



## James "Jamie" T. Laird III

August 25, 1959 - October 30, 2024

James "Jamie" Laird, 65 year old resident of Little Falls, MN passed away Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at his home in Little Falls, MN. A funeral service will be held at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN. A visitation will be held from 2:00-4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN. Caring for Jamie and his family is the LeMieur Funeral Home in Little Falls, MN.

James (Jamie) Tyler Laird III, age 65, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, October 30, 2024 after a short but courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Preceded in death by parents Dr. James Laird, Jr. and Geraldine Laird. He is survived by loving wife, Dawn; son, Zak; sister, Becky Stephens (Brad) of Little Falls; stepdaughters Kelly Wittenbel (Brandon) of Wayzata, MN; Kady Lone of Los Angeles, CA; Christina Johnson (Bob) of Cushing, MN; and his beloved dog, Louie. Jamie arrived in the state of New York in 1959 as a result of his mother and father meeting on a trolley car in New York City. The three of them settled in Little Falls in 1963. After the arrival of his little sister the family was complete in 1964. By the time Jamie graduated from Little Falls Community High School in 1978 he had made many friends. He earned a black belt in Karate and bought his first car from the earnings from various jobs. Jamie was a hard worker from early on in life. After graduation, he joined the United States Marine Corps. After a stint with

the Marines, he worked out west for 8 years for an oil and gas company exploring, drilling, and planting explosives. Jamie eventually returned to Little Falls where he met and was united in marriage to Gisela Trutwin. They eventually gave birth to Zak, the apple of Jamie's eye. Over the years he worked in plumbing and heating, law enforcement, a volunteer firefighter, city politics and teaching people axe throwing (probably his favorite job). Jamie also enjoyed his years as a youth hockey coach for his son, Zak. He enjoyed reading, watching movies, listening to rock-n-roll music, and last but not least he LOVED Chinese buffets. Ultimately Jamie and his first wife divorced and years later he met his soulmate, the love of his life, Dawn. They were married on June 15, 2019 and together with each other every step of the way. Jamie retired in 2018 and loved life. He was an avid outdoorsman, loved to fish with his high school buddies, enjoyed his camper with a morning campfire and a cup of coffee. He was an avid weightlifter, ran many marathons, master in martial arts, and a first-rate handyman working on projects and helping other people out. A free spirit who enjoyed taking long rides on his tricked-out Harley Davidson Roadglide affectionately known as "Black Bart" and craved the freedom of the open road. Jamie had an infectious smile and laugh and could talk anyone's ear off. As a young lad, he always dreamed of being a cowboy and living in the Southwest. That dream came true when he and Dawn purchased their retirement home in Las Cruces, NM the summer of 2023. They spent only a short 8 months there before he was diagnosed with cancer in May 2024. They made the decision to return to Little Falls permanently due to much better healthcare and being close to family and friends. He will be deeply missed by many. It was Jamie's wish to be cremated.

There are so many people to thank, but a special thanks of gratitude goes out to CentraCare Hospice care team, Becky and Brad Stephens, Kelly and Brandon Wittnebel, Kady Lone, Donna and Brad Beaty, Bruce and Carol Begalke, and Mike and Terry Lehrke for their many kindnesses and support

during Jamie's illness. God bless you Jamie and rest in peace. Jamie's Celebration of Life will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at Shelley Funeral Chapels in Little Falls, with visitation from 2:00-4:00 p.m. followed by a 4:00 p.m. Chapel service.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - November 07, 2024 at 04:43 PM



“ *Love- Melissa & Jeff Jewett and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.*



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**Love- Melissa & Jeff Jewett and family** - November 10, 2024 at 10:21 AM



“ *69 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - November 07, 2024 at 10:41 AM

TK

“ Todd Klemme lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Todd Klemme - November 06, 2024 at 08:53 PM

TK

Jamie was the "real karate kid.". Harold Katz, Jamie and I would carpool to the St Cloud Karate Club. Lots of great memories! I am thankful that we could spend time at the 45th class reunion last year reminiscing about the past and being up with the present. Jamie had many friends and he will be missed.

Todd Klemme - November 06, 2024 at 09:01 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.

November 06, 2024 at 02:04 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.



November 06, 2024 at 02:04 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.



November 05, 2024 at 03:42 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.

November 05, 2024 at 03:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Bruce & Carol 6/25/2005** - November 05, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.



November 04, 2024 at 05:06 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.

November 04, 2024 at 05:06 PM



“ Condolences to family and friends of Jamie. I worked & trained with him at Allina. We had a load of laughs and a ton of fun. Even when we had tragic times, Jamie always found a way to help us out of a bad day. I moved on and moved out of Minnesota but Cherish the memories and friendship with Jamie. He has left a lasting impression on those that worked with him and around him. Jamie will be greatly missed

Ted K

Ted K - November 03, 2024 at 06:57 PM



“ Jamie was one of the most sincere, well liked security guard at Mercy that I knew. My condolences to the family. He will be missed.

ellen Molskness - November 03, 2024 at 05:03 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce & Carol - November 03, 2024 at 12:56 PM

BH

“ *Brad Hilmerson lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III*



Brad Hilmerson - November 03, 2024 at 07:37 AM

BK

“ *Semper Fi*



Brian Killeaney - November 02, 2024 at 11:44 PM

JS

“ *John & Janell Staab lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III*



John & Janell Staab - November 02, 2024 at 09:01 PM

MC

“ *Mike & Denise Czech lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III*



Mike & Denise Czech - November 02, 2024 at 08:43 PM

BB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bradley Beaty - November 02, 2024 at 10:55 AM

BB

Our fishing buddy !!  
We will surely miss you my dear friend ❤️

Bradley Beaty - November 02, 2024 at 10:57 AM

JH

“ Jeff Hoppe lit a candle in memory of James  
"Jamie" T. Laird III



Jeff Hoppe - November 01, 2024 at 08:33 PM



“ Brittany Levinski lit a candle in memory of  
James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Brittany Levinski - November 01, 2024 at 06:01 PM

TL

“ Tom Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Tom Ledbetter - November 01, 2024 at 05:10 PM

PF

“ Pat Ferguson lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Pat Ferguson - November 01, 2024 at 04:58 PM

MS

“ Mark E Savage lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Mark E Savage - November 01, 2024 at 04:07 PM

CT

“ Cathy Theis lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Cathy Theis - November 01, 2024 at 03:47 PM

BR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bruce - November 01, 2024 at 02:25 PM

RL

“ Roger Lashinski lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Roger Lashinski - November 01, 2024 at 02:10 PM

JA

“ Jo A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.

Jo A. - November 01, 2024 at 11:22 AM

JB

“ I only met Jamie once and his big personality and warm smile lit up the entire restaurant. I loved how he and Donnie were together - telling stories and laughing - you could just feel their happiness. My deepest condolences.

Jo Ann Bauer - November 01, 2024 at 11:21 AM

BC

“ *Becky Kay- Court lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III*



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**Becky Kay- Court** - November 01, 2024 at 11:12 AM

CA

“ *Chris Anderson lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III*



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**Chris Anderson** - November 01, 2024 at 10:54 AM

LP

“ *I didn't know Jamie personally, but I did know how happy he made Donnie. He gave her so much love and joy.*

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**LuAnn Propp** - November 01, 2024 at 10:38 AM

PO

“ *Patty Olson lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III*



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**Patty Olson** - November 01, 2024 at 09:50 AM

GZ

“ Greg And Wendy Zylka lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Greg and Wendy Zylka - November 01, 2024 at 09:39 AM

TH

“ So sorry to hear about losing Jamie, my 1978 classmate. Jamie was a great guy, always friendly and good natured. Years ago, he installed a new plenum for my new wood stove. The new stove didn't line up with the old ductwork, so it required a contorted sheet metal plenum with goofy angles. But Jamie made it perfectly in one try! That's when I learned of his excellent craftsmanship. I think of him "warmly" when I put wood in the stove and see his excellent handiwork! My sympathies to his family. May God have mercy on his soul and give you peace at this difficult time.

Tom Hanowski - October 31, 2024 at 10:04 PM

LC

“ Laura Ploof Cullinan lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



Laura Ploof Cullinan - October 31, 2024 at 09:37 PM

KK

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Jamie will always be remembered for his kindness and his beautiful smile. Rest in peace friend.



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**Kathy Garrison Kloss** - October 31, 2024 at 08:39 PM

DH

“ Denise Harstad lit a candle in memory of James "Jamie" T. Laird III



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**Denise Harstad** - October 31, 2024 at 08:05 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James "Jamie" T. Laird III.

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October 31, 2024 at 06:43 PM