



Matthew Ian James

SEP 22, 1964 - MAR 30, 2026



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Matthew Ian James

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It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of a beloved father, grandfather, son, brother, and friend. He will be remembered for his kindness, his strength, and the genuine love he showed to everyone in his life.

Matthew Ian James, 61, of Amherst, Ohio passed away on March 30, 2026. A lifelong Lorain County resident, he was born on September 22, 1964 in Lorain, Ohio. He is survived by his loving daughter Melody (Matt) Kneisel; cherished grandchildren Luna and Grady; dear mother Clara (Ianni) James; sisters Kathey (Mark) Shadley and Athena Scrofano; and his feline companion Rosa. He was preceded in death by his father Robert James.

He had a passion for flying planes, something that held special meaning as it connected him to cherished memories of being in the sky with his own father. Those moments stayed close to his heart and reflected the importance he placed on family and connection. He also found a sense of peace and freedom in riding his motorcycle, embracing the open road and the quiet moments it brought him.

Matthew worked in the bail bonds profession, where he demonstrated dedication and a willingness to help others during difficult times. His caring nature extended far beyond his work—he was someone who would do anything for those around him.

Family meant everything to him. He was a devoted father and a proud and loving grandfather to his two beautiful grandchildren who brought him so much joy. He also shared a close and meaningful bond with his mother and his two sisters, cherishing the love and connection of his family throughout his life.

His faith was at the center of his life. He believed strongly in keeping God first and lived each day with that principle in mind. His words and example served as a reminder that faith can carry a person through even the most difficult times.



Obituary

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He will be remembered for his positive spirit, his generous heart, and the way he made others feel cared for and valued. His legacy of love, faith, and strength will continue to live on in all who knew him.

He will be deeply missed and forever remembered.



Tribute Wall

Matthew Ian James
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Charles D. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Matthew.



April 3 at 7:36 PM



Chuck Dixon April 3 at 7:57 PM

Nikki and I planted a tree in honor of our dear friend Matt. He was a solid guy and we'll miss him dearly. He spoke highly of his daughter often and was a man of his word. Rest in peace Matt.



Sensereha Thomas lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

All of them. 39 years of them. Letting me use his home to get ready for my wedding. So generous so loving so caring and full of joy I miss you already

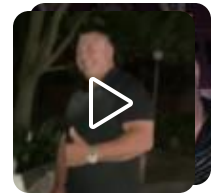


April 3 at 3:28 PM



Sensereha Thomas shared a photo and a video to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Always laughing 🤪 always cracking on each other

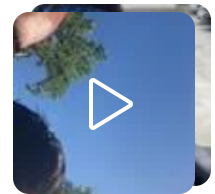


April 1 at 7:49 PM



Sensereha Thomas shared a photo and a video to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Riding on his motorcycle. Or laying out on the sun always comparing who was darker. ❤️

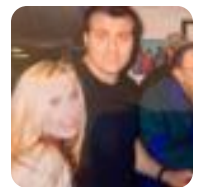


April 3 at 3:23 PM



Sensereha Thomas shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

We was one of the best. He was my big brother to all that knew me. He was my protector my friend and I will live with him on my heart ♥ until we meet again in heaven. 🙏 I will miss you every day of my life. You will always be my MATTU ALWAYS. I love you



April 3 at 3:18 PM



Tribute Wall

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LW

Lynne Wagner lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

So lucky we lived right around the corner growing up. Far too many memories to pick just one. Matt was more than just a cousin- he was like my brother, he was my friend, and a piece of my heart. I'm so grateful for our childhood and the cherished memories we created together. Love, Lynne

April 3 at 1:40 PM



JJ

John Johnson lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

April 3 at 10:12 AM



JJ

John Johnson lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

April 3 at 10:12 AM



JJ

John Johnson lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

April 3 at 10:11 AM



PM

Patty Maslyk-Miller posted:

I have many memories with Matt in our younger years. Riding on the back of his motorcycle, sitting in our room playing our Miniture pool table, listening to music in his room and having a few fires in his backyard. Matt was someone I loved very much. I love the whole family. Me and my twin sister Theresa both crushed on him for many years. He was always so happy that we remember his birthday every year. I am so sad that you are gone here on this earth Matt. We will see each other in Heaven on day. I love you my friend.

April 2 at 9:40 PM



Tribute Wall

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Rick Furci lit a candle in honor of Matthew.



April 2 at 1:59 PM



Eric Lockhart lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

I am so sorry to learn of this, been a friend of the family for many years, though I had not seen Matt since I left primary care 12 years ago. My condolences to Clara, Athena, and Kathy. May he rest in peace



April 2 at 11:34 AM



Christopher Zocchi posted:

Rest in Peace bro, this sad news traveled down to Jacksonville Florida where I have lived for 40 years but always thought of my good friends up in Lorain and would visit when I came home to see family. Matt, you and I shared some really cool times. Good times and a lot of laughter. You were taken way too early...God must have truly needed you. Rest in Peace, Matt James.Christopher Zocchi

April 2 at 11:21 AM



Lana Karnow shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Gone way to young , such a happy , always smiling great person . Rest in peace Matt 🦋



April 2 at 10:17 AM



Arlene Traxler posted:

Matt was in my science classes at king he was very kind person who made me laugh ! He is an angel with Jesus now!

April 1 at 10:42 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Matthew.



April 1 at 9:54 PM



Tribute Wall

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SC

Scotti Campana lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

Mathew is my first friend and my longest friend. I met him when I was five years old. He was my neighbor his mother and his two sisters help raise me. He spent so much time together probably more than any other person that I know. He was always very protective with me like a little brother, we accepted each other for our strength and our weaknesses and we loved each other. Our main common denominator was loving Jesus Christ so I know he's in heaven and I know I'll be with him one day, him and I walking in the cool of the day. I love you, Mathew until we meet again, brother. ❤️ I will never forget you and I will send to you always of all the wonderful fun times that we share 🍷⭐🙏 Love, Scotti



April 1 at 9:52 PM

JT

Jeanne Riley Tishma posted:

As an older cousin, we spent a lot of time together as his mother Clara and my mother Mary were sisters. I remember loving to babysit him in his little yellow one-piece PJ when he was one, two years old. He will forever be my little cousin, Massy. Rest in peace, my dear. Jeanne Riley Tishma.

April 1 at 9:32 PM

R

Rick Furci April 2 at 2:04 PM

We loved Matt, he was very caring and would come to Lake view park to visit us when he could. We will never forget the time a lot of bikers followed him, and low and behold he took us to a dead end. That was so funny. Matt will be sadly missed.

AB

Amy Jaynes Brown lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

Fly High With The Angels. With Deepest Sympathy & Condolences to Family & Friends

April 1 at 7:49 PM





Media

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Sensereha Thomas shared a photo and a video to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 3 at 3:25 PM





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Lana Karnow shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 2 at 10:17 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Matthew by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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