



Gordon Thomas Jaehnig Jr.

January 11, 1970 - July 6, 2023

Gordon Thomas Jaehnig Jr, known as Gordy to family and friends, age 53, of Zeeland, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, July 6, 2023.

Gordy loved life despite the challenges he faced. For the past 17 years, Gordy was known as a friendly face greeting people entering Sam's Club in Holland. He loved his job and the people he had the chance to meet. His family and friends appreciated his kindness and clever sense of humor. His passion for those he loved was as evident as his passion for the University of Michigan! GO BLUE!

Gordy was a loving husband and father who sent regular messages to his wife and children, letting them know he was thinking of them and that they were loved. Gordy was kind, respectful, always smiling, loving, funny, and rarely complained. He was immensely loved by everyone around him. His love had no borders; he was a wonderful listener, free of judgment and full of support.

Gordy is survived by his wife of 21 years, Tonya Jaehnig; his children: Paul Koeller and fiancé Macey Diereks, Ashlyn Koeller and Elijah Kliphuis, Courtney Jaehnig; his mother, Julie Jaehnig; father, Gordon Jaehnig Sr. and step-mother, Barbara Jaehnig; sister, Wendy Jaehnig and Matt Miller; Stepsister, Jessica Carrier; granddaughter, Journee Diereks; mother-in-law, JoAnn VanWieren; brother-in-law, CJ and Aleesha Lynn Koeller; as well as

many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Gordon was preceded in death by his granddaughter, Lakelyn Marie Koeller on June 1, 2023.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 PM on Friday, July 21, 2023, at Langeland-Sternberg Funeral Home, 315 East 16th St. Holland, MI 49423. Funeral services will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, July 22, 2023, at Holland First Assembly of God, 1331 East 16th St. Holland, MI 49423. Pastor Mike Houser to officiate. Burial will be held at West Drenthe Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be given to the Muscular Dystrophy Association or to Mobility Worldwide. To leave condolences online for the Jaehnig family, please visit www.langelandsternberg.com.

If you would like to support the Jaehnig family during this difficult time to help cover funeral cost & and financial burdens you may contribute to the go fund me <https://www.gofundme.com/f/gordy-jaehnig>

Cemetery Details

West Drenthe Cemetery

862 78th Avenue
Zeeland, MI 49464

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 21. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home
315 E 16th St
Holland, MI 49423
(616) 392-2306
info@langelandsterenbergh.com
<http://langelandsterenbergh.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holland First Assembly of God
1331 East 16th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Gordon Jaehnig Celebration of Life in memory of Gordon Thomas Jaehnig Jr.*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - July 22, 2023 at 01:01 PM

MA

I worked at Sam's club as a cashier and later was Gordon's supervisor at Sam's in Holland. I had the pleasure of attending the University of Michigan and Gordon and I always took an opportunity to talk all things Michigan. It's been more than 15 years since I've lived in Holland but that didn't stop Gordon from asking my mother how I was doing every single time she entered the door Gordon was at. No matter how many thousands of miles away I was, she would pass on the message and let me know Gordon was asking about me and asking about the state of Michigan football. That always meant something to me and today I woke up wondering how he was doing and thinking that I should find a way to reach out to him and say hello, maybe even surprise him with a trip to Sam's in Holland just to share a conversation about the best Michigan football team in a generation. To show him my photos from the stands, to show him the photos of my toasting the win with coaches, players and Michigan legends like Shoelace Robinson and Chase Winovich. To call Chase and have him FaceTime Gordon to say hello. That's the kind of thing Gordon inspired. He was a guy who did things because it was who he was, not because he had to. He was a guy who could always put a smile on someone's face. I was heartbroken to see this news. Even more heartbroken to know that he didn't get to see the Michigan national championship from the comfort of his couch. Gordon truly was one of the kindest and nicest people I've come across and knowing that after 15 years of not seeing him that he continued to ask about me and remember my mother and father was everything to me. I'd like to think that God wanted to celebrate the Michigan season with Gordon at his side for every game. RIP Gordon and GO BLUE!

- Mike Avila

Mike Avila - December 21, 2024 at 10:21 AM

RD

“ Our condolences to Gordy's family. His big smile will be missed at Sams. We always enjoyed talking with him. Ruth and Jim Dykens

Ruth and Jim Dykens - July 24, 2023 at 01:19 PM

MV

“ Mike and Ben at Venemas purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Gordon Thomas Jaehnig Jr..



Mike and Ben at Venemas - July 21, 2023 at 07:49 AM

KJ

“ Kent and Laura Jaehnig purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Gordon Thomas Jaehnig Jr..



Kent and Laura Jaehnig - July 15, 2023 at 09:13 PM

KA

“ I wish to express my sympathy to Gordon's family. He was a very bright light in my day and will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Kathy Avis I do food samples at Sam's

Kathy Avis - July 14, 2023 at 02:07 PM

JB

“ Absolutely loved seeing him at Sam's! He was so cheerful and friendly. My deepest sympathies to his family.

Julie Bauman - July 13, 2023 at 12:49 PM

GL

“ I remember were i was is best man at is wedding I have lots of memories of Gordon he was my best friend miss you and love you

Gary louks - July 13, 2023 at 11:15 AM

TD

“ I grew up with Gordy on the same street. We played outside together most every day. I have great childhood memories of our friendship. Rest my friend.

Terri Diaz - July 13, 2023 at 09:57 AM

PV

“ He will be missed. I remember his passion at the ZW football games and tailgates. A true gentleman! You are all in my thoughts and prayers!

Patti VanDort

Patti VanDort - July 12, 2023 at 02:12 PM

KS

Gordy was a sweet man who clearly loved his family very much. He faced physical obstacles with grace, and never seemed to let them get him down. He always had a smile on his face, and he loved Jesus. I am blessed to have known Gordy, his wife, Tonya, and their wonderful kids when I lived in Holland. My love and prayers are with them during this time of great loss. May God's peace and comfort surround you.

Karla Salsbury - July 12, 2023 at 06:04 PM

MS

I was so sorry to hear about Gordy! I knew him through my husband Ron. I don't know what the connection was, bowling years ago, maybe. I too enjoyed seeing him at Sams by the front door. He was always smiling. Prayers for the family!

Mary Shafer - July 17, 2023 at 05:23 PM

KO

“ I WILL MISS HIS SMILING FACE AND HOW HE LOVED TO WORSHIP GOD KATHY OLIVER

KATHY OLIVER - July 12, 2023 at 10:30 AM