**Obituary**

***The Patriot-News*, Harrisburg, Pa.**

***The Daily Item,* Sunbury, Pa.**

**January 2008**

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| Kirsten Julia Maurer |  |  |
| http://mi-cache.legacy.com/legacy/images/Cobrands/DailyItem/photos/062d5a7e-5ca2-4c17-a1c6-b71630a2bd78.jpgHARRISBURG -- Kirsten Julia Maurer, beloved daughter of Stephanie Garman Maurer and Thomas W. Maurer, both of Harrisburg, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2008. She was 27.  Kirsten grew up in Susquehanna Township with her brothers, Thomas G., now 25, and Seth G., now 21. She was an honors student at Susquehanna Township High School, graduating in 1998, and went on to graduate with honors from Goucher College, Baltimore, in 2002.  Kirsten studied classical ballet since the age of five until her college graduation, primarily with the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet in Carlisle and then at college, where she was the recipient of dance and academic scholarships. During several summers, she also studied at the Rock School of the Pennsylvania Ballet in Philadelphia.  Her brothers recall alternately loving and hating her involvement with dance, loving it when she was on stage and hating it when they thought she acted like a prima ballerina at home. She should be made to mow lawns, they said. But they always looked up to her.  Her family struggles to think of life without Kirsten here. It is difficult to believe that her easy smile and quick laughter are just memories. There is comfort, however, in knowing that she has reunited with her two grandfathers, George P. Garman and William H. Maurer, who preceded her in death and whom she missed dearly.  Kirsten's grandmothers, Julia B. Garman of Mount Pleasant Mills and Anna M. Maurer of Shamokin Dam, are heartbroken, as are Kirsten's aunts, Melanie Garman-Shaffer, Christine Garman, and Sandra McBroom; her uncle, Scott Shaffer; her cousins, Adam G. and Clay A. Shaffer, Kymberley Best, Tiffany Hawn, Kelly McNaney Dick, and Scott McNaney.  A viewing will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday in the library of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, where funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday.  Burial is private.  All arrangements have been entrusted to the George P. Garman Funeral Homes, Inc., Mount Pleasant Mills, assisted by Adam G. Shaffer of the Hoffman-Roth Funeral Home, Carlisle.  Family members extend their deepest appreciation to all those who have offered their support and kindness, and also to those who are now acting as Kirsten's voice.  Memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, Pa., 17011.  All that is left to say is this: Dance, our darling, dance, on the biggest stage of all. | | |