

Dear Hume Hall,

I remember way back in the early days of August, I was so scared to meet you. I had never even been inside of Hume! My mom is my best friend, and she was sending me away to live in a strange place and sleep in a room with a girl I had never even talked to.

When my left me with you, it was a hot, cloudy day. August 17th, 2019 made me understand why we frequently call Gainesville "Rainseville". I was miserable dragging half of my belongings into a place I didn't even want to live in the pouring rain.

The first time you welcomed me was when I got to push an elevator button instead of lugging my belongings up the stairs. I had to help my best friend from home move into Jennings Hall. We loaded all her stuff into the service elevator and ran up five flights of stairs trying to beat it to the top!

Once I was all moved in, I sat on my bed and apologized to my new roommate for crying. I grinded on ALEKS for gen chem 1 at my desk, and I almost fell over until I realized our chairs are supposed to rock. That night, my roommate Caroline started the transition from stranger into best friend. We talked all night, and it felt like a sleepover with a new friend. The next day, people asked us how long we had known each other because we already acted like best friends despite being completely random roommates. I couldn't have imagined on that first night what Hume would mean to me by the time I moved out, but I wish I had known you would give me the best year of my life.

Your concrete block walls do a pretty good job silencing the noise, and they also hold a lot of my favorite memories. In October, I got invited to eat cake with the people on my floor because we had 3 birthdays in one week. During my first experience biting into a sweet, midwestern gooey butter cake, I was standing outside the kitchen on Hume West 2nd floor near. A lot of our best memories were made in that kitchen, as well as a lot more gooey butter cakes.

That night, I met a bunch of people whose names I struggled to remember then. I was scared to even go to that party because I only knew 2 people who were there. I would later learn that it is very hard to avoid socializing when your room is right next to the common area. Not because it was too loud, but because I always wanted to be with my friends. In November, I decided to go on a night hike with some of the people that were at that party, and a week later I went camping with 4 people I hardly knew from Adam. Somehow, Hume, you brought me all the people I didn't know I needed. While we definitely bonded in Hume, sleeping 5 people in a 3-person tent made us very comfortable (and uncomfortable) with each other very quickly! In less than a month, I went from not knowing most of my floor to not being able to go one day without talking to them.

From late night chats, to floor family breakfasts, to birthday parties and game nights, you were with us through it all. I was scared to live on campus, and I was scared to live in Hume while all my friends were in other buildings. I didn't know how much you would change my life, Hume! You will forever be home to me because you are where I found my second family. At the start of this year, I would never have guessed that I would cry when I moved out, too. There is a poster on our floor that says "I love my flamily because..", so we could express our love for each other. Even though we have now transitioned from Hume to Zoom, my flamily still talks everyday. If I could do freshman year all over again, the only thing I would change is getting to know my floor sooner. I am thankful everyday that I chose to live in Hume.

Love you forever,
Regan Bellantoni

P.S. Keep scrolling to see pictures of my favorite moments!



Friendsgiving dinner



Our first camping trip

Family Memories

2019-2020



Movie nights in Hume



Sunset in Payne's Prairie

