



## Denise Madeline Hekkanen

June 16, 1949 - January 9, 2021

Denise Madeline Hekkanen, (nee Hunt) age 71 of Chesterfield since 1976, passed away on January 9, 2021. Denise was born on June 16, 1949 in Detroit, Michigan to Elmer and Delphine (nee Faubert) Hunt. Beloved wife of David. Loving mother of Deanna (Michael) Girard, Renee (Matthew) Williams and Michelle (Kevin) Kolath. Dear grandmother of David (Brianna), Taylor, Dylan, Trevor and Ezra. Dear sister-in-law of Trudy (Ron) Ballard. Denise was predeceased by her parents and her siblings Judi (Paul) Hennicken and James Hunt.

On December 28, 1966, Denise married the love of her life, David Hekkanen, in Detroit, Michigan. Together, they enjoyed 54 years of love and laughter with Denise's quick wit, wisdom and fun-loving personality at the center of their relationship.

Family was everything to Denise. She instilled in her daughters strength, kindness and the ability to laugh at life, simply by the example of how she lived her life. She loved everything about being a grandma (AKA Momish). When she wasn't attending her grandkids' sporting events, she was likely being silly with them or making them a special homemade dinner with dessert. Denise also loved family time spent shopping, fishing, being outdoors, planting flowers, and visiting casinos.

Denise spent many years working in food service for L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, where she worked as both a cook and a cashier.

In recent years, Denise overcame stage 3 lung cancer. She fought cancer privately with grace and took no pity. After news of remission, Denise was filled with even more zest for life and she took several family vacations, where family time was more cherished than ever.

You could always count on Denise for a smile and a joke. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her. A celebration of Denise's life is planned for the summer. The family welcomes donations to Karmanos Cancer Institute as an expression of sympathy.

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Obituary Wall*



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**Wasik Funeral Home, Inc.** - January 25, 2022 at 04:05 PM



“ *I think of you often!*

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January 02, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Michelle and family. Please accept our deepest sympathies for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

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January 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ *My heart is aching my eyes are weeping I will always cherish the great memories of Aunt Denise she was always the life of the party, full of Jokes. She was there in Vegas with us when my husband proposed I wouldn't answer him right away when he asked me so Aunt Denise said YES we'll have you lol Then I asked her to stand up at our Wedding. My Prayers and heart felt sympathy goes out to Uncle Dave and the entire Family . RIP Aunt Denise*

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January 16, 2021 at 12:00 AM

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“ Denise Madeline Hekkanen

Material\_candle\_white\_thumbnail - January 16, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ Renee & family, So sorry about your mom, thoughts and prayers to all! Laurie Dunaj

January 15, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ I bought my first personal piano from Denise years ago when I was moving out on my own. She said, "Oh! I could listen to you play all day long!" She also requested that I open windows at our house when I was practicing. We lived next door. She said she could hear me when she was gardening. 😊 Loved knowing I had at least one fan out there. 🤔

January 14, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ Denise was one of the funniest and high energy moms ever. She was always making jokes and doing things to make us laugh. I remember the day my mother and Denise made Michelle and I a 2-headed monster out of a t-shirt just for fun! In the summer, if you wanted koolaid she always had it ready for us kids. I also remember her love of Snoopy! She was always just doing something to entertain people whether it be her nose glasses with the mustache or her cooking apron that looked like linguine and then Dave would wear it too ❤️ Photo of 1985 block party which was also a celebration of Denise's birthday! Such fond memories. My heart and prayers go out to the family.

January 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ Denise, My heart is crushed for Dave and your Gurs, their Dudes (Your Guys) and Grands. I am so grateful that you shared, by example what I needed as a Mom to raise my Dudes and Gur! I was scared and clueless. You had no more Pretentiousness than a young girl in a pig wrestling contest. You were 100% authentic, true to yourself, your family and all those who knew you! You could absolutely slap a heavy one liner in a somber moment, yet resin an absolute confident Lady wearing a t-shirt cheering on your kids and grands. You were a planner, yet you could fly by the seat of your pants. You were the first to hold Blake in the real world, taught Zach and Cody the power of vegetables through Carrot Cake, and guided me on what to do with my gur, Shelby after all the boyz. This world need more Wives and Moms like you! Until we meet again, I'll hold my fork for desert❤️ As you always told me, "If I can do this, you can do this! Thank You! I'll be praying that Christ takes the pain and keeps all that you gave to sustain your crew. No moving, but carrying you with!

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January 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss... Our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.

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January 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.

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January 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM



“ *I have so many memories with you! You were an amazing person! Funny ,silly ,kind ,caring. The list goes on. The world will miss your bright spirit for sure. You were like a second mom to me and for that a piece of you will always be with me❤️ I love you RIP! 🙏*

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January 13, 2021 at 12:00 AM