



Bret Kevin Lafler

August 2, 1965 - March 15, 2015

Bret Kevin Lafler, 49, passed away March 15, 2015 in Kansas City, MO after a heroic battle with cancer. He was born August 2, 1965 in Ionia, MI. A devoted husband, father, brother, cousin, uncle, great uncle and friend. Bret was preceded in death by his father Gary R. Lafler.

He is survived by his loving wife Rhonda, daughter Meagan, son Dustin (Laura), mother Nancy and step-father Howard Dumond, brother Jodey (Gladys), sisters; Jill Stigall and Buffie (Kevin) Luhring, and many family and friends.

Bret graduated from Lakewood High School in 1983. He served in the Air Force for 10 years and worked for General Motors for 16 years in Lansing, MI and Kansas City, MO. Bret lived a very active life. He loved great food, and watching sports and movies. Bret was an avid outdoorsman who loved to hunt and fish. He especially enjoyed sharing his love of music with others.

Cremation has taken place with a Memorial Service being planned for Saturday, March 21, 2015 at 2 p.m. at Cunningham Acres (the Grange Hall), 4980 Tupper Lake Road (M-50), Lake Odessa, MI 48849. The family will greet visitors from 1-2 p.m. If you wish to bring flowers, orange was Bret's favorite color. A private ceremony will take place at a later date.

"God knows I'll see you, see you on the other side." -- Ozzy Osbourne

Fond memories and words of comfort may be shared at www.cashattfamilyfunerals.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Bret Kevin Lafler*

October 04, 2023 at 10:39 PM



“ *I am grateful for the life of Mr. Lafler. Thanks to his service and to the service of others in our armed forces, my family and I have been able to lead our lives in freedom and peace.*

Bob in Overland Park, Kansas - August 31, 2015 at 05:20 PM



“ *Kim & Joe lit a candle in memory of Bret Kevin Lafler*



Kim & Joe - March 21, 2015 at 06:38 AM



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bret Kevin Lafler.*



March 20, 2015 at 09:33 AM



“Bret never met a stranger. There were two kinds of people in this world, Bret's friends and the friends he hadn't met yet. Bret was helpful and knowledgeable and he frequently put these two qualities to work on behalf of anyone who needed them. Bret was kind and thoughtful, he once put together a hard drive of karaoke music for me with songs he knew I loved and songs he felt I needed to love (and a few fun things for my husband too). He then set up the hard drive, with a mixer, two speakers and microphone so I could sing at home when I wasn't feeling up to going out. Bret never did anything half way, he was driven to create excellence and made things look beautiful, made them sound beautiful, and brought his enthusiasm to everything he did. Bret was sharing, he shared his joy of music, or a wonderful restaurant, he shared compliments and they were always genuine. Bret appreciated the world, from a perfect pizza crust my husband made, to the perfect tones of a rare old, record he'd been thrilled to discover in someone's garage. Thrilled, that's a perfect word to describe Bret. He was thrilled with life and all the joys he discovered in the world and let everyone who knew him share those thrills.



Karen Schaefferkoetter - March 19, 2015 at 11:56 PM

JW

“ THE BRET WE KNEW

*Bret never saw a problem he thought he couldn't solve,
And he tackled every obstacle with hard work and resolve.
When an ice storm tore the limbs down and covered all our lawn,
Bret was there to lend a hand; and, in no time, they were gone.*

*Bret's appetites were legend, and his love of life was grand.
Huge hopes and dreams and crazy schemes were talked about and
planned.*

*It seems that Bret lived twice as much as anyone we knew.
Most folks could not do half as much if they lived to ninety-two.*

*He collected and recorded every song we ever heard.
He knew every tune and tempo and likely every word.
So when we hear those speakers blasting songs we won't forget,
We'll be listening to the music from that playlist built by Bret.*

*Of all his varied interests, we've mentioned just a few
He lived to the max and these are the facts of the nephew that we
knew.*

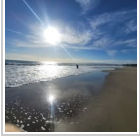
*With all our love,
Uncle John and Aunt Pattie Warner*

John and Pattie Warner - March 19, 2015 at 02:50 AM

 Wayne
Turner


“ *Just a great guy. He was always willing to help anyone in need. I will
miss you.*

Wayne Turner - March 18, 2015 at 01:32 PM



“ When I accepted a job working with Americo about a year and a half ago, little did I know that my life would be so enriched with the wonderful friendship that evolved spending time with Bret and Rhonda. I cherish the memories of the karaoke bar where I was amazed at his singing talent. AC/DC TNT will never sound the same to me again. I fondly remember his joy as he proudly showed off each new improvement he had made in their home during of my visits. His generosity and enthusiasm touched my heart. I look forward to seeing him again to hear him sing once more and excitedly tell us what great experiences that he is having in Heaven. Until then, I know that he is having an amazing time because that's what he did here on Earth. He's just in a different place now waiting to tell us every detail.

Gerri McGowan - March 17, 2015 at 11:43 PM


Rhonda
Lafler

“ Bret, You were the light of my life and the song in my soul. I will miss you deeply, but know that one day I shall see you again.



Rhonda Lafler - March 17, 2015 at 10:44 PM

LI

“ I first met Bret & Rhonda a little over 2 years ago when they took ownership of the home I was in. Great couple; great people! Bret was always very proud of all the new changes he made to the home. He excitedly took my friend and I through each room and I remember him saying that this would be the home they lived in forever. I knew that my once home couldn't have been in better hands. Rest in peace Bret. My thoughts are with Rhonda and Bret's family at this time.

Lisa - March 17, 2015 at 09:40 PM

MA

“ On the day before I met Bret, Rhonda called me and asked me not to interrogate him because she truly liked him and thought he was the one for her. I promised I would not and in turn was able to see a wonderful true love form between them. I am so grateful to have known Bret. The love he had for my friend, his children, family and friends was evident any time I spoke to him. I could not have asked for a better man to be my friend’s husband. Thank you Bud Man, may God keep you safe until we see you again.
Mary

MARY ALLEN - March 17, 2015 at 09:21 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Margaret - March 17, 2015 at 06:30 PM



“ Healing & Hope Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Bret Kevin Lafler.



March 17, 2015 at 05:57 PM

MK

“Bret and I met in 1999 after both arriving in Kansas City from different plants in Michigan. I was only 22 and had just moved away from home and out on my own for the first time. We lived in the same apartment complex and Bret was always quick to offer support, guidance, and hospitality. Bret was a very funny and positive person who always had a joke to tell, and I am saddened to hear of his passing. It seems as though God likes to take the good people early for some reason. Condolences to all of Bret's family, friends, and loved ones.
-Mike Keizer

Mike Keizer - March 17, 2015 at 03:41 PM

TA

“Bret was a great person, that just lit up the room whenever he was around. His energy was contagious and immediately brings light to any room he entered. I enjoyed hanging his him and Rhonda, and have some great memories of him that will never leave my heart! I am sure he is jamming in heaven! t

Tawanda - March 17, 2015 at 01:51 PM

MC

“Bret was a classmate and friend. He had such a great sense of humour and love for others. He will be deeply missed. My prayers and thoughts are with the family and friends.

Maximilian Cancino - March 17, 2015 at 01:36 PM



“ *Brett,*

Thank you for being the type of uncle who rode with me on the highest of roller coasters.

Your laughter and support will be missed. Rest in peace.

*Love,
Nick*

Nick Butler - March 17, 2015 at 01:15 PM



“ *Rhonda, Meagan, Dustin and family, thank you for the priviledge of taking care of Bret in his last days. Even though he was at the hospice house to receive care from us, he brought smiles to those of us taking care of him. I miss you all, Casper too! (We won't forget our panic when we though Casper made his way out of Bret's room, we should've known Casper wouldn't leave his Dad's side.) I am thinking of you all and wishing you comfort and peace.*

Rhonda Rupe - March 17, 2015 at 11:31 AM



“ *DeAnna Gardner Barnhill lit a candle in memory of Bret Kevin Lafler*



DeAnna Gardner Barnhill - March 17, 2015 at 10:10 AM



Sending love and prayers to the family and friends...always remember his wonderful smile!!

DeAnna Gardner Barnhill - March 17, 2015 at 10:11 AM

JR

“ *Bret, we shared many good times, laughs, and fun while stationed at KI. It is my honor to have known you! RIP*

Julie (Slak) Ronzani - March 17, 2015 at 08:27 AM

LI

“ *Lisa lit a candle in memory of Bret Kevin Lafler*



lisa - March 17, 2015 at 07:34 AM

LI

miss you your sis, lisa always remember your fun loving nature

lisa - March 17, 2015 at 07:35 AM

LI

ALSO THE MUSIC HE NEW SO MUCH AND WAS VERY GOOD AT SINGING I WILL MISS THAT THE MOST AS WELL AS HOW HE LIGHT UP A ROOM WHEN HE WAS THERE , I KNOW HE IS PROBABALY SINGING TNT RIGHT NOW ON HIS JOURNEY TO SEE GOD. DEAR BRET WE WILL MEET AGAIN AND YOU WILL BE MISSED

LISA - March 18, 2015 at 01:15 PM

KA

“ *My deepest sympathies to the family Bret will be greatly missed*

kate - March 17, 2015 at 01:18 AM

CW

“ Thoughts & Prayers with You Nancy, and Your Family! Larry & I are So Sorry For Your Loss. The Loss Of A Child is Unlike Any Other Loss. God Be With You!
Larry & Carol Wetherbee

Carol Wetherbee - March 16, 2015 at 11:44 PM

JL

“ I met Bret while on active duty at RAF Upper Heyford. We recently crossed paths again on Facebook after 25 plus years. I ended up calling him and we chatted like we never skipped a beat. Still upbeat, full of laughter and energy. Rest easy my friend..it was a pleasure to have served with you in the USAF.



John Lafond - March 16, 2015 at 09:08 PM

JD

“ It's been years since I talked with Bret, but I remember him as an energetic, fun loving young man. My condolences and prayers for healing go out to his family and friends.

Jeff DeJongh - March 16, 2015 at 08:38 PM

WH

“ Prayers for peace and comfort

WD and Linda Hawley - March 16, 2015 at 08:33 PM