



## Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky

July 15, 1982 - March 1, 2022

Melissa "Lou Lou" T. Waskosky, 39 year old resident of Fort Ripley, MN passed away Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at her home in Fort Ripley. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Monday, March 7, 2022 at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN with David Sperstad officiating. Burial and military honors will take place at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery north of Little Falls, MN. A visitation will be held from 2:00-6:00 PM. on Sunday and from 10:00-11:00 A.M. on Monday at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN. Caring for Melissa and her family is the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN.

Melissa Teresa " Lou Lou" Waskosky (Gustafson) age 39, was a beautiful wife, sister, daughter, aunt, godmother and friend to all. She graced this world with her birth on July 15, 1982, and unexpectedly stole everyone's hearts when she left on March 1, 2022. Lou Lou was born to a loving family when Barb, Steve and her sister Stephy celebrated her and her twin sister Shell Bell's arrival, in the summer of '82. Melissa was raised and attended school in the Little Falls area. The twins were actively involved with the swim team, and Melissa Softball, which held her heart. She wore the number 3, following in the footsteps of Papa Gus, and her beloved older sister Stephy, as they both wore # 13 and hailed as "the vacuum" of the softball field. Melissa attended college for graphic design and swore an oath to the United States Army in 1999. While serving her country, she was deployed with the 142nd Engineers

2003-2004 and again deployed with the 851st Engineers 2007-2008. Some notable awards she received are Meritorious Service Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, Army Achievement Medal, four Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbons, two Army Overseas Service Ribbons, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service medal, and two Iraq Campaign medals. Melissa married Benny in 2011, and they provided a loving home to their fur babies, Skippy and Lucy. They enjoyed fishing, camping and spending quality time with family and loved ones. Melissa loved woodworking, riding four-wheeler and was an active Life Time Member of the Randall VFW Post 9073 where she honorably served as the Post Adjutant. She loved being outdoors, sitting around a bonfire, playing cribbage and other card games, attending concerts with her loved ones, fixing the unthinkable, and sharing her unbelievable heart and soul with those blessed to be in her existence. She never truly needed anyone the way she lived, but everyone always needed her.

Melissa is survived by husband, Benny Waskosky of Fort Ripley, MN; father, Steven Gustafson of Herman, MN; sisters, Stephy (Jason) Lickteig of Little Falls, MN and Michelle (Adam) Hanson of Hancock, MN; nephews, Taylor Hanson, Carter Hanson, Silas Hanson, River Lickteig, and Ryker Lickteig; brothers-in-law, Randy (Regina) Waskosky of Pelican Rapids, MN and Teresa (Adrian) Erickson of Wadena, MN; fur babies, Lucy and Skippy; longtime friend, Beans and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Melissa was preceded in death by mother, Barbara Gustafson and grandparents, Granny & Grumpy Waite and Sherry & Donald Gustafson.

# Cemetery Details

## Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery

15550 Highway 115  
Little Falls, MN

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

MAR 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

LeMieur Funeral Home of Little Falls  
214 2nd Street SE  
Little Falls, MN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - March 04, 2022 at 11:01 AM



“ *Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky*

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January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Rosemary Doble lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky*



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**Rosemary Doble** - March 07, 2022 at 10:16 AM



“ *Wendy Thiedich Clark lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky*



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**Wendy Thiedich Clark** - March 05, 2022 at 07:01 PM

KL

“ Ken And Linda LeBlanc lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky



Ken and Linda LeBlanc - March 05, 2022 at 05:57 PM

DJ

“ To Melissa's family; The words from Kathy Marshik ring true, although I did not know Melissa but I worked with her mother many yrs ago at Coborn's and she was a go getter and got the job done!!! So, her traits she got from her Mom and Dad. So, sorry for your loss. May she rest in peace. God Bless All.



Debbie Jelinski-Harakel - March 05, 2022 at 12:29 PM

TO

“ The Outlaws purchased the With Distinction for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



The Outlaws - March 05, 2022 at 10:37 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



March 05, 2022 at 09:38 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



March 04, 2022 at 09:40 PM



“ « HUGS » » .... A sweet friend GONE too soon! Thinking of you all at thei difficult time- Krstine Kalis-Wittmann

Kristine Kalis-Wittmann - March 04, 2022 at 09:29 PM



This

Kristine Kalis-Wittmann - March 04, 2022 at 09:30 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



March 04, 2022 at 03:15 PM

JS

“ Gus (Steve) - My heart goes out to you and your family on the loss of your beautiful daughter. She sounds like an amazing person with a heart of gold. Praying that you will experience God's perfect peace & strength and that you will be warmed by sweet memories of her.

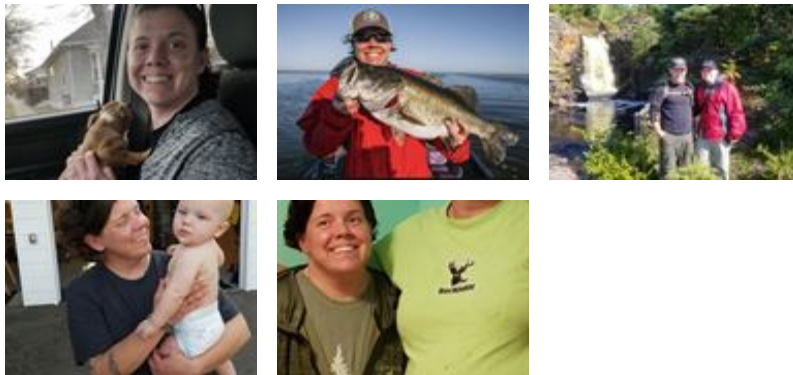
*My deepest sympathy,  
Jeanne (Pinckney) Sawtell*

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**Jeanne Sawtell** - March 04, 2022 at 12:59 PM



“ 221 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - March 04, 2022 at 10:57 AM



“ [https://www.shelleyfuneralchapels.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518"; target="\\_blank">Memorial Trees</a> was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.](https://www.shelleyfuneralchapels.com/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518)

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March 04, 2022 at 10:53 AM

BA

“ Bruce And Kathy Anderson lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky



Bruce and Kathy Anderson - March 04, 2022 at 09:32 AM

BC

“ Profound sadness and Deepest Sympathy, much Love, The Crowder Family❤️



Brian-Paul K. Crowder - March 04, 2022 at 09:15 AM

PT

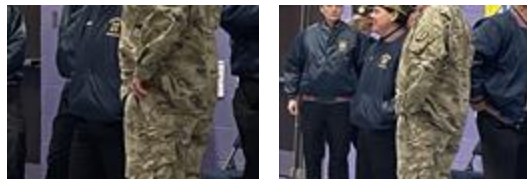
“ Pat Theis lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky



pat theis - March 04, 2022 at 07:40 AM

CF

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



cassie Fredregill - March 04, 2022 at 01:26 AM

SM

“ I'm not a person that hugs, I don't even like touching. That being said the first time I met Melissa was an exception.



On the way up to her with her friend, my Aunt, I was informed that she liked lighthouses, so I did my best to draw a lighthouse for her. I didn't feel like it was my best, didn't even think it was that good, but I thought we could at least get a laugh out of it.

I got out of the car and gave it to her and she seemed happy to see me like she already knew me, and then genuinely seemed to like my drawing. Something I thought was nice of her to do even if she would toss it in the trash once we left.

I went back to see my Aunt a while after, and would you believe it. I was told that the picture draw in a car on the way up to her was under the glass at her desk. Not tossed in the trash, not put aside to never be looked at again. Right under the glass of her desk.

She was someone who could be so welcoming, so ready to cherish something small, and absolutely ready to have fun and hang out. She taught me and my siblings a card game and sang karaoke with us. Made me laugh and somehow got me to hug within moments of meeting her.

*I'll miss you. I miss you.*

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**Samantha Medbery** - March 03, 2022 at 11:46 PM



“ A cute picture I found. 🍪 Cookie!



Kathy Marshik - March 03, 2022 at 10:11 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



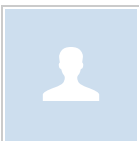
March 03, 2022 at 09:19 PM



“ Julie Copeland & Nancy Turner & Families purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



Julie Copeland & Nancy Turner & Families - March 03, 2022 at 08:47 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



March 03, 2022 at 07:49 PM

DP

“ *To Melissa’s family, my sincere condolences on the tremendous loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Rest In Peace Melissa.*



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**Deb Pederson** - March 03, 2022 at 07:14 PM

CF

“ *Connie Fenske lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky*



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**Connie Fenske** - March 03, 2022 at 06:41 PM



“ Words cannot express the hugs, sympathy, and prayers that go out to my dear friends' and family of Melissa. Melissa was the most wonderful human being, friend, Soldier and Veteran. I had the pleasure of sharing so many memories with this lady. We laughed so much that we had tears over and over again. I remember when she first joined, and we went to Red Lake to work on a housing project with the Engineers. She was so proud of driving the HUMV for the first time. So many stories about that trip. Then next we went to Iraq together. My little buddy along my side on the long, dusty, hot, crazy ride into Iraq in stuffed in that back of the HUMV. We were so full of dust and crabby. But we laughed so much because honestly, it was just funny at that point. We shared a tent for part of the deployment, worked in the Tactical Operations Center every day in Iraq. Then we worked together at Camp Ripley for many years. The woman was one of the hardest workers I ever met. Nothing stopped her or slowed her down. Everyone else came before her always. She was happy, cheerful, and had a heart bigger than gold. My favorite part was our laughs and her warm snuggly hugs. God bless this girl, her family and friends. Rest in peace Gussie!!! Love you and I know you are ok. I thank her for her service, her friendship and so many wonderful memories. I was blessed to have had her in my life.



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**Kathy Marshik** - March 03, 2022 at 06:31 PM

NT

“ Tim and I are so very sorry. Couple weeks ago we were going through old family movies and came across one of all three of the girls swimming down here at Tim’s folks place. Great memory. Sending you our love and prayers.  
Nancy & Tim

Nancy Turner - March 03, 2022 at 05:30 PM

KI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kimmy Isaak - March 03, 2022 at 05:24 PM

SF

“ Shawn Frey and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



Shawn Frey and Family - March 03, 2022 at 05:07 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.



March 03, 2022 at 05:01 PM

CW

“ *Carol Wallace lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky*



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**Carol Wallace** - March 03, 2022 at 04:49 PM

LH

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Leann Hamre** - March 03, 2022 at 04:15 PM

LH

“ *I was only able to spend time with Melissa twice. I liked her right away, she left a good impression on me and she made a big impact on me. I will always think of her as a friend. I'll miss seeing her.*



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**Leann Hamre** - March 03, 2022 at 04:04 PM

GZ

“ *Benny, Steve, Stephy, Michelle and families. Greg and I wish you peace to bring you comfort, courage to face the days ahead, and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. Melissa was a wonderfully caring and gentle soul with a generous and giving heart. Sending you all love and prayers.*



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**Greg and Wendy Zylka** - March 03, 2022 at 04:02 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.*



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March 03, 2022 at 02:57 PM

KI

“ *I loved Gussie like a sister. She will be missed beyond words. My heart is breaking. My heart goes out to Benny and the rest of the family.*

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**Kimmy Isaak** - March 03, 2022 at 11:51 AM

KI

*This is T Kimmy's fiance*

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**Kimmy Isaak** - March 03, 2022 at 11:52 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.*



March 03, 2022 at 11:23 AM



“ *Gussie was one of the most loyal, kind, best people I've ever known. You are loved beyond words. I just can't imagine my life without you. Rest in peace my friend. I love you.*

**Kimmy Isaak** - March 03, 2022 at 11:23 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.*



March 03, 2022 at 11:22 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky.*



March 03, 2022 at 10:41 AM

MH

“ Mike And Sue Holtz sent a virtual gift in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky



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**Mike and Sue Holtz** - March 03, 2022 at 09:42 AM

KH

“ Kelly Harris lit a candle in memory of Melissa "Lou Lou" Teresa Waskosky



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**Kelly Harris** - March 03, 2022 at 06:47 AM

CK

“ Benny, Steve, Stephe, Michelle, and Family, Words cannot express the sorrow I feel on hearing of her passing. I have so many wonderful memories of our days of playing softball in high school and our time serving together in the military. Her laugh still echoes in my head as I've been going through photos of us. Heaven has gained another Angel. My deepest sympathy to you all. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.



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**Carmille Klimek** - March 03, 2022 at 12:36 AM

SS

*With sincere and heartfelt sympathy to Melissa's family and all who loved her.*

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**Sharon Schlangen** - March 03, 2022 at 07:56 PM