

## **Dear mourners in Australia,**

We are deeply devastated and endlessly sad about the death of our loved daughter Esther. Words aren't enough to describe how hard this tragedy in the far for us country of this world affects us. Esther was a very popular person in the whole region, so that the word of her accident was spread over the whole "Rheinessen" region within no time and the coverage of the media brought it into every last house. We see by the numberless sympathetic reactions of so many people, that they did not only know her, but that everybody truly loved her.

Esther was born on the ninth of June in 1979, starting her extraordinary life as a child of incredible vitality. She was able to walk on her own with the age of only ten months, started to speak very early too, was interested in everything, eager to learn and always in motion. She was talented in various ways and knew to use the skills which God gave her along her way. She was an outstanding gymnast, and made it to the national Championship "Youth working for the Olympics" with her school team even three times. She liked to dance, loved horsebackriding, went skiing, played the recorder and read a lot of books. After all, she was an excellent painter, even got the award for the best and an outstanding artist of her class when she finished highschool.

Because of her curiosity about the world, we were not able to hold her back already when she was seventeen. She went to the United States on her own as an exchange student to go to and graduate from an American highschool and live with a host family in Chamois, Missouri for one year. We had the chance to participate on her graduation ceremony and could see by ourselves how she was able to win the hearts of everybody in a new country within the wink of an eye.

After her Graduation in Germany and a few jobs during her school years, Esther found out that to work with and in the Nature would be the perfect job for her. She made wine and viticulture her hobby, had a training on the job in the world famous "Schloss Johannisberg" winery for one year and began her viticulture studies afterwards. While others would use their semester breaks to relax and take a quiet rest, Esther started working in a major wine cellar in Germany and had jobs in wineries in Burgundy (France), Chile and California (USA), each for two months.. In addition to this already full schedule, she applied for, and got elected as the Wine Queen of our "Rheinessen" region, which is the vastest wine producing area in Germany. After that period, she was elected "Wine Princess" of the whole country and had now the important task of representing the German wine at special events. The job in Australia was the compulsory practical Part of her college and since she handed in her dissertation paper the day before she left for down under, she would have been set and done with her college time three weeks after her return. She would have had the degree "Engineer of Viticulture", a title she would have worn with pride. She had the best chances for excellent jobs, also because besides her native German, she spoke fluent English, French and not just fairly Spanish.

Esther was an always happy person, passing on her good mood and positive attitude to her environment. She had close friends in the whole world. It's a very important matter of concern to us, that with Esther we will not lose all these people as well. Our house will always be open for any of Esthers mates and friends and we will be glad about every short or long visit. We hope, that many of you all and her other friends will make use of that offer, so we will be able to still participate in Esthers life, even longer than it lasted.

In the obituary we wrote: "She went through her short life with the power of a Hurricane". We are of the opinion, that this sums up the short but very intense life of Esther in the best way. We ask you to pray with us for Esther, but also for the Truck driver who passed away in the same accident. Although we do not know him, our thoughts and mourns are also with him and his family.

In the funeral service in Appenheim, we will play a song, Esther used to listen to a lot in her youth. It's "I'll sleep when I'm dead" by Bon Jovi. The Text really matches Esthers life, since she never left anything out and it never came to her mind to skip a party.