

# Remembering Jennifer Kay

Jennifer Kay Sharkey passed away on Oct 26, 2022, at 3:11 PM, in the intensive care unit at St Vincent hospital in Billings, MT.

Jennifer Kay was born October 25, 1980 at the Campbell County Hospital in Gillette, WY to Gary and Sherry Lee (Lang) Sharkey. She was baptized at St Matthews Catholic Church in Gillette. She attended school at Conestoga Elementary. Her athletic career began in the 3rd grade as a Conestoga Piston with Jeff Bauchman and her father, Gary Sharkey as the coaches. The pistons were undefeated in basketball her 5th and 6th grade years. During the summer months she spent time and helped at the family ranch west of Custer. She became an avid ranch worker helping her mother and brother, Nicholas Gary Sharkey who was three years younger. They would fence, run equipment & work with cattle and horses. Jennifer Kay's horse, Sox, was a registered AQHA horse and was the passion of her life. She and Sox (register of Merit) participated in halter, western pleasure, and trail which they won multiple awards for. She continued playing basketball and began volleyball at Sage Valley Junior High. Her freshman year at Campbell County High School she started on the varsity volleyball team that was ranked 4th in the nation. The summer between her freshman and sophomore year she injured her knee and struggled through multiple knee surgeries.

After high school she attended Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. She graduated in 4 years with honors. She went on to receive her masters degree at CSU in counseling while making the Deans List. While attending CSU she was employed at the swimming pool and weight room working with many of the athletes.

On June 19, 2004 Jennifer Kay was married to Scott Michael Hackley at the Cathedral of Our Lady Of Perpetual Help in Rapid City, SD. A daughter was born to this union on Sept 4, 2006. Kaylee Mae Hackley instantly became the love of their lives. Throughout their married years they lived in Greeley, CO and Hays, KS where Jennifer Kay worked for Head Start. They spent many weekends and holidays at the ranch in Custer with family.

Jennifer Kay's mother, Sherry Lee, suffered a brain aneurysm in 2008 and Jennifer Kay became her caregiver and advocate for 4 years. Jennifer Kay resumed her counseling career in Billings, MT in 2016 where she worked for the Billings School District until the time of her death. Jennifer Kay spent her free time doing what she loved - spending time at the ranch in Custer with her family. In the summers she enjoyed working with kids at the Hope Ranch outside of Billings.

Although Jennifer Kay's life was brief on this planet before God called her home, she approached every day with purpose to serve her family, friends and students. Jennifer Kay was a winner her entire life and a tremendous leader never asking anyone in her life to do something she wouldn't do herself.

Jennifer Kay is preceded in death by her mother, Sherry Lee Sharkey, her maternal grandparents, Cliff and Shirley Lang and paternal grandparents, Michael and Helen Sharkey.

Jennifer Kay is survived by her daughter, Kaylee Mae Hackley, her father Gary Sharkey, her brother Nicholas Sharkey, nephews Alec and Dominick Sharkey, niece Jaselyn Sharkey and sister in law Jacklyn Sharkey as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Arrangements have been placed under the local direction of  
**Chamberlain McColley's Funeral Home**  
Custer, South Dakota





## *I Never Left You*

*I watch you every day.*

*I am always very near:*

*I know deep in your heart,  
you realize I am here.*

*I watch you while you sleep.*

*In your bed at home.*

*I hear you when you speak to me,  
when you are on your own.*

*You cannot understand  
the reason why I have gone.*

*But I will never leave you.*

*I am there to keep you strong.*

*Talk to me,*

*I hear you though you may not see.*

*We share an unbroken bond*

*that will always be.*

*Death won't keep us apart,  
for our love is forever:*

*Just remember me in your heart,  
and one day we will be together:*

*Live your life and live it full,  
don't waste a single day.*

*Remember I am always with you  
every step of the way.*

*-Saint Mother Teresa*

MAY THE SOUL OF THE FAITHFULLY DEPARTED

## *Jennifer Kay Sharkey*

REST IN PEACE

October 25, 1980

Gillette, Wyoming

October 26, 2022

Billings, Montana

### CHRISTIAN FUNERAL VIGIL

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 1, 2022

St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, Custer, South Dakota

### CHRISTIAN FUNERAL MASS

11:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 2, 2022

St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, Custer, South Dakota

### CELEBRANT

Father Collins Igwilo

### SPECIAL MUSIC

St. John The Baptist Music Ministry

### PALLBEARERS

Mandy Reynolds, Michelle Sharkey, Danny Kukef

Kelly Stone, Cassidy Lang, Scott Baysinger

### CHRISTIAN FUNERAL COMMITTAL

Custer Cemetery, Custer, South Dakota

### LUNCHEON

St. John The Baptist Catholic Church Fellowship Hall  
after Jennifer Kay's Committal Service

