



Persephone Hartrich

June 21, 2006 - January 16, 2025

Persephone Palmer Hartrich, beloved daughter and sister, died on January 16, 2025, at age 18.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on June 21, 2006, Persephone was a smiley and rambunctious baby who would attempt to climb any structure within reach. As a child, Persephone would often eat five to six apples per day and had very strong feelings about different apple varieties. This led to a fun family project of recording apple reviews, complete with a theme song recorded by Nate and the kids. They were posted on YouTube to be enjoyed by many family and friends. She was a loquacious and creative toddler and kid, constantly engaged in imaginative play.

Growing up, Persephone took an interest in a wide variety of things including dinosaurs, Bakugan, Calvin and Hobbes, Harry Potter, Pokémon, Doctor Who, and Homestuck. While she had many phases of interest, her obsessive love for her two cats Lupin and Sirius was steadfast.

Persephone was a recent graduate of Oak Park and River Forest High School. She was an active member of the Marching Huskies color guard. Persephone was interested in different languages and immersed herself in Japanese classes. She even created and wrote in her own languages. Her enthusiasm for words led her to begin writing both a novel and a graphic

novel.

Persephone was fascinated by everything from quantum physics to cultural criticism to world history. She was bright and clever, able to hold a shocking amount of facts in her mind. She would go on YouTube deep-dives and could retain all of what she learned. And as Persephone grew, so did her interests. She loved culinary classes, games, science, philosophy, candy, scary movies, and a huge variety of music. She had a quirky Instagram account dedicated to posting trail cam photos of deer, and others where she shared progress on creative projects, drawings, and poems. She went on frequent excursions to Thatcher Woods Forest Preserve, collecting bones or building structures with her friends.

Persephone was deeply loyal to her friends and loved to cook for them. Her vast imagination and interest in developing stories led her to write Dungeons & Dragons campaigns for her friends.

She relished designing costumes for herself every Halloween. She was also a video game developer, game designer, illustrator, and musician. At home she was often seen breaking out into silly dances. She had a distinctive voice and manner of speaking that we loved.

Persephone will be remembered for her intelligence, kind heart, and great laugh.

Persephone is survived by her parents Laura and Nathan Hartrich, and her brother Simon.

Memorial service 3pm (visitation begins 2pm) Saturday, January 25, at Unity Temple, 875 Lake St., Oak Park, IL 60301. Reception to follow.

Persephone's body will be buried privately, prior to the public memorial event.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to www.gamersoutreach.org or www.afsp.org.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-370-2959 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **25**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Unity Temple

875 Lake St.

Oak Park, IL 60301

<http://www.unitytemple.org>

2pm visitation 3pm memorial service 4pm reception

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

January 28, 2025 at 10:45 PM



“ Naresh C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

Naresh C. - January 25, 2025 at 04:49 PM



“ Gregory L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

Gregory L. - January 25, 2025 at 02:40 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I am incredibly saddened by the loss of sweet Persephone. I was her teacher for Creative Writing, and she briefly joined our afterschool club. Her talent and love for writing was undeniable. I feel incredibly lucky to have known her through what seemed to be a passion of hers.

Brianna Martinez

Brianna Martinez - January 25, 2025 at 12:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

January 25, 2025 at 10:43 AM



“ Paula O. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

Paula O. - January 25, 2025 at 09:41 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



January 24, 2025 at 03:17 PM



“ RXO Central Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

RXO Central Team - January 24, 2025 at 02:48 PM



“ RXO Central Team purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



RXO Central Team - January 24, 2025 at 02:48 PM

WC

“ Wes and Sue Coulter purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



Wes and Sue Coulter - January 24, 2025 at 12:47 PM

FF

“ From your colorguard family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



From your colorguard family - January 24, 2025 at 09:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

January 23, 2025 at 06:44 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



January 22, 2025 at 04:47 PM

VF

“ *My deepest condolences. I was so heartbroken reading this. I taught Persephone in English her freshman year. I remember her as wise, brave, and very talented. She was a role model and will always be remembered.*

-Velia Del Fiacco

Velia Del Fiacco - January 22, 2025 at 03:18 PM

JA

“ *Wow, this is gut wrenching. I taught Persephone her senior year in Introduction to Psychology. I always enjoyed her willingness to share personal stories. Persephone was so bright and such a cool person.*

*Sending love to you all.
Janelle Smithson*

Janelle - January 21, 2025 at 06:15 PM

LE

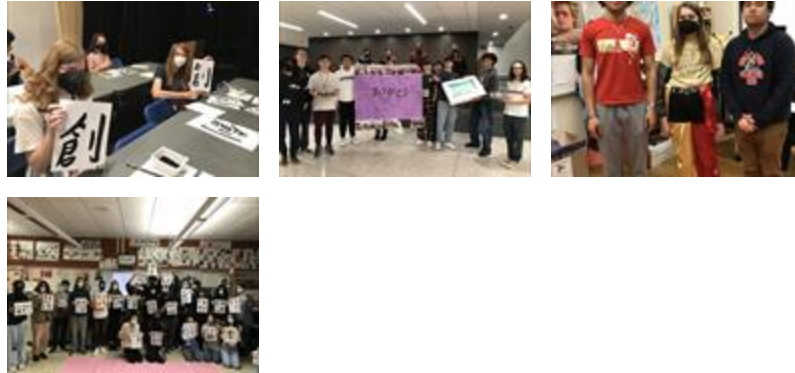
“ *Love from , Leslie and Ellen purchased the County Basket Blooms for the family of Persephone Hartrich.*



Love from , Leslie and Ellen - January 21, 2025 at 05:02 PM

YS

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



YS - January 21, 2025 at 03:36 PM

RM

“ RXO PMO & Product Team Members purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



RXO PMO & Product Team Members - January 21, 2025 at 01:35 PM

TS

“ The Epley-Wolbeck Group, Morgan Stanley purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



The Epley-Wolbeck Group, Morgan Stanley - January 21, 2025 at 11:38 AM

AH

“ I am so saddened by this news. I taught Persephone as a freshman in World History during the pandemic. I remember her creative spirit and her concern for the welfare of others. My deepest condolences to your family.

Amy Hill

Amy V Hill - January 21, 2025 at 10:02 AM

TE

“ So so sorry for your loss. I knew Persephone from Marching Band (fall of 2021). From the many photos I took that season, these two pictures stand out the most. I hope they provide you fond memories of a happier time.

- Tim Eastman



Tim Eastman - January 21, 2025 at 01:18 AM

LK

I'm so very sorry for your loss, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family during this difficult time.

Loretta Kirksey

Loretta Kirlsey - January 21, 2025 at 11:35 AM

RK

“ So very very sorry for your loss. To Deb, Jim, Nathan and family, I have so many fond memories of you and will be praying for you.
Robin Knapp

Robin Knapp - January 20, 2025 at 09:36 PM

RT

“ *Laura and family,*

I am so sorry to hear this horrible news. I did not know Persephone, but I knew you, Laura - you and your family will be in my prayers. May Persephone's memory be a blessing.

-Ryan Thomure

Ryan Thomure - January 20, 2025 at 08:27 PM

SC

“ *Sonia, Latha & Craig planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.*

Sonia, Latha & Craig - January 20, 2025 at 08:25 PM

SC

“ *Sonia, Latha & Craig planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.*

Sonia, Latha & Craig - January 20, 2025 at 08:24 PM

CM

“ *So sorry to hear the news. May Persephone rest in peace.*

Charles Meyerson - January 20, 2025 at 07:11 PM

BE

“ *Nate, Laura & Simon, we haven't stopped praying for you since we heard. We're so sorry for this terrible loss. ~ Micah & Becky Williamson and family*

Becky - January 20, 2025 at 06:23 PM

YF

“ Your RXO Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



Your RXO Family - January 20, 2025 at 09:22 AM

MJ

“ Much love, Spirit and Jonathan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

Much love, Spirit and Jonathan - January 19, 2025 at 09:58 PM

MJ

“ Much love, Spirit and Jonathan purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



Much love, Spirit and Jonathan - January 19, 2025 at 09:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

January 19, 2025 at 09:01 PM

ER

“ Emily R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

Emily R. - January 19, 2025 at 05:37 PM

SC

“ Prayers have been sent and continue to be sent for all of your family. With tears in our eyes, we grieve your loss with you. Can't wait to hug you all in person when we see you. I was looking forward to learning more about culinary school and favorite recipes. Maybe you will share a favorite recipe or food loved by Persephone. HUGS! Sheri & Wild Bill

Sheri Collins - January 19, 2025 at 03:46 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Persephone Hartrich.



January 19, 2025 at 03:09 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Persephone Palmer Hartrich.

January 19, 2025 at 03:09 PM



“ Words alone could never capture the love, compassion, support and strength getting sent to her family. Her brightness was a gift that we will always remember. Her light will live on in all those she touched. May the memories and support lift her family and friends. So much sympathy. John, Cindy, John and Michael Michelotti

Cindy - January 19, 2025 at 12:06 AM



“ Please know that our thoughts are with you during this difficult time. Our hearts ache for your family as you navigate this loss. Persephone’s light burned strong - I still remember her performing spoken word at the high school - and we’re sorry to hear that it was extinguished too early. May you be comforted by amazing memories you will cherish forever.
Lois, Ainsley, Elise and Andrew Borel

Lois Borel - January 18, 2025 at 07:53 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Team Inclusive Funeral Care - January 18, 2025 at 06:35 PM