



## Jennifer Gayle (Wightman) Kiefer

December 12, 1984 - June 21, 2024

Jennifer Gayle (Wightman) Kiefer, age 39, of Hessel, Michigan, passed away at McLaren Northern Michigan in Petoskey, Michigan, on June 21, 2024. She was born on December 12, 1984, in Petoskey, to Daniel Anthony and Kathleen Mary Wightman.

Jennifer grew up on Mackinac Island, Michigan, and graduated from Mackinac Island High School. She began working, at a young age, for Arnold Transit, for ten summers as a bike rental assistant. After graduation, she attended Bay Mills Community College in Brimley, Michigan, while studying Childhood Development. Jennifer moved to Grand Haven, Michigan, and worked as a sales representative at Family Dollar. In 2016, Jennifer moved to Cedarville, Michigan, where she met Jason Elton Kiefer, and they married on October 29, 2021, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, combining their beloved families.

Jennifer was a member of the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Jennifer loved the outdoors and enjoyed fishing, hunting, camping, and snowmobiling. She loved being a mother and adored her family. She enjoyed reading, cooking, and trying new recipes. Jennifer liked interior design, reading & crafting with her children.

Jennifer is survived by her husband, Jason of Hessel; daughter, Elaina

Nienaber of Hessel; sons, Kayden Kiefer, Kaleb Kiefer, Jacob Nienaber, and Rylan Nienaber of Hessel; mother, Kathleen Wightman of Mackinac Island; sister, Danielle Leach of Mackinac Island; mother-in-law, Kim Putman of Sault Ste. Marie; father-in-law, Rod Kiefer of McHenry, Illinois; and niece, Harper Leach.

Jennifer was preceded in death by her father, Daniel Wightman.

A Graveside Service will be held on Friday, July 5, 2024, at 12:00 Noon at St. Ann's Cemetery on Mackinac Island. A luncheon will follow at the Community Hall, 7358 Market St, Mackinac Island, MI 49757.

Final Resting Place will be at the St. Ann's Cemetery on Mackinac Island, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of Jennifer to the Chippewa County Animal Shelter, 3660 S Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Family Life Funeral Homes assisted the family with arrangements. Condolences may be left to the family at [www.familylifefh.com](http://www.familylifefh.com).

# Cemetery Details

## St Ann's Cemetery

Mackinac Island, MI

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUL 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

St Ann's Cemetery  
Mackinac Island, MI

# Tribute Wall

LE

“ Laura E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jennifer Gayle (Wightman) Kiefer.

Laura E. - July 05, 2024 at 09:49 AM

BA

“ Ben A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jennifer Gayle (Wightman) Kiefer.

Ben A. - June 26, 2024 at 10:35 AM

CM

“ Christine M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jennifer Gayle (Wightman) Kiefer.

Christine M. - June 24, 2024 at 11:03 PM

CP

“ Charles P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jennifer Gayle (Wightman) Kiefer.

Charles P. - June 24, 2024 at 07:13 PM

SF

“ *Riding with Jen in my Vette with the top down and covered in chocolate from an ice cream cone that was bigger than her.* ”



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**Steve Francuch** - June 24, 2024 at 06:47 PM