



Racquel Denise Tillman

June 2, 1984 - May 25, 2026

Racquel Denise Tillman was born on June 2, 1984, in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and was raised in Minneapolis. She passed away peacefully on May 25, 2026.

Racquel's childhood was filled with happy memories at her grandparents' home, which served as a regular gathering place for her family. Birthdays, holidays, and countless everyday moments were spent there, surrounded by her aunt, uncles, cousins, and loved ones. Her grandparents' home was a central place of love, laughter, and connection throughout her childhood.

As a child, Racquel, lovingly known as "Rocky" to her family, discovered a passion for the violin. Her dedication and natural talent allowed her to excel, and she went on to perform in the All-City Orchestra at numerous concerts. Racquel also had a deep love for animals. At one point, her room resembled a small petting zoo, along with her favorite furry companion, her beloved dog, Ralphy.

From an early age, Racquel showed a vibrant, creative, and eclectic spirit. She loved music across genres and eras, from smooth, soulful sounds to powerful vocalists like Mariah Carey and Aretha Franklin. Racquel taught herself how to knit, crochet, and cross-stitch while she was in middle school. She used those talents to make thoughtful gifts for others, including scarves and blankets.

Racquel attended Patrick Henry High School, where she was part of the International Baccalaureate program and graduated in 2002. Her academic interests flourished, especially in writing, math, and Japanese. She became one of the top students in her Japanese class and had a special admiration for her teacher, Ms. Fischer. During her junior year, Racquel traveled to Japan with her Aunt, "Aunie," an experience she later described as one of the greatest moments of her life. After graduating, Racquel attended Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC).

Racquel had a true gift for connection. Her easygoing nature, curiosity, and sharp sense of humor drew people to her effortlessly. She formed meaningful and lasting bonds with her siblings and family. She shared a lifelong closeness with her sister Ashleigh, whether they were going to movies, attending concerts, or exchanging music. With Rasheen, she bonded over science fiction, video games, and humor. With Marissa, she shared a love of cooking and outdoor adventures. She bonded with her nephew Carson, filling their days with games, books, and exploration.

Racquel also shared a special closeness with her Uncle Peter. Racquel could be strong-willed and stubborn, but Uncle Peter had a way of reaching her when others could not. Their bond was one of trust, honesty, and love, and he held a special place in her life. Her cousin Justin, whom she affectionately called her "little broham," was also a constant in her life, sharing recipes, conversations, and laughter.

Racquel built lasting friendships throughout her life, including with her longtime best friends, Leda Johnson and Dove Freeman, as well as many others she met through school, work, and the different chapters of her journey. She had a natural ability to connect with people and leave a lasting impression. Through shared laughter, deep conversations, and simple acts of kindness, Racquel made people feel seen, valued, and cared for.

Although Racquel faced significant health challenges, she remained grounded in her faith, hopeful for the future, and always ready to enjoy life. She will be remembered as witty, sarcastic, generous, intelligent, creative, and full of personality.

Racquel was preceded in death by her mother, Gaynell Wright; her grandparents, Mary Elizabeth and Willie Wright; and her uncle, Bobby Wright.

She is survived by her sisters: Ashleigh Tillman, Rasheen Tillman, Marissa Trujillo, and Andrea Tillman and her brother, Paul Tillman of Portland, OR; her nephews; aunt, uncles, cousins, extended family, and many dear friends who loved her deeply.

Racquel's presence brought joy, warmth, and laughter to those around her. Proudly self-titled the "Queen Diva," she carried herself with confidence, humor, and heart. She will be deeply missed and forever loved.

May she rest in eternal peace.

Funeral services for Racquel will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2026, at Washburn-McReavy Glen Haven, located at 5125 West Broadway, Crystal, Minnesota 55429. Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by the funeral service at 11:00 a.m. Burial will take place at Crystal Lake Cemetery, with a repass to follow at Glen Haven. All services will conclude by 3:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made directly to Ashleigh Tillman to assist with Racquel's funeral and memorial expenses.

To donate please use the following link: [https://cash.app/\\$AshleighT03](https://cash.app/$AshleighT03)

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Funeral Service

MAY 30. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Glen Haven Chapel
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Graveside Service

MAY 30. 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM (CT)

Crystal Lake Cemetery
3816 Penn Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55412

Tribute Wall

S(

“ My deepest condolences to the Tillman family. Racquel was one of my best friends growing up, and I will always cherish the memories we shared. She brought so much joy, laughter, and light to those around her. Those memories will live forever in my heart. Rest in peace, Racquel. You will be dearly missed. ❤️



Stephanie Henry (Nevilles) - May 31 at 09:52 AM

KL

“ To Ashleigh and the Tillman family and close friends, please accept my sincere condolences for the loss of Racquel. Ashleigh, your DCPS team is praying for you and lifting you up daily.

Sincerely,
Kimbria Little

Kimbria J Little - May 29 at 06:00 PM

TO

To Anne, Ashleigh, and family sending prayers of comfort and strength during this difficult time. 🙏

Tonya - May 29 at 10:06 PM

TD

“ My condolences 🌸

Tanaya D - May 29 at 01:51 PM



“ My condolences 🌸 May you rest in heaven c/o 02 #henry

Nika-Nichole Gurley - May 28 at 06:17 PM

DA

“ My deepest condolences to your family.



DaShaya - May 28 at 03:46 PM

MT

“ I'm going to miss you my big sister! You left some beautiful memories behind to a lot of people that loved and adored you for the person that you truly were. Whenever we were together we were always laughing, there was forsure never a dull moment. I could always tell you anything and you would never judge me. I'll miss all the times we played video games, cook, and have our adventure journeys together. I Love You, fly high sis, you're no longer in pain anymore, Rest easy baby 🧡💕🙏😊



Marissa Trujillo - May 28 at 01:21 PM

TN

“ *Praying for comfort for your family.*”



Trina Norwood - May 28 at 11:59 AM

JG

“ *May you transition and rest in peace my big sister. All the laughs and good food, will be remembered! Love, Joy*”



Joy George - May 28 at 11:27 AM