

Jennifer Marie Gates

August 18, 1988 ~ March 1, 2025

Jennifer Marie Gates, age 36, died 1 March 2025, in Salt Lake City, Utah, of causes related to a congenital heart defect. She was born on 18 August 1988, in Provo, Utah, to Jeffrey Russell Gates and Leslie Jean Wilson.

Our beloved Jennifer finished her mortal journey as valiantly as she began. Born with a rare heart defect, she endured multiple life-saving surgeries as a child, and adapted to her physical limitations with grace and resilience. She experienced many miracles of healing and strength, and was herself a kind of miracle. She grew up loving to sing songs from the Primary Children's Songbook and from Disney movies (particularly The Little Mermaid). Later she enjoyed listening to contemporary artists including her personal friend Paul Cardall, and uplifting music on Christian radio. Jenny was a member of the Oquirrh Mountain Single Adults Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where she actively served in several callings, most recently on the Emergency Preparedness Committee. She graduated from West Jordan High School in 2007, and attended Salt Lake Community College earning an Associate Degree in General Studies, followed by an Associate of American Sign Language.

Jennifer's hobbies included watching movies, grazing on edibles in the family garden, researching health topics and current events, playing computer games, and reading Regency Era "proper romance" novels (Sarah Eden was a favorite author). She fondly remembered living in Eugene, Oregon, where the trees and plants grew green and lush year round. She loved all the colors in Nature. Jenny made friends easily, and her contagious cheerful and friendly attitude brightened the lives of everyone around her.

Jenny's health began a noticeable decline that began last summer after several bouts of cellulitis and trips to the hospital. A lifelong lover of lemons, she managed to "squeeze" every last bit of mileage from her body as multiple systems began failing together. We have been moved by the generous outpouring of love from her singles ward friends, and neighbors who gave so selflessly of themselves, taking time to visit with her and cheer her during this final chapter of her life.

Her family is deeply grateful to all of the doctors, nurses, surgeons, and other professionals, and for the hospitals and clinics all throughout her life, for their wonderful and compassionate care. Her final two weeks at the University of Utah Hospital were no exception.

She was lovingly surrounded by her immediate family as she valiantly took her last breath, and her spirit passed through the veil into everlasting peace. Her family looks forward to the day we are together again.

Survived by: parents Jeff & Leslie; brothers James (Marissa), and Tyler; grandparents Guelda Gates, Robert & Jean Wilson; nieces Aris, Kimber, Daisy, and Scarlett, and nephew Asher; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Preceded in death by: grandfather Joseph L. Gates; beloved family pets J.J. (cockatiel), Cookie (calico cat).

Services information:

All services (viewings and funeral) will be held at the LDS Chapel located at 7336 South 3200 West, West Jordan, UT 84084

Viewings:

Friday, March 21, 2025 from 6:00-8:00 PM

Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 10:00-10:45 AM

Family prayer:

Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 10:45-11:00 AM

Funeral Service:

Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 11:00-12:30 PM