



Jessica Recla

November 28, 1981 - January 28, 2011

Jessica J. Recla, 29, of Quinnesec, passed away on Friday, Jan. 28, 2011, at Dickinson County Hospital after a nine-month battle with cancer.

She was born on Nov. 28, 1981, in Iron Mountain and was a 2000 graduate of Kingsford High School. At KHS, Jessica was a cheerleader for four years and was also active in the band. She went on to Northern Michigan University and graduated in 2003 as a licensed practical nurse.

Jessica married her high-school sweetheart, Craig Recla on July 30, 2005, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Iron Mountain.

Jess began working at the Pain Clinic in Niagara shortly after receiving her nursing degree. Prior to her cancer diagnosis, she worked at Super One Foods in Iron Mountain. At both places of employment, she met several wonderful friends who stayed in close contact with her throughout her illness.

Jessica was very active in the Iron Mountain Music Booster Club. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and taught Sunday school at the church. Jessica loved doing crafts, especially scrapbooking and beadwork. She also enjoyed bird hunting, fishing, and the outdoors. Most of all, she enjoyed spending as much time possible with her husband and her son, Timmy, who truly was her pride and joy.

Jessica is survived by her husband, Craig; her son, Timothy Recla II; her parents, Karen and Paul Paupore of Kingsford; her brother, Buddy Paupore of Kingsford; mother-in-law, Denise (Doug Buck) Recla of Quinnesec; maternal grandmother, Carmen Swanson of Kingsford; paternal grandmother, Rita Paupore of Kingsford; grandfather-in-law, Chester Shelgren of Kingsford; brother and sister-in-law, Doug and Katy Recla of Iron Mountain; aunts and uncles, Timothy and Renee Swanson, Sheryl and Paul Strabavy, Pam and Dennis Smart, Cindi and Brad Strehlow, Robert and Penny Paupore, Al Dumais, Jo Paupore, Jan and Steve Romaker and Laurie and Tim Teason.

Jessie is part of a very large, loving family, and she is further survived by numerous other family members who will all miss her dearly.

She will always be remembered for her beautiful blue eyes and her amazing smile. Her giggle was contagious, and when you were in her presence you couldn't help but feel her warmth. She always had an encouraging word or hug, and she cared deeply for all her family and friends.

Jessica was preceded in death by her maternal grandfather, James Swanson; paternal grandfather, Robert Paupore; father-in-law, Tim Recla, grandmother-in-law, Shirley Shelgren, and an infant cousin, Kylean Hilyard.

Visitation will be Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Kingsford Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. from the Trinity United Methodist Church. Rev. Debbie Thomas will officiate.

Burial will be in the Quinnesec Cemetery.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Jessica Recla online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the funeral arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kingsford Funeral Home
1000 S. Carpenter
Kingsford, MI 49802

Funeral Service

FEB 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church
808 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

SF

“ I'll always remember the day Jessica came up and introduced herself to me in the infusion room. We were so excited to meet someone our own age. We were on the same schedule at CTCA. We would visit everytime we had our appointments. Last time I seen her me and mom gave her a bracelet, a bracelet with the same bead on it as mine. I wear my bracelet everyday and think of her everytime I see our bead. Love you girl! Miss you!

stephanie hurlbut - Bellefontaine, OH - friend - May 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ I miss you every day Jessabelle.

Cindi - Aunt - July 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ So sorry for your loss. She was a wonderful girl, she could make me laugh and smile with her stories and she spoke of Craig and Timmy frequently. She is truly with the angels.

Michelle Kemp - Friend - February 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Craig,

I just heard the tragic news. I am so sorry for your loss, and for the loss to the whole community.

-Mike Murphy

Mike Murphy - Madison, WI - High School Friend - February 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ I am very sorry To hear what happened. Jessie was a fun outgoing person that could pull a smile out of the toughest people. One of the funny things about Jess was. How young she looked. Everyone thought she was in high school, when in reality she was in her late 20's. She handled it with a great sense of humor. I will never forget her candy and snacks and the rocking roll T shirts that made her a truly unique person. She wil be missed. God Bless. I am sure she is in heaven kicking back and listening to Sublime.

Chris Anderson - Ishpeming, MI - Friend - February 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Blessing to you all,

Lois

Lois Mainivlle Hughes, grand Junction Colorado - family friend - February 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Jessica and I went to High School together, and we would whisper and ALMOST get in trouble in Mr. Martonen's class. Mostly we spoke about the movie *The Craft* which was her favorite movie - at the time.

Once I started working at *Book World* and I found out she was working at *Super One*, I would always make a point to go say hi to her if I knew she was working.

Jessica lit up the whole room when she walked in. She never really knew how beautiful she was, which was endearing and comforting. To be able to just appreciate her internal and external beauty without any shallow games was wonderful. She always treated everyone kindly and I am a better person for having known her, but a lesser person for not having included her in my life a lot deeper after high school but people develop their own lives. It's natural.

Every week since she first was diagnosed I have put her in the book of intentions at church. Every day I have prayed for her. Here's to hoping that maybe the prayers made her journey to the clearing a little less bumpy. My understanding is that despite how hard she was fighting she was at peace at the end.

The world is a little darker without her here, but I will try to lighten that absence with the strength and brightness of her smile, and her love which will be in mine and everyone's memories.

I will miss you Jessica, now and always.

Liz Black - Kingsford, MI - Friend, Classmate - February 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I met Jess at college at NMU in the dorms. She was one of the funniest girls I have ever met and instantly loved her. Although I did not speak to Jess in the past few years I have never forgot all the fun we had,the conversations spent,her wedding, the ups the downs...the bagels, the trips to mall...she was truly one of a kind and will be in my heart forever. My sympathies to Craig,Timmy,Jess' parents,Denise,Doug,Katy..etc. She had a huge heart with many people who loved her in it. I send my love to all of you and hope that you may find comfort in fond memories,as I am.

Joanna McCook - Friend - February 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Karen, Paul , Buddy and family . We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Jessica. I am sure that she has touched you in so many ways and has always left her smile with you to enjoy and remember. May God give you the strength to get through this trying time.

God Bless your family, Scott & Brenda Pancheri

Scott & Brenda Pancheri - Iron Mountain, MI - Friend of family - February 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ When Jessie worked at Super One we called her the Candy Girl. She always had candy in her smock pocket and her locker. If you needed something to chew on or just something to wet your whistle, Jess was the the Candy girl who provided it to anyone. She always had a big smile and her beautiful blue eyes glistened. Jessie always talked about Timmy her pride and joy. She was an excellent Mom, and that little boy was her life. Jessie will be missed by all who new her. God Bless you Jessie RIP .

Cheryl Tramontin - Friend and Co-Worker - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ *Red, Karen and entire family of Jessie.....*

We absolutley loved having Jessie and Timmy stop up here at our office. Her love for Timmy was so evident!! Her bright smile and warm heart would fill the room even after she left...we kept smiling. She had that about her....she was a kind sweet gal and she truly will be missed.

May you lean on God at this very difficult time in your lives.

We think of you all often and wish we could do more.

Warmest Regards...Mary

MARY R. OMAN - Friend an Co-worker of Red - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ Craig, I shared this memory with you at the hospital the late January Sunday I came by to visit, but I hope you will keep all of these memories and let Tim junior read them some day. When Diana and I first relocated to the Iron Mountain area, we began attending Trinity United Methodist Church. We became very active in the youth ministry along with Scott and Emily Ritsema. One of our favorite activities was taking the youth fellowship students up to Marquette each Spring for "FIRE-UP!" - the Christian youth conference held each year. One year I was driving for the youth group, and I had a van full of kids to drop off on Saturday afternoon for their various activities. As I dropped kids off at the gym, the PEIF pool, and other activity locations, I realized only Jesse was left in the back of the van. "So Jesse, where can I take you?" I asked. Her reply was something to the effect of "I don't know, what are you going to do?" I told her I was going to wander around the mall for an hour or two and then come back to pick everyone up. Jesse said "If it's o.k., can I just go to the mall with you?" I told her that was fine with me, and hoped she wouldn't miss out on other activities with her friends. I'm not sure she had other plans at that point, and she didn't seem to have an urgent need to run to the mall and "shop 'til you drop" as they say. I think she rather knew that once everyone was here and there, I was going to wind up not having anyone to "wander around with" and so we simply walked the mall window shopping and having a nice time talking about lots of different things. That day I understood how much Jesse cared about other people, and as I watched her grow through the years, teach Sunday School, and help your kids and Boosters out, etc. I watched Jesse put so much of herself into serving others. That's the kind of person Jesse was and what I'll remember best about her. It's also what I know will make Tim jr. a wonderful person too. Bless you my friend as you try to get through these difficult days. Call anytime you need anything. --- Greg and Diana

Greg and Diana Hunt - Norway, MI - Friend from church - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your entire family.

Brent & Amy Okler - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Craig, thank you for introducing Jess into our lives. So many wonderful memories with band/fundraising, and Stephanie grew so close to her on your trip to New York, she will always remain close to our hearts.

Diane Lange - Kingsford, MI - friend - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Dear Craig,
I never met your wife but can see she was one amazing person. May you find the strength you need to aid you through this time of great loss. God heals those who look to Him for assistance. My prayers are with you and your darling son.
Sincerely,
Cheryl

Cheryl Wender-Menghini - Iron Mountain , MI - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Craig,
though I never got the chance to meet you, I knew Jess very well. I will never forget her bright, beautiful smile and amazing blue eyes. She spoke of you and her Timmy so much, and my heart aches for you both. May she rest in peace now while her beautiful soul waits for you in another place. She is an angel now, and please find comfort knowing she is watching you from above. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Jammie Bowling - Gwinn, MI - friend - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I'm am so sorry to hear of Jessica's passing. I was close to Jessica in high school where we both attended Health Occupations at the vocational center together. I remember traveling to Traverse City for the Health Occupations competition and having a lot of fun with Jessica. She was truly an amazing and light-hearted girl and she will be missed. ~Mary

Mary Anderson - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ Dear Craig and Tim version II,
I am saddened by your loss. I had the pleasure of knowing grandpa Tim and some of my very best memories are of times spent rehearsing with Peninsula Brass back in the early 80's. Tim was special and always made everyone's day better with his humor, friendship and respect. I know my dad, Don Rittenhouse, never had a better friend. Craig, your dad's legacy lives on through you and little Tim. I'm sure Jessica valued you and your family for the same reasons and her legacy lives on in Tim...I know you will take the time to show this to him as he gets older.I and my family are keeping you in our prayers.

Sincerely,
Raphael Rittenhouse and Family

Raphael Rittenhouse - Traverse City, MI - Brass musician w/Tim Recla -
February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ I am so sorry to hear of Jessica's passing. She was such a sweet and loving person. She will be missed very much. You are all in my prayers. Take care.

Alyssa Maraccini - Green Bay, WI - Classmate - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ When I heard that Jessica had passed away, my heart just broke. Jessica was such a sweet person. We met at a class at NMU our freshman year and lost touch after the year ended. However, when my husband and I moved to Iron Mountain in 2009, she was one of the first familiar faces I remember seeing. We were shopping at Super One, and Jessica remembered me right away. I couldn't believe after all these years and one class together that she remembered me. She was so kind and I looked forward to seeing her everytime I went shopping. She was always smiling and told me all about her family. You could feel the love she had from them. My heart reaches out to her husband and son. I know that her presence will be greatly missed, but she will always be alive in the hearts of those who love and remember her.

Jonathan and Shelly Ringel - Iron Mountain, MI - friend/acquaintance - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ I remember the times working with Jessica at the Pain clinic and also in Norway at Dr. Jakels office. She was a wonderful person with a very beautiful smile. She was so happy to be a mom and I was glad to attend her baby shower and seeing how happy she was. She has been in my thoughts and prayers every day. I last seen her in Marquette at NMU when it was band day and she was just as beautiful as ever with her amazing smile. My condolences to all the family, she will be missed.

Cheryl Laurila - friend - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ Craig and family, we feel so badly for what you're going through. We will continue to pray for you, and for God's precious peace to fill your home and hearts.

Peter & Cassandra Rittenhouse - Quinnesec, MI - Acquaintance - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Craig,

i am so very sorry for what your going though and i can not say anything to make you feel better. only thing i can say is ill pray for you and your son. just remember you do have friends out there for you. may God be with you and your son.

Ryan and Beth Sanders - Felch, MI - friend - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ *Just wanted to let you know how sadden I was to hear of Jessica's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this difficult time. May God bless you and keep you in His care*

Loretta Roe - Colorado Springs, CO - Lauri's friend in CO - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *To the immediate and extended family of Jessica, Joan and I are so sorry for your unspeakable loss. Jessica was such a warm, gentile person, and a compassionate health care worker. Jessica, in her short life, left an irreplaceable void in the lives of her friends and co-workers, and we are certain that the void created by her tragic passing is enormous and irreplaceable. We pray that the family eventually finds peace following this tragic loss. Our hearts and prayers go out to all of you.*

Dr. Michael and Joan Zevitz - Norway, MI - Friend - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *i rember jessie at work a lot everytime she seen me she would call me micky lol but she made everybody smile and lol i am sorry for your loss of jessie would be missed everyday*

bob nordell - niagara, WI - co worker and friend - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Dear Craig and Family,
We did not know Jessica but had met her and seen her with you many many times at school functions. We just wanted to say how truly sorry we are for your loss. We hope the support of all your family and close friends helps you through this difficult time. Her wonderful memories will always be with you. you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,
Mike, Lori and Jill Mellon

Mike, Lori and Jill Mellon - Iron Mountain, MI - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

D(

“ Dear Craig and family,

Our deepest sympathy and prayers are going out to you during these most difficult days. The pain and loss you are feeling at this time is shared by many. Trust in God to see you through this. We are thinking of all of you.

Denny and Deb

Denny and Deb Chartier - Peoria, AZ - Friends/Co-workers (Craig) - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TA

“ I did not know Jessica well, but my heart and prayers are with you in your time of sorrow. To lose a loved one is never easy; remember her courage, smile, and love she shared with you and she will never truly be gone through those memories. A very special person once told me before she passed, ” when you are missing me the most it is because you’re remembering how much I loved you and you loved me; and those are the moments to remember.” I pray that God gives you comfort in your greatest time of need.

Tanya - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Jess you always seemed to know how to make me laugh and smile each and every day at work, your bubbly personality was contagious. I thank you for all the great memories we have shared. Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that you are very close in every thought and prayer.

Jessica Faught - Co-worker/Friend - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ I am so sorry of Jessic's passing. She was such a sweet girl. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. She is in a happy place now. May God give you the strength to get through this difficult time. She is a beautiful angel looking down at you all....

Kim Korach-Granquist - Kingsford, MI - Classmate/friend - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ My condolences to the family. I knew Jessica from school and we would run into each other in town since that time. She seemed to simply love life and everyone around her. I will never forget how happy she was and how she was always smiling. With love, Roberta

Roberta Goettler - MI - classmate - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ When I think of Jess I instantly think of cheerleading and her bright and friendly smile! It feels like it was just yesterday that we were all in high school going on either cheerleading or band trips, DQ for lunch breaks and having the time of our lives. Craig, Timmy and all of Jessica's family I'm am deeply saddened by this news, please know prayers that your hearts will heal quickly are being sent your way.

Matthew 5:4

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Stephanie Muntz - Oak Creek , WI - High School Friend - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Jessica, You are more than a cousin to me, you were a sister. As kids we grew up so close. We spent so much time together growing up. Then we all got older, had families of our own; but we still could pick up on the spot where we left off. Your jokes, us causing trouble together, I'm so going to miss. You are a shining star now watching down on all of us. Take care of Kyleen for us! Miss you both oh so much. Love you always Ca-ca-ca's.

Ellie - champion, MI - cousin - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NG

“ Jess was an absolutely amazing person. She touched many people's lives and won't be forgotten any time soon. God Bless her and keep her. To the family - you are forever in my prayers.

Nicole (Bartnikowski) Grinnell - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Such a truly beautiful woman!

Christine Tramontin - Tony Sullivans Mother - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

“ My niece Jessica passed away last week at the age of 36..... I read this at her funeral. May it give the family comfort.

Down below the surface of a quiet pond lived a little colony of water bugs. They were a happy colony, scurrying about doing waterbug chores in their home, far away from the sun.

"Look!" one of the water bugs to another one January day. "One of our colony is climbing up the lily stalk. Where do you think she is going?"

Up, up, up their friend slowly went until she disappeared from sight. Her friends waited and waited but she didn't return...

"I don't understand!" one said to another.

"Why did she leave...wasn't she happy here?" asked a second.

"Where do you suppose she went?" wondered a third.

"I will miss her and I will never forget her, " said another.

Finally one of the water bugs said. "I have an idea. The next one of us who climbs up the lily stalk must promise to come back and tell us where they went and why."

"We promise," the group said solemnly.

About a year later, the very water bug who had suggested the plan found herself climbing up the lily stalk.

Up, up, up she slowly went until she disappeared from the view of her waterbug friends.

Before she knew what happened, she had broken through the surface of the water and fallen onto a broad, green lily pad.

She couldn't believe the change that had come to her body in the warmth of the sun. She now had four silver wings and a long tail.

She moved her new wings and suddenly found herself flying above the water. Swooping and dipping in great curves, she flew through the air, excited to be..... a dragonfly. By and by she landed happily on a lily pad to rest.

She chanced to look below to the bottom of the pond. Why, she was right above her old friends, the waterbugs! There they were, scurrying about doing waterbug chores in their home, far away from the warm sun. The dragonfly remembered the waterbugs' promise: "The next one of us who climbs up the lily stalk will come back and tell where they went and

why." Determined to keep her promise, the dragonfly darted down. Suddenly she hit the surface of the water and bounced away. She tried again. And again. Sadly she realized that as a dragonfly, she could no longer go into the water.

"I can't to back to them!" she said in dismay. "At least I tried. Even if I could go back, not one of the water bugs would know me in my new body. I guess I'll just have to wait until my friends become dragonflies too. Then they'll understand what has happened to me, and where I went."

"Hello," she heard behind her and turned to see a colony of dragonflies. She gasped.

"You are my family and friends from the pond, aren't you?" she asked.

They nodded their dragonfly heads. "Yes, we are, and we have been waiting for you."

And with those words of welcome, the new dragonfly winged off happily into its wonderful new world of sunshine.

We who are left in the pond will miss her and we will never forget her.

DoniMae Rauch - MN - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *May god watch over your family . As hard as this is we know she put up a good fight now how suffering is put to rest*

Mary Anderson - co-worker-friend - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *Mr. Recla and family,
My deepest sympathy. I am sorry for your loss, I will keep you in my prayers.*

Jim Fornetti

Jim Fornetti - Iron Mountain, MI - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ I was very sad to hear of Jessica's passing as I also lost my mom to cancer last week. My thoughts are with Jessica and Craig's family. Lean on family and friends as they will give you strength.

Toni Strutz - Portland, OR - high school classmate - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Thank you Jess for the happiness you share with all who are around you. May you rest peacefully with the angels.

Laura Hagan - Music Booster Friend - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ My prayers are with all of you at this time. Lean on the Lord...he will carry you.

Joella Lindlbauer - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ I was so sorry to hear of Jessica's passing! She was a truly beautiful person who will be remembered for her spirit and beautiful smile. I have so many great memories from cheerleading and band with her and will always remember her for her laugh and great personality. The world is truly a bit dimmer without her in it! We will continue to keep your entire family in our prayers!

Gen Angeloff - Kingsford, MI - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ I am so sorry to hear of Jessica's passing. She was such a sweet girl. May you find comfort in your memories of her. I haven't seen Jess for quite a few years, but my husband worked at Super One when she worked there. We are both very saddened by the loss of such a beautiful young woman. I will always remember her smile. We are praying for your family, that God will give you strength in the difficult times ahead.

Samantha and Tony Micheau - Benton, WI - Highschool Friend - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ I AM SO SORRY ABOUT THE LOSS OF SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PERSON. I WORKED WITH JESSICA AT SUPER ONE AND WE CLICKED RIGHT AWAY. SHE WILL BE SADLY MISSED.

Holly and Craig Schaut - Iron Mtn, MI - co worker at Super One - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ May god guide you through this time and heal the pain in time.

Bridget - acquaintance - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM