



Melissa Kelly

January 11, 1982 - December 25, 2021

Melissa Ann Marie (Johnson) Kelly, 39, an amazing one in a million wife to Jacob Kelly from Bellevue, MI passed on Saturday, December 25, 2021 at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, early Christmas morning. A holiday that she cherished along with it being her favorite time of the year. Melissa was born January 11, 1982, in Battle Creek, MI. She married Jacob Kelly on September 15, 2012. They soon founded Kelly Farms & Club Lambs of which she was very proud of and totally vested in. She served on the Executive committee as a 3rd year member of the Eaton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, a past Eaton County Fair Board member, and a leader of the Junior Fair Board. Over the past 15 years Melissa was employed at Jackson National in Lansing, Michigan where she continually progressed throughout the company. Melissa was promoted to a Senior Compliance Analyst in March of 2021 spending her last few years with the compliance team who loved and adored her.

She was a stranger to no one, was the life of the party, cherished her friends and brought the best out in everyone. With a smile on her face you would find her mentoring children involved in 4-H and FFA, where she was a huge help with the Bellevue FFA program. Within the FFA program she helped plan from its inception, to getting the room ready, working the fund raisers and serving on the advisory committee. She absolutely loved all those kids! Melissa's love for shopping and giving were like no other, she would give you the shirt off her back or earrings out of her ears – she was such a giving soul. When time allowed Melissa enjoyed traveling with Jake whether it be to a weekend

getaway after harvest was done, or a road trip to pick up a new lamb. Spending time in the sheep barns and attending the sheep shows was a passion for her. She and Jake were rising stars in the sheep industry with Kelly Farms & Club Lambs and are very proud of what they have accomplished.

Melissa is survived by her husband, Jacob; parents, Randy Johnson & Suzanne (Lynch) Johnson; brother, Jarrod (Ronda) Johnson; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Diane and Dennis Kelly; sister-in-law, Amber (Treg) Bryan; nephews, TC and Riggin Bryan. And her beloved fur babies Stryker and Lucy. Melissa is preceded in death by her grandparents Richard L. and Harriet Louise Johnson and Thomas and Mary Lynch as well as her favorite dog Wyatt.

Friends and family are encouraged to support Melissa's family by attending services or sharing memories on her tribute page at www.prayfuneral.com. Visitation will be held Monday, January 3, 2022 from 5-8 p.m. at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI. A Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at Bellevue United Methodist Church, Bellevue, MI, with Reverend Virginia Heller officiating. In lieu of flowers, Memorial contributions may be made to the Melissa Kelly Scholarship Fund at Eaton Community Bank (checks payable to Jacob Kelly). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery - Bellevue

201 Main St
Bellevue, MI 49021

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

JAN 4. 10:00 AM (ET)

Bellevue United Methodist Church
122 W. Capital Ave
Bellevue, MI 49021

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Melissa Kelly*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 03, 2022 at 07:08 PM



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Melissa Kelly*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 02, 2022 at 02:09 PM

RM

“ I don't remember a moment spent with Melissa where she wasn't smiling. She could be sharing the latest stresses of life with me and STILL be smiling! Beyond her beautiful smiling face, I will never forget the way she always thought of others. She will be incredibly missed.



Ryan McKenna - January 06, 2022 at 05:15 PM

AB

“ Good bye my cousin. Love you with all my heart! You will be remembered forever!

Aaron Bird - January 04, 2022 at 10:05 AM

DD

“ A wonderful and beautiful person! I'll always cherish the memories we had together. Love you and miss you so much Mel! Prayers for the family.



Dana DuBois - January 03, 2022 at 06:30 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



January 03, 2022 at 03:05 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



January 03, 2022 at 11:20 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



January 02, 2022 at 08:21 PM



“ *We were so sadden to hear of Melissa's death. Our remembrances of her in 4-H and the fair is only one of our fond memories of her. She packed so much love and happiness in her short lifetime. She will be missed by many. Our prayers go out to Jake, Randy and Suzanne. Judy and John Locke*

Judith Locke - January 02, 2022 at 04:37 PM



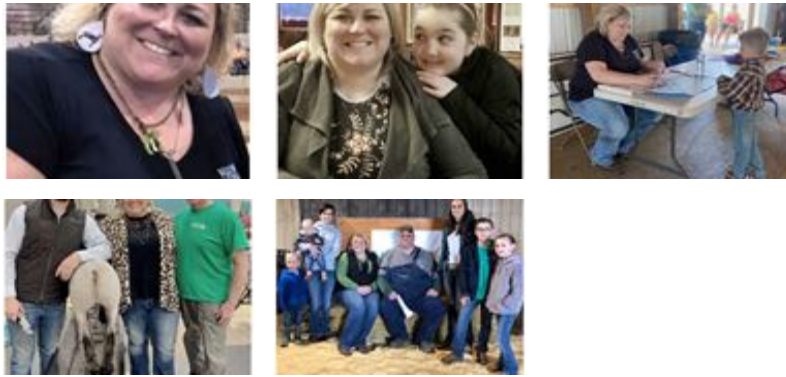
“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



January 02, 2022 at 02:26 PM



“ *22 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 02, 2022 at 02:12 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



January 02, 2022 at 05:45 AM

BF

“ *Bellevue FFA purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



Bellevue FFA - December 31, 2021 at 03:34 PM

EH

“ *Erin, Shanti and Mary Ann Halbeisen purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



Erin, Shanti and Mary Ann Halbeisen - December 31, 2021 at 12:56 PM

MB

“ *Knew Melissa as a neighbor and baby sitter, such a sweet girl. So very sorry for your loss.*

Marilyn Briggs - December 31, 2021 at 11:40 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



December 31, 2021 at 10:50 AM



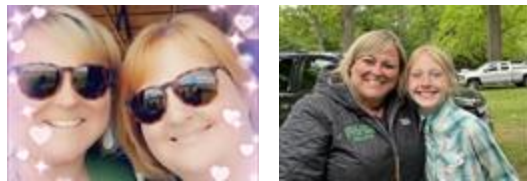
“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



December 31, 2021 at 08:54 AM



“ *Truly one of a kind... I will forever cherish all the special memories we made together! Melissa was the sister I never had and we were so blessed to have her as a part of our family. You will forever be our angel!*



Amy Babbin - December 30, 2021 at 08:54 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



December 30, 2021 at 08:18 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to all who loved Melissa*💔

Michelle Nkurikiyinka - December 30, 2021 at 02:59 PM

SC

“ There are no words... Just a sad, empty feeling of loss. I know you would say, get over it and get on with it. But, Mel, it's gonna take awhile... Your family knows how sincerely sorry we are or at least they should. You were so excited the last time I last saw you, excited about the new house, making plans for the extra bedrooms, hollering at the dogs, putting stuff here and there, then moving it again, prepping for Christmas and the Holidays. The Good Lord must need a lot of help up there, as he took the best doer, shaker and get it done person I know. Don't let those wings hold you back. I'm sure you got a list started of what your gonna do first. We love you so much. I'm sure God has already blessed you and may he lay a healing hand of peace on those of us that are left behind. Until we meet again my friend, don't get in trouble planning too many parties!!

Susan and Leon Casey - December 30, 2021 at 02:54 PM

WM

“ Williams Farm Machinery purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Melissa Kelly.



Williams Farm Machinery - December 30, 2021 at 07:46 AM

MS

“ Melissa A Souva purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Melissa Kelly.



Melissa A Souva - December 29, 2021 at 07:27 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



December 29, 2021 at 07:03 PM



“ *Her laugh, her smile, and her spirit in every memory of the fun we had the Fall trip up North starting at the Dairy for lunch. Got free cupcakes! Out to Lake Michigan, then cards with drinks in hand. The best cider!! Our little shopping trip this Fall was great. Good times, you will be missed dearly my friend. God just got a beautiful Angel. Love and miss you! Nellie Pfiester*



Nellie Pfiester - December 29, 2021 at 03:40 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



December 29, 2021 at 12:10 AM

SM

“ *Mel always knew how to make me smile! We shared some really amazing times and I'll always be droppin it like it's hot with her on my mind! Love you friend ... you will be missed so much!* ”



Sabrina M - December 28, 2021 at 08:54 PM

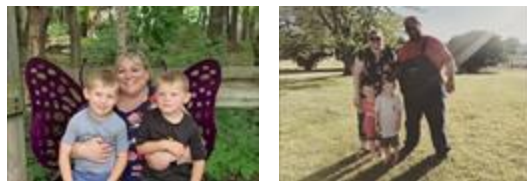
LS

“ *This hurts my heart and my prayers go out to her husband and family. I've known Melissa for many years and she always had a smile on her face and enjoyed life. She touched a lot of lives and will be missed greatly. 💔💔* ”

laurie savage - December 28, 2021 at 08:51 PM

AB

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall* ”



Amber Bryan - December 28, 2021 at 07:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.* ”



December 28, 2021 at 07:55 PM

SH

“ She was a great mentor who turned into a friend! I learned much from her, specifically on New Business when we were in the Service Center at Jackson. We both moved on to bigger things, yet we continued to talk even when I left the company. She was someone I could trust with many thoughts and opinions. I will miss our Snap Chatting back and forth of popcorn from the Peanut Shop downtown. I know that she loved meeting her dad for lunch and making a stop there and our extended lunches and post work drinks. I will just miss your smile and laugh ”iPod”



Stephanie Hebden - December 28, 2021 at 07:54 PM

RM

Sorry for the family loss. Had only met Melissa one time with her dad. I knew both parents of Milissa. May God be with all the family for support and guidance during this time in need.

Richard Mau - December 29, 2021 at 02:13 PM

AB

“ My boys were the luckiest boys in the entire world to be able to call her Aunt Mel. She loved them unconditionally and they loved her just as much. I was also so grateful for being able to call her my sister in law. I loved when I'd get home to visit and go down and visit the farm and chat with her.



Amber Bryan - December 28, 2021 at 07:51 PM

SD

“ *Melissa will be remembered as a brave young woman to ride all the way to Big Fork, MT from Michigan with a car load of fraternity brothers to my son’s wedding 11 yrs ago. What a sweet lady. Hugs to Jake and family. Sherry Dart*

sherry dart - December 28, 2021 at 07:41 PM

KJ

“ *Melissa had a smile that would light up a room and a bigger than life personality to go with it. We always had a girls night out when former Jackson coworkers visited Lansing. These dinners won't be the same without her and our honorary photographer Jake. I will miss her so much. ❤️*



Katrina Jeffreys - December 28, 2021 at 04:23 PM

SE

“ *Melissa was truly one of a kind. She was always so happy and fully of life. I am so grateful that I knew her for so long, but not long enough. I will miss her tight bear hugs the most and her smile. This has been so hard and she will be truly missed. My heart goes out to her family, her Husband and the many many friends she was blessed with.*



Shanti Engmark - December 28, 2021 at 02:17 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Melissa Kelly.*



December 28, 2021 at 09:03 AM



“ *Melissa was a dear friend. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of the lives she touched who are struggling with this, as I am. I will never forget her heart, humor and the adventures we shared.*

Meghan Rowinski - December 27, 2021 at 10:39 PM



“ *I'm still trying to wrap my head around this loss. Melissa was one of those people I could go months without seeing or talking too, yet we always picked up where we left off and I always knew I could count on her. She was a loyal friend that protected her tribe! Melissa, you will be missed!*

Keisha Howe - December 27, 2021 at 10:27 PM



“ *Melissa one of the sweetest, nice and caring friend to my daughter's growing up. My heart goes out to her husband, parents, family and friends. She was a gift to all who knew her.*

Kay Strouse - December 27, 2021 at 09:52 PM