



## Jayne L. Raef

February 23, 1956 - January 13, 2026

Jayne Lehman Raef, 69, of Bourbonnais, passed away Tuesday, January 13, 2026 At Riverside Medical Center.

She was born February 23, 1956, in Kankakee the daughter of John R. and Lois (St.John) Lehman. Jayne adored children and was the operator of Small World Daycare for 35 years. On February 10, 1978, she married Michael A. Raef at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bradley. Jayne was a board member for 20 years before being Board President of the Bourbonnais Elementary School District for 4 years, as well as secretary for several years before that. She was a master board member of Illinois. She also supported the Life Giver's Orphanage.

She was a founding member of the Illinois Republican Women PAC. She was also a member of Kankakee County Republican Women, Illinois Federation of Republican Women, & National Federation of Republican Women. Jayne served on the IFRW Executive Board since 2018 and held the position of President from 2020-2023. She remained on the IFRW Executive Board as the past President for two more years. She traveled the State of Illinois speaking to Republican Women's Clubs, leading and mentoring women. She served on nominating committees multiple times and influenced the IFRW's direction during those years. She held a position on executive board over the years - coordinating statewide conferences, conventions and traveling to

Washington DC for NFRW board meetings. National conferences in PA and OK that we attended together.

Jayne was very involved at Cornerstone Church and was very strong in her faith. She loved to read scripture and share her faith with anyone she could. She enjoyed painting parties and making cards. She loved to cook and bake for her loved ones. Jayne was also an author; she wrote *Curly Girly* and *Weasel*. Most of all she loved spending time and spoiling her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Michael A. Raef of Bourbonnais; children, Marie (Todd) Dersien of Bourbonnais and Charles B. Raef of Bradley; sister, Joan Miner of Tennessee; 3 grandchildren, Reilly (Jadon) Sowles of Bourbonnais, Aiden Dersien of Bourbonnais, and Laurel Marie of Florida; great grandson, Grayson Sowles; as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Jayne is preceded in death by her father, John R. Lehman; mother and stepfather, Lois and Norman Bauer; in-laws, Charles G. and Carol P. Raef; maternal grandparents, Jay and Mary Bessie St. John; paternal grandparents, Earl and Laurine Lehman.

Visitation will be held Sunday, January 18, 2026, at Cornerstone Church, Bourbonnais from 2pm to 6 pm. The funeral service will be held Monday, January 19, 2026, at 11am at Cornerstone Church. Burial will immediately follow at Kankakee Memorial Gardens. Memorials may be made to the wishes of the family.

# Cemetery Details

## Kankakee Memorial Gardens

15 S 3000 E Road  
Kankakee, IL 60901

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 18. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Church  
855 W 5000 N Rd  
Bourbonnias, IL 60914

## Funeral Service

JAN 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Cornerstone Church  
855 W 5000 N Rd  
Bourbonnias, IL 60914

# Tribute Wall

MK

“ Mike, so sorry to hear of Jayne's passing. You and your family are in my prayers.

Michelle Kent - January 22 at 10:26 AM



“ Mike I am so sorry to see your wife passed. All my love,hugs and prayers for you and your family❤️❤️❤️ Debbie

Deborah Lesage - January 20 at 05:09 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jayne L. Raef.



January 18 at 11:55 AM

DJ

“ Diane J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jayne L. Raef.

Diane J. - January 18 at 10:18 AM

BF

“ Batish Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Jayne L. Raef.



Batish Family - January 17 at 02:39 PM

M&

“ Mike&Esther Balthazor, Nancy &Michelle planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jayne L. Raef.

Mike&Esther Balthazor, Nancy &Michelle - January 17 at 01:45 PM

M&

“ Mike&Esther Balthazor, Nancy &Michelle purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Jayne L. Raef.



Mike&Esther Balthazor, Nancy &Michelle - January 17 at 01:45 PM

8T

“ 8th Grade Basketball Team purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jayne L. Raef.



8th Grade Basketball Team - January 17 at 10:17 AM

HF

“ Harrison family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Jayne L. Raef.



Harrison family - January 16 at 11:10 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Jayne L. Raef.*



January 16 at 07:29 PM



“ *Mikt and Cindy Smit planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jayne L. Raef.*

**Mikt and Cindy Smit** - January 16 at 05:47 PM



“ *Mikt and Cindy Smit purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jayne L. Raef.*



**Mikt and Cindy Smit** - January 16 at 05:47 PM



“ *Dear Micheal and family our condolences on Jayne’s passing. We are sending our best wishes to you and your entire family in this sad time take care Pat n Patty Quigley*

**Patrick Quigley** - January 16 at 04:34 PM



*Oh Pat so very glad to hear from you. I really appreciate your condolences for our family. I hope you, Patty and the rest of the Quigly family are doing well. Love Michael*

**Michael Raef** - January 17 at 06:24 PM

MM

“ *May Yurgaitis, Cindy Schneider and Helga Mattingly planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jayne L. Raef.*

May Yurgaitis, Cindy Schneider and Helga Mattingly - January 16 at 04:10 PM

IP

“ *Illinois Republican Women PAC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jayne L. Raef.*

Illinois Republican Women PAC - January 16 at 02:09 PM

IP

“ *Illinois Republican Women PAC purchased the [Enchanted Cottage](#) for the family of Jayne L. Raef.*



Illinois Republican Women PAC - January 16 at 02:09 PM

JE

“ *Jerry&LoriRaef&Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jayne L. Raef.*

Jerry&LoriRaef&Family - January 16 at 11:08 AM

JE

“ *Jerry&LoriRaef&Family purchased the [A Full Life](#) for the family of Jayne L. Raef.*



Jerry&LoriRaef&Family - January 16 at 11:08 AM

JV

“ Jennifer Yborra, IFRW, VP planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jayne L. Raef.

Jennifer Yborra, IFRW, VP - January 16 at 08:35 AM

JV

“ Jennifer Yborra, IFRW, VP purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jayne L. Raef.



Jennifer Yborra, IFRW, VP - January 16 at 08:35 AM

MB

“ So very sorry to hear of Jayne's passing. She was my chemistry partner in high school.  
Mary Kay Beedle

Mary Kay Beedle - January 15 at 06:58 PM

MR

Thanks Mary Kay

Michael Raef - January 15 at 09:23 PM

DR

“ My sympathy and prayers to all the family and friends. Jayne was a dear friend. My Matron of Honor, my sorority sister and dedicated Republican sister! She will be dearly missed.



Deborah Regnier - January 15 at 04:02 PM



*Thank you Deborah, I am very glad that Jayne was a part of your life.*

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**Michael Raef** - January 15 at 09:26 PM