



Amber Christine Vassar - Wabanong Kwe

May 23, 1984 - April 16, 2024

Amber Christine (Dotson) Vassar, Wabanong Kwe, age 39, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, walked on April 16, 2024, at her home in Sault Ste. Marie. She was born on May 23, 1984, in Sault Ste. Marie, to Gerald Arthur Dotson and Shelly Ann (Mastaw) Payment.

Amber grew up in Sault Ste. Marie, then earned her GED at Lake Superior State University. She attended Bay Mills Community College and worked at the movie theater and at the welcoming center for the Chamber of Commerce in Sault Ste. Marie. Amber started her family in 2009, becoming a Domestic Engineer, welcoming twin boys, and later three more children that were the light of her life.

Amber “Eastern Sky Women” was a strong Anishinaabe Kwe. She was active in Wellbriety, Recovery Book Club, “Water is Life” supporter and a proud Northern Rewards card holder.

Amber loved reading, retail therapy, and salon days with her daughter. She also enjoyed family time including movie nights with her brothers (Mike and Kevin) and her Mom. Entertaining and cooking holiday dinners were among favorite things to do. She liked taking Native Traditional jewelry classes and going to Kewadin Casino.

Amber was a happy mother of five children; and is survived by her significant other, Matt Vassar; her father, Gerald Dotson; grandfather, Gerald Dotson Sr.; siblings of Sault Ste. Marie, Michael (Michelle) Dotson, Kevin (Amanda) Keenan, Ashley (Thomas) Waddell, and Dustin Dotson; great-aunt Mary Hill; uncles, Harvey (Lisa Dietz) Bell, Wayne (Annette) King, William I. Mastaw, Dennis Dotson, Chris (Kimberely) Dotson, Ken Savoie; aunts, Diane (Foster) Boutilier, Ronda Mastaw, Maureen Weller; and a niece and nephew.

Amber was preceded in death by her mother, Shelly (Mastaw) Payment; grandparents, William Joseph and Mary Delores Mastaw, Shaunna Dotson; aunts, Linda Savoie and Cheryl Mastaw.

A Gathering will be held from April 18, 2024, at 9:00 AM until April 19, 2024, at the Niigaanagiizhik Cultural Building, 11 Ice Circle Drive, Sault Ste. Marie, Services will be Friday at 3:00 PM with a feast to follow.

Obituary as submitted by family.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

APR 18. 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building
11 Ice Circle
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

Memorial Gathering

APR 19. 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building
11 Ice Circle
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

Traditional Ceremony

APR 19. 3:00 PM (ET)

Niigaanaagiizhik Ceremonial Building
11 Ice Circle
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

Tribute Wall

TS

“ *Amber was a great person and good friend I enjoyed hanging out with her and sharing memories she was a great friend and I will miss her terribly rest in peace you beautiful angel you left us to soon*



Tammy Smith - April 24, 2024 at 01:39 AM

KA

“ *May you fly free girl .
May you fly free. Always , you will hold a special place in my heart.
You were one of a kind . You made a difference in life's journey amber ..
May you fly free. May you fly free. See you on the other side , sweet soul . Fly free* 💜



kacie - April 20, 2024 at 11:05 AM

BP

“ *Bonnie Pattison lit a candle in memory of Amber Christine Vassar - Wabanong Kwe*



Bonnie Pattison - April 18, 2024 at 04:49 PM

BP

“ To the family of Amber.. I'm so very sorry and saddened to hear about her passing. Amber was a sweet soul that I got to meet through her Mom Shelly. I know she is hugging her baby girl tightly. My deepest sympathy and prayers to all.

Bonnie Pattison - April 18, 2024 at 04:45 PM

SH

“ Kevin, Mike and families. Im so very sorry for your loss. Amber fought hard to gain her footing in life, and it is unfortunate that she had to be taken so soon. I know Shelly is up there hugging her girl tight. my sincerest condolences.

Shannon Laliberte



Shannon - April 18, 2024 at 01:08 PM

EM

“ Elizabeth R Michalski lit a candle in memory of Amber Christine Vassar - Wabanong Kwe



Elizabeth R Michalski - April 18, 2024 at 01:50 AM