

**Rebecca Jo Anastasi, 45**

**Jan. 22, 1949 - March 14, 1994**

**Glenwood** - My name is Rebecca but most of my life I liked being called Becky. I was born Jan. 22, 1949 in Harlan, the daughter of Charlotte Kintz and Richard (Dick) Anastasi. When I was born, I suffered an injury that kept me from growing the right way. Because of my health, I became a resident of the Glenwood State School in Glenwood when I was five or six. While attending school there, I became interested in the people trained to take care of me. I liked to tease them and test their patience. Like most young ladies I liked purses and jewelry, and liked to be told that I looked nice. I learned to ride a special bicycle when I was young, and enjoyed coming up behind people and hitting them. It was fun and I laughed but never hurt anyone. House 134 was a dormitory where I lived for several years. I loved the staff and especially my foster grandmother Thelma Delevan. She would read to me and visit on special occasions. I worked hard at school and learned many things. Working on the electric communication board was difficult, but something I still learned. I also learned eyeblink communication and could converse with others this way. I was successful in developing habits and skills that allowed me to move to a house and use an upright wheelchair. Working on numbers was hard but something I liked to do. I developed a mind of my own and learned to be mentally independent even though I physically depended on others at times. Everyday tasks for some people were looked at as refreshing for me. It was fun for me to do things for others; to keep track of snacks for other residents, or to hold charts. I was nicknamed "little packrat" because I was always holding or carrying things for others. I enjoyed the people around me and the pleasure their love brought to me. I liked to laugh, to tease and to also love back. I died on March 14, 1994 at Saint Joseph Hospital in Omaha, NE at age 45 years, one month and 20 days.

My mom Charlotte lives in Houston, TX, my dad Dick (Annette) live in Lytle, TX. I have three sisters, Karen (Joe) Lewis of Alpine, TX, Debbie Allen of Roundrock, TX, and Shelly Friday of Rialto, CA, three brothers, Ricky (Laura) Anastasi of Canyon Lake, TX, Mike (Michelle) Anastasi of Belville, TX, and Jeff (Brenda) Anastasi of Houston, TX, a step-brother Russell Anastasi of Lytle, TX; numerous aunts and uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and all my special family at the Glenwood State School.

Funeral services were held March 16, 1994 at Pauley Funeral Home in Harlan with Msgr. Edward Kelly of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan officiating. Burial was in the Harlan cemetery with Wayne Schlange, Michael Convers, William Lindau and Kenneth Jacobsen casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.