



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH, CITY OF KETCHIKAN, AND CITY OF SAXMAN

EOC UPDATE: CONDOLENCES FOR LOSS OF LOVED ONE

Date: December 19, 2020
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
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For Immediate Release

We have been informed by the family of resident Julie Wasuli that she has passed away due to illness related to COVID-19. Ms. Wasuli was transferred from Ketchikan's COVID unit to a hospital in Bellingham on November 16. The members of the Ketchikan EOC extend our sincere condolences to her family and friends.

"This loss is very great for our community. We have lost a neighbor, a friend, a sister, a mother. Our community is very saddened, and we appreciate the prayers of support," said City of Saxman Mayor Seludo.

Borough Mayor Dial has offered his condolences by saying, "It was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of Julie Wasuli. My hope and daily prayers have always been that we as a community could get through this pandemic without a single citizen dying. My heart goes out to the family and I ask that we pray for their strength, comfort and God's protection on our island."

City of Ketchikan Mayor Sivertsen also expressed his sympathy, "I am so sorry to hear the news of this loss. My heart goes out to the family and friends and the entire community. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers."

We feel it is important to share this information with the community as early as possible. However, please note that the Ketchikan COVID-19 Dashboard and case counts will not reflect this death until we receive official notice of the death (including cause) through Alaska Public Health. The process for official notification can be lengthy and may take several weeks.

The EOC continues to urge all citizens to follow the recommendations for safe social distancing, mask wearing, and hygiene. Please take the extra precautions to protect yourself and your loved ones. While most people who get this virus are able to recover with few symptoms or long-term effects, there are many who do not fully recover from COVID-19. Please stay diligent for the sake of everyone in our community, and especially our most vulnerable loved ones.

#takecareketchikan #stayhealthyketchikan #staystrongketchikan

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