



Jadyn Boyd Her Love for Life, People, & Animals By Callie Holton

here are not enough words to describe my sweet, precious Jadyn." Julie Boyd wrote on Facebook of her niece Jadyn shortly after a single car rollover took her life in December 2022. "A few that I will use are love, passion, hard work, and enthusiasm."

Raised in Lamesa, Texas, by loving parents Morgan and Andy Boyd, alongside brother Kash, Jadyn was passionate about raising and showing livestock. And it was essential for Jadyn to share the lessons she learned through showing - responsibility, hard work, caring for animals, and helping others. So, throughout her career, she helped her peers. She taught them what she knew and helped them overcome obstacles; more than that, she was a friend.

Julie tells a story that provides a perfect illustration of Jadyn's big heart, sense of humor, and perseverance:

"From 2020 to spring 2021, Jadyn had a shorthorn steer named Pablo. He was just like a puppy; she had such a great bond with him! The whole family loved Pablo, and she took him to numerous shows throughout the year. We were getting close to the Houston stock show, and Pablo was going, but from

there, he would not be coming back home with us. Jadyn was pretty sad about it.

So, we all started discussing if we could convince her father, and my brother, Andy, to bring Pablo home. He, of course, was oblivious to this, and Jadyn got really excited about the possibility of either bringing Pablo home - which is not what happens after the big shows - or at the very least, giving Andy a little grief and including as many people as possible.

So, Jadyn got to work, made a collage of pictures of her and Pablo, and decided that as soon as the pig show was over and it was time to start thinking about the steer show, it would be the perfect time to start the 'Bring Pablo Home' campaign. She had everyone she knew send to as many people as they would a text with the collage that asked them to text Andy with the 'Bring Pablo Home' request. Many people had been included in this planning a few days ahead, so they had already prepared others that this was coming. So, when the time was right, everyone sent out the text request, and within about 30 minutes, Andy received about 250 texts requesting to Bring Pablo Home!

Andy was in a different part of the barn and came to find Jadyn and her mother, Morgan, as soon as he could. He was just shaking his head and asking, 'why are people from Connecticut and California - and everywhere in between - asking me to bring Pablo home?'

We got a very good laugh out of that, and Andy even had to turn off his phone for a while to be able to get anything else done in the barn for the next few hours!

Andy, understandably said he could not bring Pablo home because then that would set a precedent; if Jadyn got to bring home every animal she loved, there would not be enough money in the world to feed them all.

What a great laugh we had about that, and Pablo showed that day. He did great for Jadyn, as he always did, and she said her goodbyes as she had known she would, but she had a little fun leading up to that moment."

Still reeling from the devastation of her tragic loss, Jadyn's loved ones are finding ways to carry on her legacy and continue spreading the goodness she exuded during her time on this earth.

"She was a big, bright, shining light, not only in our lives, as her family, but in many people's lives," said Julie. "Her love for life, people, and animals was overwhelming."

Her aunt Julie couldn't even count how many young people reached out to the family after the accident, proclaiming themselves her best friends. "I kept thinking, yes, I'm sure you were. That is how Jadyn made everyone feel. She truly lit up every room."

These innumerable friends now blanket the community with #lovelikejadyn on bumper stickers, bracelets, and social media posts, reminding us how precious true friendship can be.

Jadyn was only in the first semester of her freshman year at West Texas A&M at the time of the accident, but she had truly found her niche within the Paul Engler College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences. More specifically, with the students who put on the Little International livestock show. This two-day event is a showmanship competition held at the Bain Event Center and includes steer, pig, sheep, and horse shows, a Quiz Bowl, and a Round-Robin final championship. In this group, Jadyn found others who shared her passions of agriculture, continuing education, caring for animals, and coaching and helping others. These same passions shaped her long-term goal of majoring in Agricultural Education to inspire the next generation.

Jadyn at WT



Julie Boyd reflected on Jadyn's decision to attend WTAMU and how well it suited her once she enrolled: "When she visited WT, something aligned so perfectly with her. She already knew exactly who she was as a person, and she had ideas about what she wanted to be, but that first semester there inspired her. It gave her an added enthusiasm to go into agricultural education. And to help other kids. She was so proud of herself. That first semester, she just excelled. I think it was a combination of how the school approached her and how she approached school. And so that's why when we were trying to think of as many different ways as we could to keep her memory, her legacy alive, WT came to mind."

The Jadyn Boyd Scholarship Fund at West Texas A&M was born from this desire to fulfill Jadyn's love of helping others at a place that was dear to her heart.

"When we think of scholarships, and the expense of education, many of our students need assistance. A scholarship of even \$1,000 can be why they can attend school," Lesly Annen, Assistant Vice President for Leadership Gifts and Development at WTAMU, explained how impactful a scholarship fund like the one set up in honor of Jadyn Boyd could be. "What we know is that many of our students work, and many of our students have family support, and they really do struggle with the cost of their education. So, this makes all the difference, not just for one student, but because these endowments are perpetual, they will actually make a difference forever."

A memorial-endowed scholarship at West Texas A&M is set up with a minimum contribution level

Jadyn with her mom, Morgan Boyd

Jadyn with her dad, Andy Boyd



so that it can be granted each year in an amount that will still allow the fund to accrue enough to provide that award in perpetuity. The family or friends organizing the fund can work with the team in WT's scholarship office to set criteria for potential scholarship recipients, using things like a specific school or major.

In addition to the scholarship, Jadyn's family has set up a fund in Lamesa for students who want to participate in livestock shows but might have a financial barrier. Julie Boyd explained, "We want students who wish to raise and show an animal that might not be able to afford one that they can have a livestock project. So, we will help students purchase and feed an animal; because feeding is an additional cost. Sometimes a livestock project can be out of the question for students. It's not just about the responsibility anymore; it can be expensive. Jadyn didn't want any kid who wanted to do something to be unable to do it because of money."

In January, the Dawson County Junior Livestock Show created and awarded the "Jadyn Boyd Spirit Award" to recognize the participant who worked the hardest and helped out their fellow showmen. This award will keep Jadyn's memory alive in an arena that she knew and loved while encouraging kids who value the same things she did.

From the Facebook post written by Julie Boyd:

"In one of our last conversations, her enthusiasm while looking back on her first semester, combined with looking forward to the next semester, could hardly be contained. She was proud of how well her

first semester went, and her grades were great. As part of the Little International Livestock Show on campus, she interacted with Animal Science and Agricultural Education majors, and she was looking forward to her future with big plans. Plans that centered on helping kids discover a love for agriculture and animals.

"Jadyn shared with me her excited anticipation for her first education class coming up in the spring semester when she would interact with kids. I, too, was looking forward to her sharing that love, passion, work ethic, and enthusiasm with many more on her path.

"For this reason, our family has decided to set up a scholarship at WT to honor the memory of Jadyn. My hope is for this scholarship to reach other curious young people who exhibit a hunger for learning and a desire to succeed by helping others." All

If you would like to contribute to the Jadyn Boyd Memorial Scholarship,

https://give.wtamu.edu/o/west-texas-am-university/i/wt-general-donation-page/f/jadyn-boyd-scholarship-fund

Or, checks made out to the WT Foundation, with "Jadyn Boyd Scholarship Fund" in the memo line can be mailed to:

The WT Foundation PO Box 60766 Canyon, Texas 79016

And to help the Boyd family support local student livestock projects, you can give to the Jadyn Boyd Memorial Scholarship at Lamesa National Bank or donate by Venmo @JadynBoyd-Memorial.





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JOWELL SECTION

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Rich in local history, this section of land has the old Jowell School house situated in the southwest corner near the intersection of FM 1705 and Jowell Rd. Once a cornerstone to the community, this area holds countless memories to local residents. Most recently, ± 583.7 acres of this section has been enrolled in the USDA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The CRP contract will expire 9/30/2023. The property does have perimeter fencing and a small drawl through the southeastern corner.