

Rainbows and Annoying Honeybees

Any house my great Aunt Jackie lived in, she made sure there was an in-ground pool in the backyard, otherwise, she refused to live there. She loved having the entire family over for pool parties and picnics throughout the summers and being surrounded by loved ones. She always made sure there were enough pool toys and inflatables for all the kids, and plenty of drinks and entertainment for the adults. No one was allowed inside because she wanted us to enjoy the sunshine and the beautiful weather.

Everyone would bring food and drinks to pass around and share, and my aunt couldn't be happier. The only problem was, Aunt Jackie would say, "Those awful annoying honeybees". She would get so frustrated and say, "They're eating the food, they're ruining it!"; that was until she found a set of brightly colored, mesh dome food covers. After she got her hands on those, she would talk about how they only wanted to join our fun, and that they were just trying to steal a snack. She loved the covers because they were "colorful like a rainbow" and they kept the bees out of the food without harming them. Aunt Jackie would never harm a living thing, not even an annoying honeybee.

This past November, my great Aunt Jackie passed away while I was out of state and my heart sunk, "Was she okay?", "Was she in pain?", "Was she all alone?", those were the questions that immediately flew through my thoughts. I got my answers though, that evening on my way home from work, there was a rainbow above my apartment, and I know it was my aunt telling me she was okay. During her funeral, the weather was lousy, cloudy, and rainy; however, by the time we had all arrived at the mausoleum, the weather was sunny and warm. We all walked in to her burial site inside and to our surprise, a honeybee had followed all of us in and landed on my cousin's (her granddaughter) head. The honeybee stayed there for the entire prayer service until her husband asked to have a minute alone. The honeybee flew off of her head and onto the window right next to my great uncle. My aunt made sure she was with us until the very end, even as an annoying honey bee.