

Melinda Dianne Brodman

Melinda Dianne Hines Brodman died at 6 am on November 26, 2008, succumbing to a protracted illness. She was a resident of Pike Road AL after having moved from Newport News VA in 2007. She was the widow of Air Force Col. Gregory N. Brodman. They had been married for 22 years at his death in 2005. Dianne was born in Madrid, Spain, on Jan. 17, 1961, the first of four children of retired Air Force Col. and Mrs. Walter E. Hines, III. She attended schools in Okinawa, Springfield VA, Belleville IL, Norfolk VA and Montgomery AL, where she was co-drum major of the Jefferson Davis High School band in 1978 and 1979, and participated in the Montgomery Junior Miss competition in 1978. She lived with surrogate parents Nancy and Jim Lucci during her senior year when her parents were reassigned to Randolph AFB TX. She studied piano under Madeleine Farago in Springfield VA, Sara Ellen McGowin in Montgomery AL and Dini Albidress in San Antonio TX. At the end of her music studies in San Antonio, she joined younger sister Laura in a joint recital which served as the catalyst to winning a piano performance scholarship to the University of Alabama. As an Air Force wife, she lived in Schertz TX, Fayetteville NC, Sumter SC, Beale AFB CA, Hurlburt Field FL, Newport News VA, Fort Belvoir VA and Homestead FL. Along the way, she worked in various positions with the Federal Civil Service at many of those locations, receiving such honors as Civilian of the Year and Civilian of the Quarter multiple times. Equally important, Dianne was active, along with husband Greg, in every community where God planted her, e.g., volunteering in a variety of roles at Special Olympics events, greeting patrons at Spurs' games, and preparing care packages for enlisted airmen and their families. She had just completed her long quest to become a certified Master Gardener and was a member of the Capital City Master Gardener Association. She was a communicant of All Saints' Episcopal Church, where she recently re-affirmed her baptismal vows.

She is survived by her parents, Walt and Mary Eleanor Hines, Pike Road AL; siblings Laura Hines Wittman, Millstone Township NJ, Julie Hines, Montgomery AL, and Barth Hines, Millbrook AL; aunts, Linda Hines Ensor, Powell TN, Nancye Hines, Lenoir City TN, and Nancy Loose, Shalimar FL; uncles, Leonard Hines, Lenoir City TN, Evan Loose, Shalimar FL, Sam Ensor, Powell TN; great uncle, Jack Massey Jr., Palatka FL; father-in-law, Bob Brodman, Mercer Island WA; brothers-in-law Cole Brodman, Mercer Island WA, Lane Brodman, San Antonio TX, and Kevin Wittman, Millstone

Township NJ; sisters-in-law, Donna Brodman, San Antonio TX, Kara Brodman, Mercer Island WA, Claudia Milena Hines, Millbrook AL; nieces, Olivia and Isabel Wittman, Millstone Township NJ, Miranda Goins, Montgomery AL, and Shelby Brodman, Mercer Island WA; nephew, Jackson Brodman, Mercer Island WA; a host of cousins; and her beloved dogs, Simon and Nellie.

A funeral mass will be held at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 645 Coliseum Blvd, Montgomery AL, on Tuesday, December 2nd at 11:00 am. Dianne will be interred at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery with husband Greg. See <http://www.diannebrodman.com/> for times and other details.

Contributions in memory of Dianne should be sent to the Joanna M. Nicolay Melanoma Foundation, 255 Clifton Blvd, Westminster MD, 21157. This foundation was formed by a cousin in 2004 and sponsors significant research and education on melanoma prevention, detection, care and cure. See <http://www.melanomaresource.org/> for more information.