



# Hilary G. Hamilton

NOV 2, 1970 - JAN 30, 2023



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 6



# Hilary G. Hamilton

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**H**ilary Blake Hamilton, 52, of Cornelius, NC died January 29, 2023, at her home, surrounded by loved ones. She was born on November 2, 1970, in Spokane, WA to Wilson Blake and Julie Anne Smith Blake.

Hilary's sense of adventure, a trait that she shared with Bryce Hamilton, her devoted husband of almost nineteen years, seemed innate at an early age. She spent her early childhood years in what was then known as Zaire (1972-1974), where she curiously explored the burgeoning city and magical African topography. Her tenacity became evident as she once insisted on accompanying her older sister to preschool where she was originally deemed too young. Her passion for nature continued to flourish, when her family eventually settled in Hayden Lake, ID. Throughout the next decade, Hilary enthusiastically explored the natural playground that the mesmerizing Idaho landscape offered.

During her childhood, Hilary developed a passion and talent for running, which continued throughout her life. While earning her undergraduate degree at the University of Washington and her Masters from Auburn, she was named an all-conference middle-distance runner. Her dedication to the sport and relentless devotion to smashing goals with unbridled optimism garnered Hilary the endearing nickname "Bulldog" from her teammates. She wore it with pride. As a powerful adult athlete, Hilary competed in the famed Iron Man and Alcatraz triathlons as well as the New York City Marathon and she carried that intensity into her remarkable career.

From serving on the team that built the first e-commerce platform for the venerable Levi's brand to owning her own communications firm for 20+ years, consulting with brands such as Expedia, Hilary's fervor remained contagious. She made anyone she encountered believe they too could smash goals, be they personal or professional. And that they could do it with a glowing smile, just as she did.

It was that smile, relentless optimism, competitive spirit, and true grit that drew her husband in when they met one afternoon in New York City. Following a bi-coastal courtship, the pair and



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their family eventually planted roots in Carmel, CA where they could enjoy the mountainous landscape, ocean air, and familial kindness of their neighbors. For the following eight years, Hilary embraced those neighbors as a family with her hallmark light, laughter, and love.

Last year, the family moved to Cornelius, NC, where Hilary continued her years-long fight with metastatic breast cancer. In the face of that battle, she never gave up, she never lost her optimism, and she never relented to the brutality of the disease. She laughed, persisted, nurtured, embraced, and appreciated all that life had to offer through to the end. It should be noted that Hilary Blake Hamilton did not lose her fight against cancer. Because Hilary never lost anything to which she dedicated herself. It is those she leaves behind that have lost, as there will never be another uniquely beautiful source of sunshine, grace, grit, and love as Hilary Blake Hamilton.

Survivors are bountiful, but notably include her husband, Bryce as well as their son, Sawyer and daughters, Rafferty and Hadley, her parents Wilson and Julie Ann, and her siblings, Kira Bird, Reyla Zumhofe and Tesa Gagliardi as well as numerous beloved in-laws, nieces and nephews, cousins and friends. Her brother Christopher Blake, who she loved fiercely, preceded her in death.

A private Celebration of Life service will be held later this summer in Carmel, CA.

James Funeral Home of Huntersville is serving the family.



## Tribute Wall

**Hilary G. Hamilton**

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**Lora Maes** shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Hilary was a beautiful, caring human being. I ran track and cross country with her at the University of Washington. I am so saddened to learn of the passing of her life and her long battle with breast cancer. She was the nicest, most accepting person. No matter what your background or who you were, she accepted everyone and never had anything a bad to say about anybody. She was a fierce competitor on the track and I thoroughly enjoyed being her teammate. We reconnected briefly in the early 2000's when she was living Kentfield and went for a run in Golden Gate park. It was like the time never passed, she was still the same Hilary. We lost touch but I always thought about her. My heart goes out to her family for your loss, she was a wonderful person. Attached is a picture of the University of Washington 1993 Spring Sports calendar. Hilary and I (along with Amy Kriz) are pictured on it, it was pretty cool to be in it.



February 20 at 7:52 AM



Lora Maes shared a photo to the Tribute Wall album.

February 20 at 7:52 AM

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TRACK & FIELD ATHLETICS**

**CREW**

MAR 27 CLASS DAY REGATTA 10am  
APR 3 HISTORY INSTITUTIONAL Sun  
OREGON STATE Sun

MAY 1 WINDERMERE CUP 10:30am  
OPENING DAY REGATTA  
MONTLAK CUP, SATELLITE, WA

CALIFORNIA 10am

**BASEBALL**

MAR 4 @ Nevada State 7pm  
5 @ Kansas State 7:30a  
8 @ Kansas State (2) 7pm  
9 @ Puget Sound 7pm  
10 PACIFIC LUTHERAN 7pm  
11 @ Central Washington (2) NOON  
12 @ San Bernardino Tournament  
23 27 PORTLAND STATE 7pm  
APR 3 PORTLAND (2) NOON  
4 PORTLAND STATE 7pm  
7 PORTLAND STATE 7pm  
10 @ Gonzaga (2) NOON  
13 @ Gonzaga 7pm  
14 PORTLAND STATE 7pm  
APR 18-19 OREGON BOATING CUP, ASTORIA, OR  
21 @ Portland State 8pm  
24 WASHINGTON STATE (2) NOON  
25 WASHINGTON STATE 7pm  
MAY 1 @ Portland (2) 4pm  
2 NOON  
3 PORTLAND STATE (2) 7pm  
4 @ Washington State (2) 4pm  
8 @ Washington State 7pm  
12 @ Portland State 7pm  
16 @ Oregon State (2) NOON  
18 @ Oregon State 7pm  
20 GONZAGA (2) 7pm  
21 GONZAGA 7pm  
27-28 NCAA Regionals  
AUG 4-13 College World Series

**SOFTBALL**

MAR 2 @ ADU 8pm  
3 @ Arizona 7pm  
4-7 @ Arizona Classic 7:30a  
12-14 @ Team USA Tournament  
20 @ St. Mary's 7pm  
21 @ Santa Clara 7:30a  
22 @ Stanford 7pm  
23 @ California 7pm  
25-28 @ Perry Tournament 7:30a  
30 @ UCLA 7pm  
APR 1 SAKON FRASER 5:00pm  
2 DRISCOLL 7pm  
4 PORTLAND STATE 7pm  
9 ANCHORAGE STATE 1:00pm  
18 UCLA 7pm  
18 WILLAMETTE 7pm  
22 @ Portland State 7pm  
24 @ Oregon 7pm  
25 @ Oregon State 7pm  
30 STANFORD 7pm  
MAY 1 PACIFIC LUTHERAN 7pm  
4 ARIZONA 8pm  
6 OREGON STATE 7pm  
7 CALIFORNIA 7pm  
21-22 NCAA Regionals  
27-27 NCAA College World Series

**TRACK**

MAR 18 HAWAII TRACK & FIELD  
19 HAWAII TRACK & FIELD  
20 TRACK CLASSIC  
21 @ Stanford Invitational  
APR 3 @ Oregon  
10 GONZAGA, OREGON STATE  
12 @ Santa Clara  
13 @ State Relays  
14 @ Penn Relays  
22-24 CAL STATE PORTLAND  
MAY 1 WASHINGTON STATE  
3 WASHINGTON STATE  
1a-1b Pac-12 Multi-Events  
15 Multisport Events  
16 PACIFIC COAST CONFERENCE  
17 Pac-12 Championships  
21-22 Pac-12 Championships  
26 TROUSERS MEET  
JUNE 2-5 NCAA National Championships

**KOMON 100.3 RADIO**



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Hilary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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