



Hillary J. Hawker

May 1, 1975 - September 2, 2021

Hillary Jane Hawker died unexpectedly on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at Illinois Masonic Hospital in the loving embrace of her family. She was born in Kankakee to George and Eileen (McCarthy) Hawker on May 1, 1975. She attended St. Patrick's Grade School, Kankakee High School, and graduated from Bradley University where she majored in Advertising/Communications. She was a Senior Account Executive with Amazon in Chicago.

Hillary's life was blessed with love and friendship. From her earliest childhood days, people were her top priority. Every family gathering was a joyous celebration and every interaction with her large group of friends---for travel, weddings and "competitive" gourmet cooking----was an exciting occasion.

She is survived by her mother, Eileen Hawker of Kankakee; her brother, Robert Hawker of Kankakee; Aunts, Marsha McCarthy of Houston, Texas; Mary (Doug) Fraser of San Francisco; Jackie Hawker of Bourbonnais; 11 beloved cousins and many cherished friends and co-workers.

Preceding her in death were her father, George Hawker; Aunts, Kathleen Carpenter of St. Louis, Mo; Patricia Berndt of Decatur; Uncles, Gerald, and Thomas McCarthy of Decatur; and Charles Hawker of Bourbonnais.

Hillary had a special love for children. She admired the Ronald McDonald

Houses associated with the major hospitals and had witnessed, both as a volunteer and relative of a child with Cystic Fibrosis, the comfort they brought to families in turmoil trying to navigate an unfamiliar city while dealing with a sick child. Information on donations can be found at donations@rmhc.org or the donor's choice.

Jensen Funeral Home in Kankakee, IL is handling the arrangements.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Chicago at a later date.

Please sign her Guestbook at <http://www.jensenfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Hillary J. Hawker*

October 08, 2023 at 04:39 PM



“ *From Bradley Magazine, from "The Passages" page, your name jumped out and I remembered you in my ENG 207 Creative Writing class, of course, I remembered you smiling, courteous, friendly, and you are missed. I trust that you lived a good life.*

Thomas Palakeel

Thomas Palakeel - June 12, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *When I look back on the happiest times of my life and the cherished memories of the people I shared them with while in Chicago, Hillary was a part of that. Everyone who knew her and was lucky enough to call her a friend knows how her smile, attitude, genuine like ability and her just being who she was made everyone around her better and happier than we were without her around. So many wonderful memories to share over the years with one of the most genuine, likeable, loveable and wonderful people most of us will have ever met. RIP Hillary...you made the world a better place.*



Scott Blake - September 16, 2021 at 06:28 PM



“ There aren't too many people I've managed to keep in touch with since high school, but Hillary was one of them. And she made it so easy. Every time we caught up it seemed like no time had passed at all even if it had been years since we spoke. She was always able to make me laugh, even if it was just by hearing her laugh, which was infectious. The last time we caught up was just a few months ago. We talked about her new role at Amazon, the houses we had both just purchased, and talked about plans to see each other, either in Seattle or Chicago. I regret not having one last opportunity to see her in person, but feel so fortunate to have her as part of my life.

Eileen - Hillary and I always spoke about you fondly, particularly your anglophilia :), and I know she loved you a great deal. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Charlie Veers - September 16, 2021 at 03:51 PM

DS

“ My prayers go out to you and my heart is saddened for your loss of your beautiful Hillary. There are no words, but know that I am thinking of you with love.

Diane Lynn Siaroff - September 14, 2021 at 05:31 PM

NI

“ Hilary you had a heart of gold and were always so very kind to me and everyone else around you. God called you home too soon but you certainly made an imprint while you were here! May you forever rest in peace.

Nicole - September 13, 2021 at 05:45 PM

AP

“ Really sorry to hear about Hillary passing. My thoughts are with the family.

Alex Payne - September 13, 2021 at 01:35 PM

KP

“ Hillary was such a bright light of kindness and humor and positivity. I loved growing up with her and will never forget her laugh. I'm very sorry for your loss.

Kim Stergulz Presland - September 11, 2021 at 07:57 AM

MT

“ Hugs and prayers for the family.



Mary Thomson - September 10, 2021 at 04:41 PM

AM

“ Hillary and I met freshman year in college and little did I know the adventures and memories we would make. We spent a semester abroad in England, traveled together, getting into the most random situations and of course laughing all the way. Hillary had the best laugh and the biggest heart. We lived together post college before life took us in different directions. I know we both looked back fondly of those days. Hillary had such an impact in my life and I am heartbroken she has moved on. Such a beautiful light loved by so many. I am blessed to have known her. My heart goes out to all of her loved ones.

Anna Meyer - September 09, 2021 at 11:01 PM



Tracy DeHerrera Cole - September 10, 2021 at 10:25 AM



Tracy DeHerrera Cole - September 10, 2021 at 10:25 AM



You will always be our sweet little neighbor girl. Jen Worth and family

genevieve worth - September 11, 2021 at 02:19 PM



“ Hill-ree...my sweet friend, my bridesmaid, the 1st person I met at Bradley, the friend I didn't see nearly enough but it never mattered because we always picked right up — is gone. I'm still processing, but I am not ok.

Anyone that had the pleasure of meeting Hillary fell in love instantly. Her spirit was infectious and her laugh was contagious. She made the best meatloaf and introduced me to Garth Brooks and my now favorite French onion dip. I will never ever be able to listen to Mr. Big's "To Be With You" without remembering her serenading the entire 3B floor of U-Hall through the door vent when she thought she was singing to herself. I could go on for hours and hours with all the special memories that I will now hold close to my heart. Truly one of the best people I've ever had the honor to call a friend.

I will miss you always Hillary. 💔



Tracy (DeHerrera) Cole - September 09, 2021 at 10:32 PM

AT

“ You were always the laughter in the room. So many memories I will treasure forever. No words can describe how much we will miss you. Love Amber, Eric and Zoey

Amber Turner - September 09, 2021 at 08:21 PM