



Jennifer Kay Escalante

March 5, 1972 - February 18, 2024

Jennifer Kay Escalante was born March 5, 1972, in Corpus Christi, Texas, to Thomas Wayne and Mildred Irene Hoffer. She spent her final two years battling, no, BEATING Glioblastoma grade 4. On February 18, 2024, surrounded by family in Houston, Texas, she peacefully passed away to a song sung by her husband.

She was preceded in death by her stepmother (in law) Joanna Tousley-Escalante. She is survived by her husband of 26 years, Charles Thomas Escalante, son, Evan Escalante, son, Miles Escalante, parents, Wayne and Mildred Hoffer, in laws, Susan Matthews and Reynaldo Escalante, sister, Monica (Glenn) Kveton (Kyle, Clinton, Amy, Todd, and Theresa), brother, Mark (Linda) Hoffer (Emily, Sam, and James), sister, Kathleen Hoffer, brother, Matthew (Katy) Hoffer (Tatum and Theo), brother-in-law, Noel (Martha) Lashbrook (Camila and Ellie), and numerous Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Great Nieces, and Great Nephews.

Jen attended St. Patrick's Elementary, Incarnate Word Junior High, and W.B. Ray High School in Corpus Christi. She graduated from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. A chance meeting outside Albert B. Alkek Library on campus led to a job at Sundance Records & Tapes. She ran into a

friend who worked there and was moving to Houston. That friend became her future husband, "Tomas" Escalante. They were married in their hometown of Corpus Christi and raised two amazing sons, Evan and Miles, in Houston. Jen always chased her dreams. One, which she shared with Tomas, was to own their own record store. This was realized -twice - in 2004 when they opened Sig's Lagoon in MidMain Houston, and in 2021 when they re-opened Sundance Record Lagoon in San Marcos, the store where they both worked and found each other. Jen was the backbone of these stores. Without her dedication, patience, support, and understanding, these stores would not exist.

Jen was a proud educator of kindergarten through 2nd grade, with the Houston Independent School District (Garden Oaks Montessori, School at St. George Place, Harvard Elementary, and Mark White Elementary) for 17 years. There was nothing she loved more than her students and her fellow teachers. She spent her spare time reading, being in the outdoors, traveling, seeing live music (especially at the Continental Club), rooting for the Houston Astros (doing the Altuve Polka), and most of all, spending time with family and many, many friends. Her smile was beautiful, her laugh was infectious, and her friendships were plentiful. She was everyone's best friend.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24, 2024, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Corpus Christi, Texas. A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 2, 2024, at Ecclesia (Downtown), 1100 Elder St., Houston, Texas 77007. A Reception will follow at 12:00 noon at the Continental Club, 3700 Main St., Mid-Main, Houston, Texas 77002. Jen's favorite color was blue. You can honor her at the memorial service, March 2, and on her birthday, March 5, by wearing blue. A private ceremony of the Rite of Interment will take place on a future date.

Donations may be made to the Dr. Marnie Rose Foundation or Trees For Houston.

Tribute Wall

MP

“ Thank you for allowing our family to be apart of yours. Matthew has great memories to share and treasure and I will continue to think of you often. What a battle you went through and beat, such a beautiful lady! Marlo and family.

Marlo McClung Perez - March 03, 2024 at 11:11 AM

RE

“ I am sure God received you with open arms in his kingdom, say hello to Joanna !

Reynaldo Escalante - March 02, 2024 at 12:22 PM

VV

“ Jennifer, your beautiful heart and soul will be so missed — but don't worry, anything beautiful in nature will always remind me of you — I love you!

Your forever friend,
Veronica Vuong

Veronica Vuong - March 02, 2024 at 08:44 AM

LT

“ I met Jen at Mark White Elem. She joined the kinder team during my second year at the school in 2018. Her laugh was contagious and her way of living life boldly and with lots of love was a true inspiration. Jen was the kind of friend that would motivate you to chase your dreams, to change the course, to chase happiness. That's the kind of friend she was to me. I am grateful with life, with God, with the universe for granting me the blessing to call her my friend. She was truly a caring person.

I will forever cherish the memories of those fun Thursday art nights in Downtown Houston. And wonderful memories celebrating Jen in Galveston for her 50th bday.

Thank you Thomas and her boys for sharing her life with everyone who loved her. With everyone who was inspired by her. Prayers to you all.

I will miss you and think of you Jen ❤️ 'til I see you again friend. Thank you for your friendship. Love you,
Liliana Torres

Liliana (Lily) Torres - March 01, 2024 at 09:56 PM

MK

“ I went to school with Jennifer at St. Patrick's elementary in Corpus. We all had to line up alphabetically to go from class to church or from the library back to class. Since Hoffer came before Knezek, Jennifer was always in front of me..... from kindergarten till 6th grade. I can't say that she kept me inline, but she always showed me where I should be.

Thank you for that Jennifer.

Michael Knezek

Michael Knezek - March 01, 2024 at 08:08 PM

CK

“ Cindy Ruiz Kepfer lit a candle I taught with Jen at Harvard Elementary. She is a true jewel. She was such an inspiration to all and gave so many words of wisdom and wise advice. I will always treasure her friendship forever and a day. I am blessed to have shared part of my life with her and, wow, those up above who will meet her have a real treat in store for them. Love you Jen. You will truly be missed!!!



Cindy Ruiz Kepfer - March 01, 2024 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Jennifer was the kindergarten teacher of my son. I always remember her as warm and sweet lady. Her smile brightened her face and she was always friendly, patient and kind with my kid. We will miss her a lot.

Ana Ramos

Ana Ramos - February 26, 2024 at 09:25 AM

AL

“ *Jen was an amazing woman. Kind-hearted, patient, and loving to everyone (even annoying co-workers! ha ha). She always had a smile on her face, even when the students were bouncing off the walls. Jen always had the ability to lift up my spirits and was full of empathy. She will live in my heart forever. ~Amy Lin (her SSGP friend)*

Amy Lin - February 25, 2024 at 03:57 PM