



David Lay

November 23, 1979 - May 13, 2020

David Matthew Lay, age 40, of Tupelo, Mississippi, passed away May 13, 2020. He was born November 23, 1979 in Amory, Mississippi, and lived in Smithville during his childhood and adolescence.

Graduating from Amory High School in 1998, he went on to earn his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Mississippi State University. He was an instructor of sociology at Itawamba Community College, Tupelo Campus.

With his quick wit and encyclopedic knowledge of movies, music, Survivor, and anything Mississippi State, David's unique take on subjects made conversation with him always insightful and entertaining. He enjoyed travel and especially his opportunity to participate in archeological digs in Egypt, Sicily, and Israel while a student at MSU. Because of his love for his British Heritage, he managed to become a dual citizen of both the United States and the United Kingdom.

David is survived by his parents, William E. Lay and Debra Brown Lay of Smithville, the love of his life, Chelsea Steele, his son, Jordan Alexander Pendergrass of Kaysville, Utah, his daughter, Devyn Steele, his sister, Emily Grace Lay of Smithville, his brothers, Nathan Lay of Cimarron, New Mexico and Adam Lay and wife Kaitlyn of Kapolei, Hawaii, along with their children, Bella, Mahea, and Micah. In addition, he leaves behind many aunts, uncles, cousins and a large extended family, as well as a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by grandparents, Rev. H. W. and Joyce Lay and Condra and Grace Brown, along with his furry companion, Brando.

A graveside service will be held at 10:30AM on Saturday, May 16, 2020 at Young Memorial Gardens in Smithville with Rev. Sammy Washburn officiating and music by Kevin Adams and Terry Long. Pallbearers will be Jared Wilson, Terry Long, Kelly Williams, John Michael Lay, Nathan Lay and Adam Lay, with Samuel Bueckert as an honorary pallbearer. Following the service, family and friends are invited to meet at The Smithville

Memorial Park for a “Shared Memories” picnic. You are welcome to bring lawn chairs and memories to share and you may stay in your car and practice social distancing if you are more comfortable to do so.

The service will be live-streamed via Facebook on the Memories of David Matthew Lay Facebook group.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in his memory to Camp Lake Stephens Methodist Camp, 117 Camp Lake Stephens Drive, Oxford, MS 38655

Cemetery

Young Memorial Garden
Monroe Street
Smithville, MS, 38870

Events

MAY
16

Graveside Funeral Service10:30AM - 11:00AM

Young Memorial Garden
Monroe Street, Smithville, MS, US, 38870

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



E. E. Pickle Funeral Home - May 18, 2020 at 09:13 AM



“ I taught David Introduction to Sociology at ICC. I loved him as a student and as a person. He always made me laugh, smile even as I was shaking my head for him to stop. Love you David. Neil R. White

Neil R. White - May 22, 2020 at 12:33 PM



“ So very sad for you in the loss of your son. Prayers and blessings for your family!



Vickie Comer - May 18, 2020 at 09:43 AM



“ Angie Jackson lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Angie Jackson - May 16, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ 258 files added to the album LifeTributes



E. E. Pickle Funeral Home - May 15, 2020 at 07:38 PM



“ Debra and Bill, Eddie and I are so sorry for your loss



VeraLee Mills - May 15, 2020 at 06:40 PM



“ David and I met as the MS cohort in Sociology at MSU. He frequently came over to my house to study in that first couple of years and we had many fun conversations and serious study sessions often turned into hilarious conversations. He was part of a group of friends who called themselves the circle of trust because we told each other things that were meant to be private and trusted the small close knit group of people with our embarrassing moments and secrets. He was insightful and helpful and will be missed by many people.



Jennifer Carruth - May 15, 2020 at 06:21 PM



“ Martha Knight lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Martha Knight - May 15, 2020 at 06:12 PM



“ Martha Knight lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Martha Knight - May 15, 2020 at 06:10 PM



“ Glenda DeVall Pierce lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Glenda DeVall Pierce - May 15, 2020 at 04:49 PM



“ So very sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. May God comfort and you give you peace.



Sandra Carpenter - May 15, 2020 at 01:48 PM



“ I am sorry for your loss. May God provide you with His peace.

Mike Joyner - May 15, 2020 at 05:04 AM



“ Frank & Debbie Donahue lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Frank & Debbie Donahue - May 14, 2020 at 06:33 PM



“ David will be greatly missed. My sympathy is with the entire family.

Ann Poole
Itawamba Community College
Instructional Services

Ann Poole - May 14, 2020 at 05:44 PM



“ Jennifer Harlow lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Jennifer Harlow - May 14, 2020 at 01:39 PM



“ Class of 1998 will always remember you. You will truly be missed.



Carrie Griffin - May 14, 2020 at 12:56 PM



“ I worked with David on Utah. We would touch base every once in a while after he moved back home. I got to see him change as he finished his degree and went on to become a teacher. He is one of those that I look to as an example for how to be a better person. Our chats, though rare, will be missed. :(

Stu - May 14, 2020 at 10:23 AM



“ Patricia Parker lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Patricia Parker - May 13, 2020 at 07:13 PM



“ Sherri Foster lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Sherri Foster - May 13, 2020 at 06:54 PM



“ Patricia Horne lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Patricia Horne - May 13, 2020 at 05:21 PM



“ Dwight And Kathy King lit a candle in memory of David Lay



Dwight and Kathy King - May 13, 2020 at 01:36 PM