



## Jamie Lynn Ruckman

April 5, 1978 - February 11, 2025

Jamie Lynn Ruckman, 46, died at 5:54 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at her home in Chicago. Born April 5, 1978 in Alton, she was the daughter of Genia L. (Doolen) Ruckman of Bethalto. Jamie was a school teacher for Chicago Public Schools. Along with her mother, she is survived by a daughter, Ella Rose Highland of Chicago, a brother, Kenneth Ruckman (Kara) of Bethalto, a half sister, Ashley Ruckman of Alton, her grandmother, Mary Doolen of Cottage Hills, nieces, Mekenna Ruckman and Madylan Murray, nephews, Bradley Ruckman and Dylan Murray, great nephews, Luca Coleman and Carter Wright, an uncle, Terry Doolen of Cottage Hills, a loyal companion, Bombpop and a beloved friend and ex-spouse, Jason Highland and his parents, Dave and Mary Highland. She was preceded in death by her grandfather, Eugene Doolen and an uncle, Dale Doolen. A memorial visitation will be from 1:00 p.m. until time of memorial service at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. Reverend Sonny Renken will officiate. Memorials may be made to American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) or to her daughter, Ella. Online guestbook and information may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 18. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home  
2409 State Street  
Alton, IL 62002

## Memorial Service

FEB 18. 3:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home  
2409 State Street  
Alton, IL 62002

# Tribute Wall

JW

“ *Jamie was a friend of my daughter, Leslie White. They went to school together since 6th grade. I remember her smile and sweet personality. My sincerest condolences to her family. Jennifer White*

jennifer White - February 21, 2025 at 09:53 PM

MA

“ *My Condolences to the family during this time. You all are in my prayers.*

Ms. S. Atkins - February 18, 2025 at 02:32 PM

MA

“ *Ms. S. Atkins lit a candle in memory of Jamie Lynn Ruckman*



Ms. S. Atkins - February 18, 2025 at 02:30 PM

TF

“ *The Donelson Familys purchased the Fairest of A ll for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.*



The Donelson Familys - February 17, 2025 at 03:42 PM

DP

“ Dawn Pagin purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.



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**Dawn Pagin** - February 17, 2025 at 11:28 AM

MA

“ Ms. Armstrong lit a candle in memory of Jamie Lynn Ruckman



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**Ms. Armstrong** - February 16, 2025 at 09:11 PM

MA

*Heartfelt condolences to the Ruckman family and friends , from a fellow teacher at Wentworth Elementary School. May she rest in peace.*

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**Ms. Armstrong** - February 16, 2025 at 09:15 PM

GR

*Thank you*

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**Genia Ruckman** - February 17, 2025 at 11:57 AM

LW

*May the grace of God keep you in perfect peace!*

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**Lauren Johnson Music Teacher Wentworth** - February 25, 2025 at 04:17 AM

FL

“ From Glisson Law purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.



From Glisson Law - February 16, 2025 at 08:12 AM

WF

“ Wentworth Elementary School Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.



Wentworth Elementary School Family - February 15, 2025 at 08:30 PM

SM

“ I am truly saddened to hear about the passing of Jamie. She worked in my classroom with me at Clay School. She and I bonded and we shared a very special relationship. She was a beautiful person both inside and out! I had the privilege of attending her wedding and also meeting her beautiful daughter Ella. She and I shared so many happy times both at school and outside of school as well. Whoever had the opportunity to know her also loved her. She will always hold a special place in my heart. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family whom she loved so much. May your hearts be filled with all the pleasant memories of Jamie just as many of her friends will. Love and prayers, Sue Mercon

SUSAN MERCON - February 15, 2025 at 05:53 PM

DP

*What a beautiful post, thank you for sharing. I too worked with Jamie at Aspire Charter Academy. She was a true friend and will be greatly missed.*

**Dawn Pagin** - February 17, 2025 at 11:31 AM

MC

“*Jamie was my longest relationship, outside of my parents. We met in junior high and had an instant connection. Every time I had a problem, her response was, “what are we going to do about that?” It was always “we.” Ella was her world and loved her more than words can describe. I’m heartbroken and miss her light. I look forward to reuniting one day. She’ll be wearing a muumuu, drinking a matcha latte, listening to Stevie Nicks with the Gilmore Girls playing on loop on the tv. She’ll will be as beautiful as ever having unlimited resources to the latest seen on tv skin care. She was my defender, protector, and common sense perspective. Life will never be the same.*”

**Missi Cundari** - February 15, 2025 at 01:40 PM

DP

*Aw Missy, she talked such great things about you. Thank you for being such a good friend to Jamie. I just love this post.*

**Dawn Pagin** - February 17, 2025 at 11:32 AM

AK

“ My heart is broken for Jamie's family especially her dear daughter Ella. I worked with Jamie at Aspire Academy from 2008 to 2012. She was a creative, caring and hardworking teacher and the students loved her. She was such fun to work with and professional development days were enjoyable due to her sense of humor. I have good memories of working with her, you can be so proud of her dedication to learning and how she impacted the lives of young ones who had a great start to school due to her dedication. Praying you have strength and peace and comfort at this very difficult time.  
Adriane Koehne

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**Adriane Koehne** - February 15, 2025 at 08:28 AM

GR

*How kind thank you*

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**Genia Ruckman** - February 15, 2025 at 09:54 AM

DP

*I love this post so much! This is so true about Jamie! She was a great friend and educator!*

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**Dawn Pagin** - February 17, 2025 at 11:33 AM

VS

“ I was deeply saddened to hear about Jamie's passing. I had the privilege of working alongside her at OTB last year, and I will always remember her kindness and dedication. She spoke about her dear Ella so often and with such love—it was clear how much she adored you, kiddo.

*My heart is with Ella and the entire family during this incredibly difficult time. Wishing you all comfort and strength.*

*~ Veronica*

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**Veronica Salas** - February 14, 2025 at 11:08 AM

GR

*Thank you*

Genia Ruckman - February 15, 2025 at 09:55 AM

CC

“ I am terribly saddened to hear of Jamie’s passing. We shared many laughs together, and I have fond memories of my time in Hegewisch with her. My deepest condolences to her daughter and family   
Colleen Coyle

colleen coyle - February 13, 2025 at 11:33 PM

GR

*Colleen thank you*

Genia Ruckman - February 15, 2025 at 09:56 AM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.



February 13, 2025 at 10:03 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.

February 13, 2025 at 10:03 PM

JC

“ Jim Chapman purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.



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**Jim Chapman** - February 13, 2025 at 09:29 PM

MJ

“ I worked with Jamie at Aspire Academy. Besides being a phenomenal teacher, she was a terrific coworker. Jamie's sense of humor always made the day go faster. I can never hear the word Honeybadger without thinking of her. RIP Jamie. Melissa Jung ☐

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**Melissa Jung** - February 13, 2025 at 08:38 PM

GR

Honey badger lol. That is so Jamie. Thank you!

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**Genia Ruckman** - February 15, 2025 at 09:58 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.



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February 13, 2025 at 05:17 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jamie Lynn Ruckman.* ”



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February 13, 2025 at 03:12 PM