



**In Memory of AnnaLeah 1995 to 2013 and Mary Lydia  
Karth 1999 to 2013**

June 27, 2013 ·

Bittersweet

For me, anything which evokes a memory of a lost, loved one is likely to be bittersweet...at once both bitter (unpleasant or painful) and sweet (pleasing, agreeable, gratifying). Kind of like my name: Marianne —Mary meaning bitter and Anne meaning grace or favor. A bittersweet plant is both beautiful and poisonous.

As I read the Word yesterday morning, my mind was hoping to cross paths with references to such things and I was not disappointed.

Proverbs 14:10

The heart know its own bitterness,  
And a stranger does not share its joy.

Proverbs 14:13

Even in laughter the heart may be in pain,  
And the end of joy may be grief.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event [delight] under heaven--

2 A time to give birth, and a time to die;

A time to plant, and a time to uproot what is planted.

3 A time to kill, and a time to heal;

A time to tear down, and a time to build up.

4 A time to weep, and a time to laugh;

A time to mourn, and a time to dance.

I suppose it should be no surprise that, particularly while the grief is so fresh and because the tragedy was so sudden, violent, presumably preventable, and stole two at once, that the emotions swirl around wildly at times begging for release.

And so, I thank you for standing with us from the very start—rejoicing with us as we rejoice and weeping with us as we weep. Thank you for being devoted to us in brotherly love and upholding us in prayer, as well as contributing to our needs.

AnnaLeah would have preferred to be anonymous and Mary would have cringed at the social awkwardness of it all. But I guess that they will just have to deal with it. After all, they knew that their mother was in the business of preserving family memories...and now is the time for theirs.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-\\_zXhD3vZ\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_zXhD3vZ_g)

Marianne

p.s. Mary had fun modeling Rebekah's wedding dress as it was sewed

