



Jessica A. Cooper

October 12, 1977 - November 5, 2019

NEW HARTFORD - Jessica A. Cooper, age 42, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 due to an existing heart condition, and is now reunited with those who went before her. Her loved ones were present through her very last moments.

Born in Utica on October 12, 1977, Jessica was the daughter of Leon “Jake” and Martha (De Carlo) Cooper. She was educated in the Frankfort-Schuyler School District and graduated in 1995. She continued her education at St. John Fisher College where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in 1999. She then pursued post-graduate work at SUNY Oneonta where she was awarded a Master of Science degree in Education that enhanced her career. She went on to receive a CAS degree (Certificate of Advanced Study) in School Counseling in 2005.

Jessica first reveled in her position as a recruiter for SUNY Morrisville. She subsequently began her vocation as a School Counselor for the Mount Markham Central School District at the Middle School. It was at this job that she met her fiancé, Christopher Falcone who is an 8th grade Social Studies teacher; they shared a passion for children, their ideologies of world affairs were synchronized, and they truly balanced one another. They had the real secrets to each other’s happiness, and they had a love that will last forever. It was her mission to assist in the complete wellbeing of each child, and she opened her heart and soul to achieving her goal. She was proactive in the life of each student, and her efforts were appreciated by many. She upheld the

“golden rule” and would not tolerate straying from it. The students and teachers will miss their Miss Cooper who will not be there to help them navigate through middle school, but they will remember that she is watching over them in spirit.

A most generous and gentle person, Jessica was blessed with a benevolent heart. She was trusting and saw the best in others, and her optimistic nature touched people in the most amazing ways. She had a strong moral compass that kept her aligned with her purpose and she made an everlasting impact on everyone in her life. Her philosophical side was balanced by her lighter side. She was funny, with an irresistible laugh, a broad smile, and an electrifying aura that lit up a room. As the middle child, she could “mix-it-up” with her siblings, yet treasure the memory of being inseparable. They were each other’s everything.

Having been raised with house pets, when she was in her first home, she inherited a beastly cat named Pepe, one of the first of her many feline favorites, followed by her rescue cat, Archie. Neither of them was in the best health, but Jessica nurtured them back the best she could. For a bit over two years she and Chris were the proud parents of their fur babies ‘Sargent Pepper’ and ‘Penny Lane’, and they made their house a home. Jessica was a prolific reader, a pastime that began in her childhood when she would read Archie comics, and in her adulthood fiction hard cover was her focus; and you could almost visualize her reclined with a good book nestled by her felines. She also appreciated her artistic side when she participated in painting classes, doing arts & crafts, scrapbooking, and personalizing all-occasion cards to share with others. She challenged herself to participate in water yoga, found solace in long walks, and met her goals of running the “Mad Mile” with her friend Sarah, and the “Everyone Can Play” charity run. She also looked forward to “Lava Spa” girl days with her cherished niece, Dominique. She loved to dance and she chaperoned many dances at school with Chris where they were known to take to the floor amid their students. Jessica was proud of her Italian heritage and was instrumental in organizing the Italian

festival in Frankfort. She supported the annual feast of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, and she walked in the pilgrimage parade in their honor. Jessica always loved to gather others together for a good cause whatever it may have been...

Jessica and Chris loved Rock 'n Roll, and received great joy travelling to see bands, notably Paul McCartney who was an inspirational "savior", The Rolling Stones, Pearl Jam, and Justin Timberlake. They also engaged in a lengthy visit to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Ohio. Another exciting venture shared was their travels to nine different International League AAA baseball stadiums. Their favorite destinations were Newport, Rhode Island and Block Island. This past summer was a whirlwind of fun and travels, but the highlight was the proposal she received from Chris at the Florentine Cafe on July 31st ... they were to be married on August 20, 2021.

Left to carry on her smile and spirit are her parents, Jake and Martha; her fiancé, Chris; and her sister and brother-in-law, Divina M. and Bill Spellman. Not a moment went by that she didn't miss her brother, Jacob C. "Coop" Cooper who passed away on July 2, 2013. She also leaves her sister-in-law, Kourtney Cooper. Although never blessed with children of her own, the space was filled with her nieces and nephews, Dominique Spellman; Antonio, Jacob, Aianna, and Aviella Cooper. She will be remembered by her aunts and uncles, her many cousins, with special mention of Nickolas Cooper for whom she held a brotherly love; and Chris's mom, Patricia Falcone, and his sister, Julie Falcone. Jessica was favored with a wealth of friendships formed with longevity especially Ryan Fitzgerald, Morgan Belisle, and Sarah Brooks; and the legions of students and teachers who will remember her. She was predeceased by her paternal grandparents, Leon and Evelyn Cooper; and maternal grandparents, Giovanni and Cosimina De Carlo.

At the time of her sudden ill health, the Faculty of the Mt. Markham School District worked so diligently attending to Jessica for which her family is so grateful.

Visitation will be held Monday from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Jessica's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Tuesday at 12:00 noon at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered. Interment will follow in Calvary Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

2407 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2727

Previous Events

Funeral Service

NOV 12. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church
422 Tilden Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-1177
<https://www.stanthonystagnes.com/>

Tribute Wall

KI

“ *I miss you every day.*

Kipper - October 10, 2023 at 10:56 PM

VG

“ *You were the best thing that ever happen to us. you always had a smile on your face and always greeted us goodbye and told us to have a good day... the last thing i know was i hugged you and told you to have a good day :)*

Violet Geesler - March 06, 2020 at 10:31 AM

TO

“ *I had the pleasure to work with Jessica a few years ago at the Utica College library. She was supportive, generous, kind, caring, thoughtful, and genuine. She would always go above and beyond to ensure that each interaction with a student or faculty member was a great experience and was a delight to be around. Her smile, her laugh, and her attitude will be missed by all that knew her, even just a little bit.*

Travis Olivera - November 19, 2019 at 04:04 PM

BJ

“ *Barb, Carley And JamieLincourt lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Barb, Carley and JamieLincourt - November 18, 2019 at 07:02 PM

LR

“ Linda Russo lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper



Linda Russo - November 12, 2019 at 07:25 PM

LR

I worked with Jessica on the NYSSCA board for 3 years. She was a joy! Warm, friendly, passionate about her career and the children she supported. I am shocked and saddened by her death. Rest In Peace Jess. Condolences to family and friends. 🙏💔

Linda Russo - November 12, 2019 at 07:24 PM

DA

“ Deborah Annatone lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper



Deborah Annatone - November 12, 2019 at 02:51 PM

ED

“ I met Jessica in 7th grade and what she lacked in stature she made up for with her smile and contagious laugh. I am so deeply saddened to hear of her premature departure from this world but she certainly made the world a happier place. In adulthood, our only connection was through Facebook but her posts continued to make smile and laugh right along with her. My deepest sympathies to Divina and Jessica's parents and to everyone whose life she touched! Liz Daly Davis



elizabeth daly davis - November 11, 2019 at 10:04 PM

CO

“ *Christina & Jonathan Olander lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Christina & Jonathan Olander - November 11, 2019 at 04:11 PM

TD

“ *Jessica was a truly special person and we are blessed that she was a part of our lives. She was only one person, but she touched so many lives and meant so much to so many people. If that's not the measure of a life well lived, then I don't know what is. Much love to all and my deepest sympathies on your loss.*



Traci DeLore - November 11, 2019 at 09:37 AM

SB

“ *Jessica Cooper was always a nice, caring, honest, helpful and a smiling person. Every time I would see her, she would smile at me. I will never forget her. She will always stay in my heart. I will greatly miss her as she was a counselor at the school and so will everyone else in the Mt. Markham Middle School. It's as if the school is so empty without her.*
- Samuel Brutsky-

Samuel Brutsky - November 11, 2019 at 07:56 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



November 11, 2019 at 02:58 AM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



November 10, 2019 at 10:46 PM



“ *I remember Jessica when she was young and her brother used to come to our house. I also met her at Weight Watchers where she was the life of the session. I am so glad she had such a rich and full life, although it was cut too short. Rest in peace dear.*

Sam Simonette

Sam Simonette - November 10, 2019 at 12:15 PM



“ *Gina Ferris lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Gina Ferris - November 10, 2019 at 07:40 AM

PZ

“ *The Mt.Markham Community lost a wonderful person this week. Jessica ALWAYS had a kind word or compliment when we crossed paths at school. In many ways she was the glue that held us all together. She was a champion for the students -steady and unwavering in her love for the student body. You were loved by so many. Gone too soon but in your short time here on earth you made such a huge impact! RIP Coop you will be missed by many! Love Peggy Z*



Peggy Zurn - November 10, 2019 at 06:25 AM

PL

“ *So sorry for your loss- you're in our thoughts and prayers. Jessica's loving spirit is gone much too soon. With love, Pat Lopiccolo and family.*



Pat Lopiccolo - November 09, 2019 at 10:09 PM

UF

“ *Uncle Vinny, aunt Pia and family. purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



Uncle Vinny, aunt Pia and family. - November 09, 2019 at 07:36 PM

Karie Sanzo

“*Karie Sanzo lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Karie Sanzo - November 09, 2019 at 06:09 PM

JR

“*Chris, I cannot say anything to make you feel better, but I can say that you will be in my thoughts, and if ever you have a day that seems impossible, think "What would Jess say!" You have had a beautiful relationship to look back on. Keep her smile and love in your heart. God bless.*

Julie Reader - November 09, 2019 at 01:11 PM

JR

“*I am so sorry for your loss. Jessica and I were not close, but I have known since she started at MM and she will be so missed by the faculty and staff. She was a force to be seen and accomplished more than most in her years in this world. When I retired last year she had great advice, and I hope that you are able to feel better knowing she was a blessing in this world to so many kids and adults, too.*

Remember her smile and laughter, and know that that is what everyone saw and heard! Please take care.

Julie Reader - November 09, 2019 at 01:06 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



November 09, 2019 at 01:02 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



November 09, 2019 at 11:20 AM



“ *Cheyenne & Dakota & Family lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Cheyenne & Dakota & family - November 09, 2019 at 09:39 AM



“ *So Sorry For Your Loss Martha And Family*



Lisa Klein - November 09, 2019 at 09:06 AM

SS

“ *Starlene Schrader lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Starlene Schrader - November 09, 2019 at 07:52 AM

CD

“ *Cathy Duffy lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Cathy Duffy - November 09, 2019 at 07:19 AM

JK

“ *Jordan Kane lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Jordan Kane - November 08, 2019 at 08:44 PM

MB

“ *Michelle Brown lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Michelle Brown - November 08, 2019 at 08:25 PM

MT

“ A beautiful light has been extinguished -
much too soon !

*Jessica's smile and laughter uplifted all who
were lucky enough to know her.*

*She faced all of life's challenges with
confidence and determination.*

*Although we lost touch over the years, her sudden passing has left
me deeply saddened.*

*My thoughts and prayers go out to her family - especially Ila - who
was a large part of Jessica's life.*

Mindy Tillapaugh



Mindy Tillapaugh - November 08, 2019 at 07:14 PM

CB

“ Cathy Bohlen lit a candle in memory of
Jessica A. Cooper



Cathy Bohlen - November 08, 2019 at 06:50 PM

KC

“ I am beyond sad. Her smile lit up the room. Her laughter was
infectious. She will always be a treasured NYSSCA colleague.

Kathy Corbett - November 08, 2019 at 05:52 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.



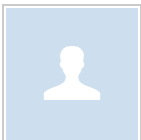
November 08, 2019 at 05:38 PM



“ Jessica and I were first time region governors for NYSSCA for the first time. We were both honored and excited to be part of an organization we both believed so completely in. I remember her teaching me about the Amish Community in her region. And I explaining to her how middle school students in NYC had to apply to high school because there were no "Zoned Schools". She was a source of inspiration, with her passion for the profession . I will miss her .

Marjorie Miller

Marjorie Miller - November 08, 2019 at 05:12 PM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.



November 08, 2019 at 04:25 PM

Joan
Marshall

“ I was given the gift of helping Jessica prepare for her job as a school counselor. Her bright smile and joyous laughter were always a delight. I am so sad to hear of her- way too young- passing. She was a joy to teach and I am so proud of her. Dr. Joan Marshall

Joan Marshall - November 08, 2019 at 03:16 PM

LG

“ Linda Guarascio lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper



Linda Guarascio - November 08, 2019 at 02:48 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.



November 08, 2019 at 02:43 PM

RF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ryan Fitzgerald - November 08, 2019 at 01:46 PM

DD

“ I will always thank you for all of the laughs and the memories you provided me with in my years of school with you. You were an amazing beautiful soul and always found the best in everybody. I will cherish our moments forever. <3



Desiree & Stephen DiNigro - November 08, 2019 at 12:09 PM

PK

“ Patty, Adam, Joe, And Katie lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper



Patty, Adam, Joe, and Katie - November 08, 2019 at 09:44 AM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.



November 08, 2019 at 08:46 AM

JB

“ Jessica Bronga lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper



Jessica Bronga - November 08, 2019 at 08:38 AM

AS

“ *Anna Sardina lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Anna Sardina - November 08, 2019 at 06:00 AM

JS

“ *Jody & Joe Scholl lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Jody & Joe Scholl - November 07, 2019 at 11:01 PM

SF

“ *The Speziale Family*



Speziale Family - November 07, 2019 at 10:53 PM

MA

“ *From aunt Jewell, Marie, katelyn, april, kristopher, korrin, Roger, Kadence, prayers and hugs to all of you! Rip jessica! I hope your dancing with the family*



Marie - November 07, 2019 at 10:44 PM

DI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Divina - November 07, 2019 at 10:21 PM

CD

*Beautiful picture! We're so sorry for your loss, Divina, Dominique, Bill and family.
Love, The Duffy's*

Cathy Duffy - November 13, 2019 at 08:47 AM

MD

“ *Divina and family, I'm so very sorry for the loss of Jessica! She was so full of life and always had a kind word and that smile lit up the room. She will truly be missed ... thinking of you and sending prayers during this most difficult time. It's just so hard to believe.*

Michelle DelConte - November 07, 2019 at 09:52 PM

WB

“ *I am totally shocked and saddened to hear this. Jessica attended my classes on many occasions and her upbeat, bubbly personality was always a welcome highlight. Sending my condolences to her family and all whom she touched. She will be dearly missed.....*

Wilson Bickford - November 07, 2019 at 09:46 PM

DB

“ *Divina & Bill lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Divina & Bill - November 07, 2019 at 09:30 PM

GR

Divina, I am so sorry to hear the news about Jessica's passing. I didn't know her well but I totally remember her smile and positive attitude from when we were kids. I'm so saddened to hear that you've had to suffer her loss. Please know you're in my thoughts. Love, Gretchen

Gretchen - November 07, 2019 at 10:14 PM

DO

“ *Dominique lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Dominique - November 07, 2019 at 09:28 PM

KZ

“ *I was both shocked & saddened to hear of Jessica's passing. Life is meant to be enjoyed. As human beings we are created to have joy. But sometimes we forget how to be happy. Jess truly was a joyful soul. Her smile & laughter were contagious & will never be forgotten. Praying for comfort & peace for Divina & her family.*



Korin Zalocka - November 07, 2019 at 09:22 PM

ML

“ Sending our sympathy and all our love and prayers to Jess and her family. Your contagious smile will always be in our hearts and minds. Fly high young lady.
Love, Michelle & Bill Lopiccolo

Michelle Lopiccolo - November 07, 2019 at 09:03 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.



November 07, 2019 at 08:50 PM

TF

“ It was a joy to know you growing up at West Frankfort school. Your bubbly personality and beautiful smile is something we will always remember about you ❤️ The Dudek's



The Dudek Family - November 07, 2019 at 07:51 PM

AW

“ Anna Wellington lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper



Anna Wellington - November 07, 2019 at 07:42 PM

AW

To the family of Jess I am so sorry for your loss. Chris my heart brakes for you. To all of the students and staff Remember Jess laugh and her smile she will be missed by so many RIP Jessica

Anna Wellington - November 07, 2019 at 07:45 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



November 07, 2019 at 06:32 PM

LF

“ *Lillian Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



lillian ferguson - November 07, 2019 at 06:27 PM

KA

“ *Katelyn lit a candle in memory of Jessica A. Cooper*



Katelyn - November 07, 2019 at 06:23 PM

KA

Jassica was a Good Person to talk to you R. I. P Jassica

Katelyn - November 09, 2019 at 05:52 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



November 07, 2019 at 06:12 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jessica A. Cooper.*



November 07, 2019 at 05:44 PM



“ *Jessica was the first friend I ever had. We spent countless days together in our childhood, playing on the slip and slide, having sleepovers, teasing our siblings, chasing all of her crazy dogs. In the second grade, Mrs. Greco sat us together in the back of the room, because she said if we weren't going to stop talking to each other, we at least weren't going to disturb anyone else. Her smile was contagious. Her laugh was infectious. A beautiful soul has left us. Jess, I only wish we'd kept in touch more consistently over the years so that I could have harvested those smiles and that laughter now that it's gone too soon. I will love you always.*

Julie Sacco Bastedo

julie Sacco Bastedo - November 07, 2019 at 05:34 PM

ML

Dear Martha, Jake, Divina, Bill and Dominique--So sad to learn of the shocking loss of your beloved Jessica. in our hearts, thoughts and prayers. Maria Aversa Loy and Larry Loy

Maria Loy - November 09, 2019 at 06:05 PM

BZ

*Divina and family,
So sorry for your loss ,please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers now and always...*

*Love you,
Beth and Ron Zalocka*

Beth Zalocka - November 09, 2019 at 07:53 PM