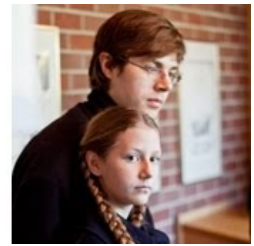




The GERTIE Diaries



The continuing travels of Gertie, a most beloved stuffed Saint Bernard, who was adopted by Naomi & Sam Karth, after her owner Mary Lydia Karth (age 13) passed away following a car crash on May 6th 2013. She will be missed forever, but we hope to keep the stories of Gertie alive!

Thursday, June 13, 2013

Buckled In!

Sam has taken very careful care of Gertie since she was placed in our care... so it should come as no surprise when, after we loaded the car to head to the girls' memorial in Michigan, I turned around last Friday to find this in our back seat:



All set, and ready to go!

~Naomi

Posted by [Unknown](#) at [3:56 PM](#) [No comments:](#)

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How it all started...

The Gertie Diaries is a project that started on an airplane on Friday May 10th, 2013. My husband Samuel, his brother Caleb, and I were traveling together, flying in to Dallas, for their sister Rebekah's wedding. It sounds simple enough, but it is so far from that. Sam comes from a family

Blog Archive

▼ [2013](#) (3)

► [August](#) (1)

▼ [June](#) (2)

[Buckled In!](#)

[How it all started...](#)

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of 9 kids, and I come from a family with 10. Our families are both wonderful, and we feel so blessed to be surrounded by so much wonderful family.

On May 4th 2013, Sam's Mom was driving her three youngest down to Texas for the wedding when they were struck several times by a semi-trailer on I-20 in Georgia. AnnaLeah (age 17) was killed instantly. After three days on life support, Mary Lydia (13) followed her to heaven. Marianne (Sam's Mom) was hospitalized with a concussion, lacerations & damage to both legs, and Caleb had a mild concussion & ended up with staples in the back of his head. Sam flew to GA that Sunday, followed by me on Tuesday, to help his parents deal with everything. In the midst of the aftermath, Samuel was able to find Mary's most beloved stuffed Saint Bernard, Gertie. On the flight to Dallas, Sam was cradling Gertie in his arms, and I used my iPhone to catch this photo of him:



After I Instagrammed the shot, and sent it to Facebook, I realized we had a very special new member of our family, and wondered what to do with her. Mary had always been my biggest fan when it came to our photography, and she often stalked my blog, emailing multiple times if she felt I hadn't updated quick enough for her needs! So a blog, I thought was the answer.

Sam & I have been planning on traveling more. My best friend, Jonny, passed away on April 11th 2013, at the age of 27. He was a great traveler, and his passing had inspired us to be more active in life. So why not take Gertie with us on these journeys, and share the story through her eyes? Mary would love it.

And so the Gertie Diaries were born. And here we are!

~Naomi

Posted by [Unknown](#) at [3:45 PM](#) [No comments:](#)

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