, 2020 at 12:28 PM

“ Amity truly lived up to the meaning of her name. I met her as one of her students at Brown Mackie College. We quickly bonded over our mutual love for NKOTB and all things glamour! She was certainly a force, but in the very best way. She always had a way of making the most mundane tasks seem like an adventure. Her laugh was contagious. Her passion, unmatched. I never knew anyone like her and probably will never meet anyone like her again. Whether you knew her for a lifetime or spoke with her in passing, you can bet she made some sort of impact. She will truly be missed.

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**Tiffany McMillian-Bailey** - December 04, 2020 at 11:53 AM

BE

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Becki** - December 04, 2020 at 11:31 AM

JM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all, We all loved Amity so much and we will always treasure the many memories we have of her. She was such a bright light to everyone and was loved by so many. Our prayers are with you all.

*Jeanne & Chris MacKenzie*



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**Jeanne MacKenzie** - December 04, 2020 at 11:29 AM

MV

“ To all of Amity's family,  
I am so sorry for your loss. Amity was such an amazing person and was loved by everyone who was lucky enough to meet her. My family all loved her so much! She was such a bright light in this world! Sending so much love and hugs to you all, and I will continue to pray for each of you. She is dancing in heaven and looking over each of you every day. She will always be with you all.  
*Love, Mikaela Vega*



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**Mikaela Vega** - December 04, 2020 at 10:38 AM



“ 1 file added to the album 40-YEAR HIGHLIGHT REEL Anything But Vanilla



Hayhurst Funeral Home - December 04, 2020 at 10:17 AM



“ Mike and Connie. Our heart goes out for you. So hard to believe. Yet we know that she is in the hands of God. Remembering back to that July. Was a great day for you both. Our prayers to you both and your family. Richard & Linda Polk

Richard Polk - December 04, 2020 at 09:35 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jill & Ray - December 04, 2020 at 12:22 AM

JB

“ I was fortunate to have met Amity when I accompanied my sister, Bonnie, to CTCA a few years ago. She definitely made an impression! She was smart, funny, beautiful and so much more. She was always there for my sister during her numerous visits to CTCA with a genuine smile and upbeat attitude even though she was suffering herself. How she accomplished so much in her life is truly amazing. I would love to have spent more time with her, but it was not to be. Hearts are breaking that such a wonderful person has left us far too soon. Rest in peace, Amity!  
Love, Jill

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**Jill Briley** - December 03, 2020 at 11:57 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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December 03, 2020 at 05:31 PM

CC

“ Heidi, there are no words. I know your sister is in a better place but missing her will leave a hole forever in yours and your families hearts. Just know she is around you, watching over you, and when you least expect it she will let you know she is there...much love and a BIG HUG.  
RIP Amity  
Catherine xxoo



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**Catherine Chapin** - December 03, 2020 at 04:26 PM



“ *Ringed by Love* was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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December 03, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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December 03, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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December 03, 2020 at 01:28 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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December 03, 2020 at 12:33 PM

BH

“ I remember Amity as an excited child helping her learn new projects during her 4H years! I was fortunate enough to tutor the group of 4H club members, where she was an active member. I want to remember the curiosity of a child through her eyes, and .as she became a young woman. Mike and Connie....thank you for sharing your daughter with all of us.

Love,  
Barva and Jerry Herzog  
Cookson, Oklahoma

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Barva Herzog - December 03, 2020 at 08:02 AM



“ Deepest Faith was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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December 03, 2020 at 01:15 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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December 02, 2020 at 09:45 PM



“ *Care and Compassion Spray was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



December 01, 2020 at 05:01 PM



“ *Rick and Debbie Ross purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



**Rick and Debbie Ross** - December 01, 2020 at 02:59 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



December 01, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



December 01, 2020 at 12:41 PM

AS

“ Amity loved and accepted others. She was the best example to all Christians of what it means to love like Jesus. What an amazing woman. We love her. We love her family. She will be truly missed.

Andrew Schuermann - December 01, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



December 01, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



December 01, 2020 at 09:26 AM

CW

“ Prayers and hugs from Amity's cousin, Christi Westfall Wiley. My thoughts and prayers are with you Mike, Connie, and family. Even though Amity and I never met, we followed each other on Facebook and I would send her pictures of her beautiful grandmother, Oka Ritze.  
Gods Love and Grace, Christi

Christina Westfall Wiley - November 30, 2020 at 09:15 PM

BW

“ *Mike and Connie we are so sorry to hear of Amity’s passing you and the family are in our thoughts and prayers. Bob and Carolyn Westfall and family*

bob westfall - November 30, 2020 at 03:51 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Whitney Goyette - November 30, 2020 at 03:30 PM



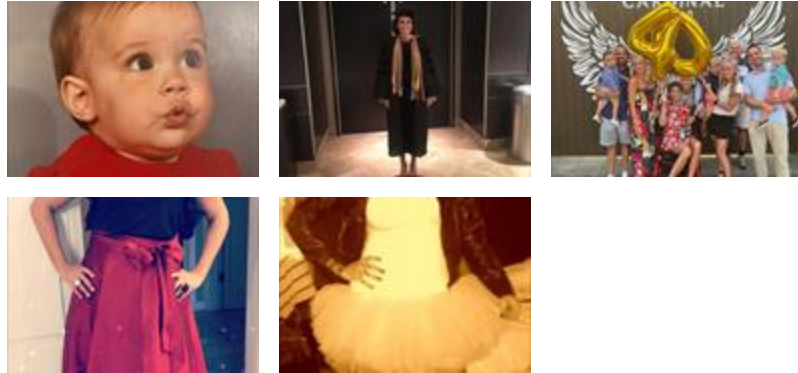
“ *I had the absolute pleasure of meeting and getting to know this incredible woman through Kendra Scott & Project31. Amity’s unwavering positivity and kindness were such an inspiration to me and so many others. Heaven truly gained the sweetest angel. Amity you will be so very missed here on earth.*



Whitney Goyette - November 30, 2020 at 03:30 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Hayhurst Funeral Home - November 30, 2020 at 12:34 PM



“ Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. I did not know her I only meet her once at Hedio's graduation from UAMS. She was full of life and loved her family. So was so proud of her sister many she now Rest In Peace. My heart goes out to all of you during this difficult time. Thoughts and prayers.

Nicole KellySmith - November 30, 2020 at 12:20 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



November 30, 2020 at 09:42 AM

SA

“ Sarah and Clint Begley & Mark and Sharon Allen purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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**Sarah and Clint Begley & Mark and Sharon Allen** - November 30, 2020 at 02:24 AM

JW

“ I had the honor of signing Amity up for our Livestrong at the YMCA program. Amity was so cheerful and full of life. She tirelessly cheered on her fellow participants. Her spirit touched all of us. Sending prayers and love to her friends and family. Amity was one of a kind in the best possible way!

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**Jennifer White** - November 29, 2020 at 07:24 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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November 29, 2020 at 07:13 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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November 29, 2020 at 06:11 PM

BO

“ Dear Mike and Connie,

*I am so sorry. I haven't wanted to bother you knowing this was a tough time for everyone.*

*Please know I have been keeping you both in my heart. Please understand we all know you two reared one fantastic, angel warrior — who was funny and gorgeous, to boot.*

*I am so sorry Amity's time was short — although, whew. Talk about setting the standard for “accomplishments” from a real, pure hearted woman. Connie and Mike, I am sorry your terrific family suffered her loss. While I know your faith will sustain you all, terrific parents that you are, I have to add that right now, I'm wishing my arms stretched to Broken Arrow.*

*Bonnie Russell  
CA*

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**Bonnie** - November 29, 2020 at 06:06 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



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November 29, 2020 at 04:20 PM



“ *Peace Eternal Wreath was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



November 29, 2020 at 03:42 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



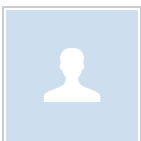
November 29, 2020 at 02:37 PM



“ *I had the opportunity to work with Amity at CTCA and I enjoyed getting to know her so much. She was beautiful on the outside and equally brilliant and genuine on the inside. She'd greet you with a welcoming smile and treated everyone with love, dignity and compassion. A true angel among us.*



**Stacey Elam** - November 29, 2020 at 02:36 PM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



November 29, 2020 at 01:58 PM

VJ

“ Prayers to the family of this sweet lady. May Amity's memories bring you peace, joy, and happiness for a lifetime...She will be remembered as a caring soul. Willing to share a wealth of information to the ladies in pink. She is one of the first I met at CTCA P31 in December 2017 or January 2018...I'm so glad and forever grateful I had the opportunity to meet Amity! Pink Power

Vicki Joice - November 29, 2020 at 01:53 PM

VJ

“ Vicki Joice lit a candle in memory of Amity Eileen Ritze



Vicki Joice - November 29, 2020 at 01:36 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



November 29, 2020 at 01:27 PM



“ Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



November 29, 2020 at 01:06 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



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November 29, 2020 at 12:59 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



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November 29, 2020 at 10:42 AM



“ *Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



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November 28, 2020 at 09:33 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.*



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November 28, 2020 at 08:34 PM

HP

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Heidi Prince - November 28, 2020 at 07:53 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



November 28, 2020 at 06:27 PM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Sarah Begley - November 28, 2020 at 03:53 PM



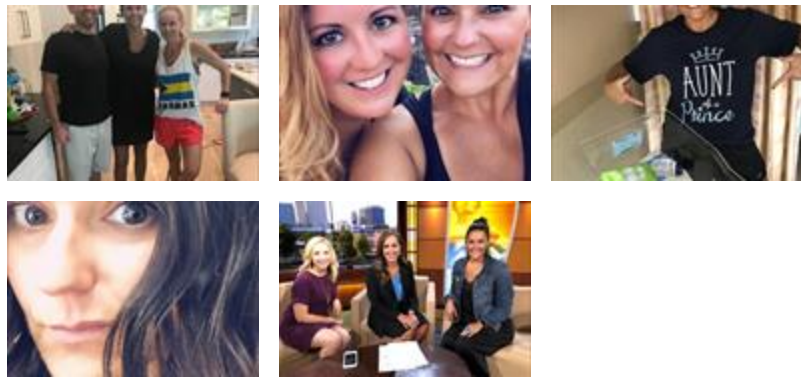
“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Sarah Begley - November 28, 2020 at 01:29 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Hayhurst Funeral Home - November 28, 2020 at 12:50 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Amity Eileen Ritze.



November 28, 2020 at 12:48 PM



“ *It is our honor and privilege to serve the Ritze family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of Amity.* ”



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**Hayhurst Funeral Home** - November 28, 2020 at 09:27 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album* ”



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**Hayhurst Funeral Home** - November 27, 2020 at 10:13 PM