



Anna
Maxine
Romans 5:1-5




Anna Changed the World

When she was born we wondered: How would Anna change the world? Would she sing? Dance? Write? Run a company? Care for children? But Anna was an old soul. She knew her path from the moment her gaze met ours on that sunny day in May. Anna's first role, from her first day, was teacher. From Anna ...

- **We learned to love without limitation.** Without consideration of aptitude, ability or intelligence.
- **We learned to cherish each moment.** To have popsicles and ice cream cones and chocolate milk. We learned to slow. down.
- **We learned to lean on friends. Heavily.** Because that's what friends do. They lift you up. And true friends *need* to help you when you're in pain.

We never, ever expected to lose her. We desperately want her back. We want to hold her and kiss her and sing to her. Oh, Anna. We will never be the same. Grief has changed us. Anna has changed us. We are going to be better people and live better lives because Anna made us better than we were before.

And now we know how Anna will change the world: by changing each one of us. For Anna, we will do more—not in volume but in substance. Her life will ring the planet in good words, good thoughts and good deeds. Starting with each one of us. Today we are connected by grief. Tomorrow we will be connected by goodness.

 I can do all things through
Christ who strengthens me.