



Jennifer Maria Wages

November 29, 1972 - December 13, 2025

Jennifer Maria Cleckner Wages, 53, of Chillicothe, Illinois, passed away on December 13, 2025, at OSF St. Francis Hospital in Peoria after a short but courageous battle with cancer. She was surrounded by family who loved her deeply.

Born on November 29, 1972, in Peoria, Jennifer remained closely connected to her roots throughout her life. For more than thirty years, she served as the manager of LaGondola Spaghetti House in Chillicothe. Her long-standing dedication to the restaurant made her a familiar and respected figure among coworkers and customers alike. Jennifer respected her employer, Dick Lahood, immensely and demonstrated that through her lifelong loyalty. Her commitment and presence left an enduring mark on the community she served.

Jennifer was known for her no-nonsense attitude, quick wit, and steadfast determination. She approached life with strength and independence—qualities that defined both her personal and professional paths. Those who knew her valued her sharp sense of humor and direct nature.

A devoted Star Wars enthusiast, Jennifer took great joy in collecting memorabilia from the iconic franchise. Her passion for the galaxy far, far away was a source of delight throughout her life. Equally important to her were her

beloved pets, who brought companionship and comfort over the years.

She is survived by her husband, Edward Wages; sons, Ryan Wages, Logan (Jayden Hatton) Wages, and Hayden Wages; sisters, Stephanie Jennings and Melanie (Jay) Macy; brothers-in-law, Don (Bobbie) Wages and Dave (Cindy) Wages; cousin, Lorrie (Bradley) Bendtsen; as well as numerous cherished nieces and nephews.

Jennifer was preceded in death by her father, Dave Cleckner; mother, Karen Beall; father and mother-in-law, Donald and Vicky Wages; brother, Frank Darrow; brother-in-law, Todd Jennings; nephew, Colby Dougherty; and infant nephew, Jason Darrow.

A memorial service will be held at a date to be determined to honor Jennifer's life and legacy.

May her memory bring comfort to those who knew and loved her.

Condolences may be left on her tribute wall at www.schmidt-haller.com