



## Amanda L. McDonough

April 28, 2026

Amanda (Ackerman) McDonough, 36, of Portsmouth, RI, passed away on April 28, 2026, after an 8.5-year battle with myxoid liposarcoma.

Born July 13, 1989, in Newport, RI, she was the daughter of Andy and Debra Ackerman, and the wife of Kevin McDonough.

She was predeceased by her grandparents, Jerome and Dena Ackerman, and Glenn and Dolores Sowell.

She is survived by her parents, husband, brother Brett Ackerman (Jennifer), sister Kate Ackerman, nieces and nephews (Zoe, Shay, Charlie, Patrick, Keegan, Fallyn and Ethan), adored dogs (Baili and Callan) and many other beloved friends and family members.

Amanda attended St. Michael's Country Day School in Newport, RI, The Holderness School in Holderness, NH and Washington University in St. Louis, MO, where she earned a BFA in Fashion Design.

Amanda was a designer at Garnett Hill before rejoining the Ackerman family business, Scales & Shells, as Director of Operations and Marketing. Most recently, Amanda was a freelance designer, working part-time for IDC/The Newport Experience hospitality company.

Amanda moved through the world with a restless curiosity that made everything feel worth exploring. That showed up early, from competitive ski racing to becoming fluent in French during a high school year abroad in Rennes, France, and carried through into the way she approached everyday life. She later developed a passion for crafting, cooking, and creating a home with her husband, Kevin. She had an instinct not just for making things, but for making them meaningful: a thoughtfully planned gathering, a beautifully designed house for her parents, a meal that brought people together around the table. She loved travel, crossword puzzles with her sister, and the quiet satisfaction of figuring things out. At the center of it all was a desire to learn, build and spend time with the people who mattered to her.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Sarcoma Foundation of America in Amanda's name: <https://curesarcoma.org/>

A private Celebration of Life will be held for family and close friends.

# Tribute Wall



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of  
Amanda L. McDonough.



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