



Jennifer Anne O'Rourke

August 29, 1974 - January 29, 2011

nee McDermott Jen passed away unexpectedly in her home in St. Paul in the arms of her loving husband, Bob. She is survived by her husband, Bob; parents, Jan and Dan McDermott of North Oaks; brother, Brian; Bob's mother, Mary and brother, Ben (Samantha); and numerous loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and friends. Jen graduated from Santa Fe Christian HS in San Diego and attended Northwestern College and the U of MN. She was very active in theatre in the Twin Cities and an enthusiastic participant of the Clann Tartan, a historical re-enactment group. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her. A Celebration Service will be held at 7PM Wednesday, February 2 with visitation beginning at 3PM at HOLCOMB-HENRY-BOOM-PURCELL, 515 Hwy 96 W at Mackubin, Shoreview. Memorials preferred.

Tribute Wall

JM

“ Dear Dan and Jan, we are stunned and heartsick for you and her wonderful husband of just 20 months! Today is Sunday the 6th and we are just back in our home since we left when the ice storm came last Monday. Therefore we didn't know about your tragedy. We will continue to pray for all of you as you go through this mourning time. We love you and ask God to give you an extra special dose of his presence in the days to come. Love to you from Don and Janet.

Janet McClead - February 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Bob - I just heard of your loss. My sincere condolences for the passing of your wife. My heart goes out to your entire family.

Sarah

Sarah Hanneman - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ Being the parents of a daughter about Jen's age, we can only imagine your grief. Losing a child has to be the toughest thing God puts upon our hearts. Know that we grieve with you and are comforted in the Lord's presence in your lives.

Peace of the Lord.

Gary and Shirley Blackburn - February 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ Jen was a very dear friend of mine, despite my having known her for only 4 months. She touched me deeply, and I shall miss her even more so. My thoughts and prayers go out to her husband Bob, and her family at this difficult time. Rest In Peace my friend.

Krista Eddy - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Dera Jan and Dan:
I am so sorry to hear about your daughter. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

kathy hartman - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ I did never get to meet Jennifer in person, but she still ment a lot to me. I will miss her quick remarks and good mood. I send my love and thoughts to her family and her husband, whom I know she loved very much.
Rest in peace my dear friend.

Karina Frandsen - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ One nugget of solace is that she died in the arms of her lover, a passing many would envy. Though I did not know her very well, I know some people who did. I can tell she'll be missed.

Eleanor S. - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EH

“ Dear Neighbors--our prayers go out to you. The Lord will sustain you in your grief, but the loss of a child at any age is out of the natural order, and it breaks our hearts to hear news like this. Memories will help the healing.

elaine hameister - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Dear Dan and Jan,
My love and prayers are with you tonight and in the days to come.
Sheila

Sheila (Banwell) Anderson - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Thank you Wolf, for having the courage to say and do things I could not. You were such a welcome addition to our community and you contributed so much. I am sad that I never got to meet you and hear you sing or play or do any of the things you did so well.

You are an inspiration to us all. Peace be with you my friend.

Jamie - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ Jenn, was an amazing friend, she always had a kind word and was full of encouragement and fun. My thought and prayers are with her friends and family

Andi Andrzejewski - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HV

“ Jen was an amazing person. The things she knew, and the things she wanted to know, astounded me sometimes. She was on an endless quest to be a Renaissance woman, and reminded me so much of myself. She was one of those "kindred spirits" Anne Shirley always talked about. She taught me much about life, and perseverance through trials, and victory over them. I enjoyed participating in Clann Tartan with Jen and Bob, especially the music, the games, the spinning, and the historical conversations we had. "Faugh a ballach" forever. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Bob, and with the McDermott and O'Rourke families.

Heidi Solberg Viar - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ We are so sorry for your loss.

Ann & Dick Kraft - February 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ Dear Jan, Dan, Bob and Family,
We were just heart broken for all of you when we read the sad email from Bay View that we received tonight. We can only imagine the disbelief and grief you are feeling. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad journey. We are holding you all up to Him who walks with us in every moment of our lives.
With love,
Emily and Tom Soelter

Emily and Tom Soelter - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dan and Jan,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.
Jan and Brian McPheely

Jan and Brian McPheely - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Dearest Jan and Dan and family,
Our hearts and thoughts are with you during this sad time. Love to
you, Helen and Graham

Graham and Helen Hagey - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

WO

“ We were shocked to hear of your loss. Our prayers and healing
thoughts are with all of you.

William & Marsha Ostler - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ We are so sorry to hear of your daughter's passing. Our prayers are
with you and your family. We know that your faith will uphold you
during this difficult time.

Beth and Jeff Jones

Bay View

beth and jeff jones - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ My memories of Jen always center around fighting, rapier and
buckler and smallsword to be precise, her and i did a rapier and
buckler fight fight for Don Preston's "whatever you bring I'll teach
you" class which to this day is still one of my favorites pieces of
stage combat, her buckler had water spots all over it making it look
like an albino leopard. Her sense of humor, and putting up with my
ADHD in small doses made the class just that much better, I will
miss seeing her at festival, and i will miss her.

Chris - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ So very,very sorry to get this news. My heart goes out to you. Our dear son died in 2007.

Sending you Love & Prayers, Ginny

Ginny Smith - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Our prayers are with you Jan and Dan, Jennifer's husband Bob and her soul as she claims here mansion in heaven, as promised by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; "In my father's house are many Mansions and I go there to prepare a place for you." She will be in paradise waiting for the rest of us to join her when God decides out time is right. He obviously wanted Jennifer in his heavenly chorus.

JACK AND KARIN ANDERSON - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ My deepest sympathy for your loss. She will be missed.

Bill Peltzman Sr. - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Jan and Dan,

How shocked we were to hear of the loss of your daughter. Our hearts go out to you! Our life here on earth is so uncertain, and yet we must live with hope and faith in God who is in control.

Accept our sincere sympathy. You will be in our prayers.

Sincerely,

Jane and Jim Frick

Jane and Jim Frick - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ *Jan and Dan,
I am so sorry to hear of this tragedy. Please know my thoughts are with you. May Peace Be Unto You.
Perry D. Clark (desktop pub at BV)*

Perry D. Clark - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ *Dearest Jan and Dan and family,
Our hearts and thoughts are with you during this sad time. Love to you, Helen and Graham*

Graham and Helen Hagey - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *I have had the privilege to know Jen over the last 20 years. She was a very independent and intelligent young woman and a pleasure to be around. I have many memories of her at the Renaissance Festival and my favorite time with her as being a part of her wedding. Bob, you were the best thing that happened to her. She was the happiest that I have ever seen her when you became a part of her life. I admire her for her determination as she learned to plan the mandolin and would have loved to hear her play. The world and all of us that cared about her will miss her.*

Sue Horton - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ *Bob and Family, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Debbie Leibel - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ *Dan and Jan,
We are so saddened by this great loss. Our thoughts and prayers
are with both of you, her husband and your families.
Larry and Suzanne Ternan*

Larry and Suzanne Ternan - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

WS

“ *Our deepest sympathy to Dan & Jan.
We didn't know Jennifer well but we know Dan & Jan, her parents.
God takes care of His own.*

William & Cathleen Solms - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ *My thoughts & prayers are with you. She will be missed.*

April J Lagarde Tighe - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ *Condolences to Jen's family. She was an original with a beautiful,
open heart. She will be missed.*

Sarah Bell - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *Bob,

You are in our hearts and prays.*

*Uncle Don, Donnett & Chris, Linda Kevin & Lisa, Janice
Charley,Ryan & Katie.*

Donnette Scheevel - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ I am sorry to hear Jen is gone. I remember the NDDS days and how she loved learning to swordfight. I will cherish those memories forever and Jen was a part of that joy. She will be missed.

Jared Kirby - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Jennifer was a beautiful, bright presence and, without her, the world seems darker somehow. I didn't know her long--less than a year-- but in that time, I grew to love and admire her. I will miss her greatly.

Sara Petersen - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Jen, thank you for the memories. Your friendship, which truly started back at King's Island faire, helped me grow. You will be deeply missed.

Carly Schumacher - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Bob, I was very sorry to hear the news of Jen's passing. I regret not getting to know her after hearing all the wonderful things said about her. Please accept our prayers and find comfort in the days to come.

Jason Klein - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

IH

“ I loved bumping into Jen at Fest. Always a smile and a jibe to make me laugh and tease back. My condolences.

Inga Haugen - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ We want to let you know we are thinking of you in your time of sorrow. We will keep you in our prayers, Remember you need to put it all in the hands of our Lord and he will help you through this time. We love you and will be thinking of you.

Anut Gertie and Ron

Ron And Gertie Chapman - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ Bob,
I am so sorry to hear about your loss. My prayers are with you and your family.

Degete

Degete - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ To Jen,
May the music flow freely through you now, and may you be as beautiful as we have always seen you to be.

Lori Baerg - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MI

“ I don't even know when I first met Jen. But she's been a constant in my life for so many years that it feels like I've known her forever. We shared so many interests including stage combat, the history of swords, theater, renaissance festivals, folk music, Tanglefoot, rendezvous, guitar playing, and so much more. I am glad she found such a loving husband who fits so seamlessly into our group of friends. She was such a bright, vivacious, beautiful woman who brought joy and laughter to so many people - along with love of sharing her knowledge. My world was changed for knowing her, and has changed again with her loss.

Missy Iverson - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Bob, Pauline are devastated to hear of the loss of your wife. Please accept our deepest sympathies.

Dennis and Pauline Burlingame - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ I have snapshots of Jen in my brain... cooking with Clan Tartan, with a sword in her hand, out at Fest, in Academy. I can't think of an actual specific series of events with with her, though I know we've had conversations. I do remember that she was always willing to jump in and learn something new, and that she always made me feel listened to. I was thinking on her and wondering what she was up to. She will be missed.

Jena Young en - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Jen, I will miss you and your blue guitar. I am so sorry I won't be with the rest of Clann at the service, but know I will be playing "Flowres of the Forest" on my harp just for you at 7 PM on Wednesday.

My deepest condolences to Bob and to Jen's family.

Cindy Schaufenbuel - January 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ My thoughts and prayers to Jenn's family. I'm sorry I didn't get a chance to reconnect with Jenn after leaving Clann Tartan years ago.

Robin Mavis - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Personally I did not know Jen well but I am so sad for her loving husband and his family(as well as her family). I was honored to be invited to Jen and Bob's beautiful wedding. I know she and Bob had a happy, but too brief,marriage; I also know she was a wonderful daughter-in-law to my friend, Mary. She will certainly be missed. God bless Jen and all her loved ones who will miss her so very much.

Janice Butz - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ Bob,
We are truly sorry for your loss. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Angela and Jordan

Angela and Jordan Eldridge - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ *Bob, my deepest condolences. I am really sorry that I cannot be there for the funeral but you won't be out of my thoughts anytime soon.*

Shawwna Werner - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ *Jen was my dearest friend for 20 years. She was a wonderful woman, a fierce friend, a loyal advocate, and a budding musician.*

We met on the first day of Women's Chorale practice in the Fall Quarter of 1991 at Northwestern College. She was a low alto, as I was, and came to sit in my section. Since it was my second year in the group and she was new, she asked me for advice. The next quarter, when I was working with a student drama production, I sought her out to help with theater tech. We have been friends ever since.

Jen was involved in stage combat, the Renaissance Festival, historical reenactment, theater, and, most recently, folk music. She was a great reader and in my own life as a professional academic I have often envied her vocabulary and her reading speed which both far outstripped mine.

I was privileged to know her, to play music with her, and work with her on many projects. Her loss will change my life.

Lisa Horton - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *I still can't believe this. Such a vibrant young woman in the prime of life...at least she died happy. She was excited about her life and everything she still had to learn and do, and she knew that she was loved very much.*

Mia McDavid - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss of Jennifer. We pray for strength and comfort at this time. May God lift you up.

Dave & Donna Steffens - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Jen was an amazing human. She was always kind, always willing to listen and always had an answer to any problem you could come up with.

She as a real Renaissance woman. Well, Cavalier, really. She could cook and do all the kitchen stuff as well as all the stuff on the military side of camp.

I will miss her deeply. Bob, my heart weeps for you. Know you are in my thoughts every moment. Hug those doggies!

Renee Petersen - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ I am so shocked and saddened by the passing of Jen. She was an interesting, vibrant, loyal, courageous, loving, dynamic, artistic, woman who will be sadly missed by all who her life touched.

My deepest condolences to Bob, her loving husband, and her family and many friends who will miss her deeply. Our lives will not be the same without her.

Gwen

Gwen Smith - January 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM