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- Jessica Kafer Nichols

Dear Library Supporter,

A visit to the Library is a personal experience and people connect with libraries in many different ways. Jessica Kafer Nichols’ connection was built through her mom, Paula Kafer, and the treasured storytimes they shared.

Paula worked at Pinkard Construction, the company her dad formed in 1962, until her sudden death from Leukemia in 2013. She was a devoted friend, wife and daughter, and mom to two little girls who grew up loving the library and reading alongside her every night.

“Library visits were a part of our regular routine for all my formative years. It’s safe to say I developed my love of reading on my mom’s lap. We read hundreds of picture books (and some of these books hundreds of times!). When I was little and as my sister and I grew, we read dozens of chapter books, including *Anne of Green Gables*, *The Little House* books, *All of a Kind Family*, *A Girl of the Limberlost* and *Matilda*. We routinely begged mom for just one more chapter, and usually (because she was just as enthralled with the story as we were) she would acquiesce,” Jessica recently shared.

“As we grew up and went off to college, we shared our love of books in phone conversations and emails. Mom was a huge fan of audio books and recommended many different favorites to me. I am now an audiobook junkie and “read” upwards of 65 a year. I owe this all to her.

“The connection continued when my kids were born. Mom found no greater delight than reading to her grandchildren. I have many photos of her with them on the couch, snuggled up to read. And when they were coming to visit her, she’d make a special trip to the Library to load up her JCPL tote bag with a new stack of books just for them. As harried, busy parents, we had to stick to bedtimes and limit the number of stories to read, but bedtime stories with Grammy were cherished and practically unlimited.

“Mom would discuss and share books with Pinkard employees and would gift books for any occasion. She even shared her love of books with my cousins and my kids’ friends. It was impossible not to love reading when my mom was your narrator, or to pick up a new book based on her enthusiastic recommendation.

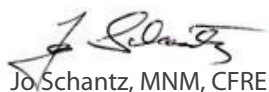
“Since mom passed away two years ago, my kids and I have honored her memory by reading together every night. We now refer to this special ritual not as ‘bedtime stories’ but as ‘Grammy stories.’ I’m proud to say that at six and eight years of age, my kids are already firm booklovers. I can’t think of a better legacy.”

Jessica and Pinkard Construction have a lifelong connection with Jefferson County Public Library and choose to honor Paula – their mom, coworker, and friend – by supporting it. It is comforting for them to know they are contributing to their library and helping other kids become booklovers.

Experiences like Jessica’s and thousands of others are made possible every year thanks to your generous support of the Jefferson County Public Library Foundation.

Please donate today by visiting jeffcolibrary.org/connect or plan to donate on **Colorado Gives Day, December 8**. Together we can make connections for generations to come.

Thank you for your continued support,


Jo Schantz, MNM, CFRE

Executive Director, Jefferson County Library Foundation



Pictured in header:
Paula Pinkard reads to her
grandkids and a friend while on
a camping trip in June 2012.