



Melanie Ann Wright

October 15, 1957 - February 19, 2026

Melanie A. Wright, of Rensselaer, passed away peacefully on February 19, 2026, at the age of 68. Born on October 15, 1957, to Forrest "Fuzz" and Linda (Green) Campbell, Melanie grew up with a deep love for the Rensselaer community.

A proud 1975 graduate of Rensselaer High School, she followed her creative passions to the Largo Beauty Academy in Florida, graduating in 1978. For decades, Melanie served as a cosmetologist. To Melanie, her clients weren't just appointments; they were dear friends whose lives she touched with every conversation and care.

Melanie was a woman of many interests and a "collector" of both beautiful things and meaningful moments. Whether she was lost in the pages of a great book, scouring local shops for hidden treasures while antiquing, or horseback riding, and hunting she embraced life with an adventurous spirit. She was a familiar face at the American Legion Post #29, VFW Post #1279. She was the heart of her home, finding her greatest happiness in the love and warmth of her large, extended family.

Melanie is survived by her lifelong partner of 43 years, Klayton Kohley; her daughter, Rhiannon Wright; and seven grandchildren: Makannah, Makayh, Makoi, Makari, Makaya, Lera, and Khalia. She also leaves behind her siblings,

Susan (Jim) Phillips and Mark (Stacey) Campbell; sisters-in-law, Rhonda (Tom) VanVleet and Lisa (Dr. Robert) Darnaby; nieces and nephews, Caylyn (Reilly) Murphy, Halston Campbell, McClain Campbell, Cameron Phillips, Alexandra Phillips, Garrett Welker, Logan (Danielle) Welker, Carson Risner, and Kole Risner; great-nieces and great-nephews, Griffin, Lynley, Avery, Weston, and Sawyer; her aunts and uncles, Emily Green, Gary (Beverly) Green, and Gerald (Doris) Campbell; and a wide circle of cousins who will forever treasure her memory.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fuzz and Linda, and Harold (Janet) Kohley.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Melanie's life during a Time of Remembrance on Saturday, February 28, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM CT at the Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer. Following the visitation, inurnment will be held at Memory Gardens Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions be made to a charity of the donor's choice, continuing Melanie's lifelong tradition of giving back.

Cemetery Details

Memory Gardens of Rensselaer

Memory Gardens
Rensselaer, IN 47978
(219) 866-5125
info@jacksonfuneral.com

Previous Events

A Time of Remembrance

FEB 28. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer
250 N. McKinley Avenue
P.O. Box 70
Rensselaer, IN 47978
(219) 866-5123
info@jacksonfuneral.com
<https://www.jacksonfuneral.com>

Graveside

FEB 28. 1:00 PM (CT)

Memory Gardens of Rensselaer
Memory Gardens
Rensselaer, IN 47978
(219) 866-5125
info@jacksonfuneral.com

Tribute Wall



“ Jackson Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Melanie Ann Wright



Jackson Funeral Chapels - February 26 at 01:29 PM

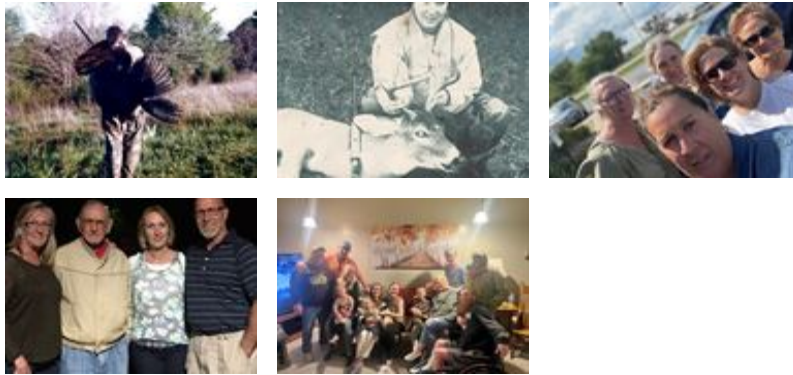


“ Rebecca J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melanie Ann Wright.

Rebecca J. - March 03 at 09:49 AM



“ 108 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jackson Funeral Chapels - February 26 at 01:03 PM

ML

“ *Martha Langley lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright*



Martha Langley - February 25 at 07:08 PM

RN

“ *Rick N. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melanie Ann Wright.*

Rick N. - February 24 at 03:12 PM

BW

“ *Brad & Kathy Welsh lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright*



Brad & Kathy Welsh - February 24 at 11:26 AM

UB

“ *Uncle Gary and Aunt Bev purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Melanie Ann Wright.*



Uncle Gary and Aunt Bev - February 24 at 10:57 AM

UB

“ Uncle Gary and Aunt Bev planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Melanie Ann Wright.

Uncle Gary and Aunt Bev - February 24 at 10:57 AM

LK

“ So sorry to hear of Melanie’s passing. Klayton, I know you have lost your soulmate, but will always be with you in your heart.



Larry and Judy Koebcke - February 23 at 11:15 PM

BP

“ Bob&Heidi Phillips lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright



Bob&Heidi Phillips - February 23 at 02:54 PM

DN

“ Brett and Debi Nesius



Debi Nesius - February 23 at 02:19 PM

RW

“ Sending you lots of hugs and kisses Mom!



Rhiannon Wright - February 23 at 11:35 AM

LR

“ Lori Rusk lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright



Lori Rusk - February 23 at 11:31 AM

GH

“ Garnet Huhn



Garnet Huhn - February 23 at 10:51 AM

BS

“ Butch & Christal Selby lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright



Butch & Christal Selby - February 23 at 10:24 AM

JM

“ *Jim, Sandy Miller lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright*



jim, Sandy Miller - February 22 at 05:41 PM

JM

“ *So sorry for your loss.*



Jackie Malchow - February 22 at 05:05 PM

RR

“ *I will always remember our time together all those years ago. Thanks for sharing your life with me. RIP sweet Melanie*

Richard Reinhart - February 22 at 02:12 PM

EG

You were very special in her life. Aunt Pip

Emily Green - February 22 at 04:54 PM

RR

Thank you! 😊

Richard Reinhart - February 22 at 06:24 PM

RH

Thank you for your kind words Uncle Rich!!!

Rhiannon - February 23 at 10:09 AM

DY

“ *Debby Yoder lit a candle in memory of
Melanie Ann Wright*



Debby Yoder - February 22 at 02:11 PM

ED

“ *I'm sorry to hear this.
My condolences to Melanie's family.
Ed Davisson*

Ed Davisson - February 22 at 12:18 PM

RW

“ *Rhiannon Wright lit a candle in memory of
Melanie Ann Wright*



Rhiannon Wright - February 22 at 07:40 AM

RW

I will love you always and forever Mommy!!!

Rhiannon Wright - February 22 at 07:41 AM

LE

“ *Lindy And Kim Eaton lit a candle in memory
of Melanie Ann Wright*



Lindy and Kim Eaton - February 21 at 07:05 PM

CS

“ *Cindy Sheffer lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright*



Cindy Sheffer - February 21 at 07:04 PM

EG

“ *Rest in peace my beautiful brave niece. Love Aunt Pip*

Emily Green - February 21 at 06:30 PM

KD

“ *Mel was always a ray of sunshine. I will miss her so much.*

Kathy Van Dora - February 21 at 06:04 PM

ND

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the whole family. Melanie was the sweetest person I knew. God bless you all during this time.* 🙏



Nancy Dunlap - February 21 at 04:56 PM

LJ

“ *Lisa Jennings lit a candle in memory of Melanie Ann Wright*



lisa Jennings - February 21 at 04:05 PM

MW

“ my gigi was the sweetest person ever to me
□, i love you.💕



MaKennah Wingard - February 21 at 02:17 PM

RH

She loved you so so much!!!

Rhiannon - February 22 at 08:09 AM

LS

“ Lynn Standish lit a candle in memory of
Melanie Ann Wright



Lynn Standish - February 21 at 02:08 PM

LS

Yellow for Friendship to my Beautiful Best Friend💕💕💕

Lynn Standish - February 21 at 02:09 PM

LS

Yellow for Friendship to my Beautiful Best Friend💕💕💕

Lynn Standish - February 21 at 05:16 PM

RH

Thank you Aunt Lynn!!!

Rhiannon - February 23 at 10:09 AM

GS

“ Gary Sheffer lit a candle in memory of
Melanie Ann Wright



Gary Sheffer - February 21 at 12:54 PM