

*Tribute to my Parents Award Winner*

*Davenport, Iowa*

*January 23 - 25, 2015*

*Anisa Krouse*

*AGE: 12*

*Parents: Ted Krouse (Deceased 12/2/14) and Judy Krouse*

*Competition: Tribute at Davenport*

*Dance Studio: Almost Famous Dance Studio*

*Teachers – Amanda Hackney & Melissa Ehrisman*

*My name is Anisa Krouse and I am 12 years old. I go to Almost Famous Dance Studio and I have the best dance mom in the world! I was born in California but I was adopted by my grandparents at a very young age. After I was adopted, my grandparents decided to move back to Monticello, Iowa where they both grew up. I began to dance when I was 3 years old and that was and still is my life. I was a very happy girl and I love my grandparents! My mom's name is Judy Krouse and my Papa's name is Ted Krouse. My Papa passed away on December 2nd 2014. It was the worst day of my life. My Papa was a great man, he volunteered at Monticello Senior Dining for about 4 years. He would pack up his car full of different foods and would go around town delivering meals to elders who couldn't get out to get meals for themselves. Everyone loved it when I went with him, and I loved it just as*

*much. I met so many people and I loved talking to them! A lot of them would tell my papa that seeing me just made their day! That really put a smile on my face and made me really feel good inside. I was and will always be his brown eyed girl. He loved me so much and told me that all the time. He also loved his car. He had a 1970 Camaro and he loved to race it and take it to car shows. He also became best friends with some of the other dance dads at our studio and I loved watching him help with the props. I miss him so much and would do just about anything to hug him and tell him I love him one more time!*

*In fact, my solo this year is a tribute to my Papa and the song is called Soulshine because it was his favorite song. We all took the loss of my Papa really hard but it was probably the hardest on my mom. They were married almost 50 years and they were high school sweethearts! My mom is the strongest, kindest, and most hard-working woman I know she also works at Monticello Senior Dining as the main manager. There are many elders who go to Senior Dining every day for meals. My mom helps prepare the meals for everyone who comes. I still go to work with her sometimes to visit everyone and sometimes I dance for them. I get many compliments when I dance for them and I love doing it. She does this, plus works at our dance studio behind the desk some nights, takes care of me and helps out a lot with her other 3 kids and their families and cleans house and keeps everything in order. I honestly don't know how she does it and I look up to her so much. I hope I can do everything she can do when I'm her age. My mom is always there for me and I know I can tell her anything. I love her so much and I don't know what I would do without her. I think my parents deserve the best and I love them both so much.*

*Anisa Krouse*