



## Jeffery Kouw

October 12, 1971 - May 20, 2025

Jeffery Kouw, age 53, of West Olive, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. He is survived by his three daughters: Emmaline, Makayla, and Amelia; and his mother, Donna Kouw. Jeff was preceded in death by his father, Ron Kouw, in 2008. He graduated from West Ottawa High School in 1990. He then attended Lake Superior State University for a year before continuing his education at Grand Valley State University. Jeff went on to serve in the United States Marine Corps. He was a proud veteran who held his military service close to his heart. Jeff had a love for the outdoors and found joy in hunting, fishing, boating, hiking, and grilling. But more than anything, his greatest joy came from being a father. He and his daughters shared many memories, especially during time spent at the family cottage. He was also a member of Community Reformed Church.

A graveside ceremony will be held at Fort Custer National Cemetery to honor his life and service. Arrangements at Yntema Funeral Home

# Cemetery Details

**Fort Custer National Cemetery**

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ To the girls, I am so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. It's very evident that he has raised some exceptional young ladies who will continue his legacy. The imprint he left on you will last forever. Your Dad and I grew up together on Big Star, through college, his first apartment and home...lots of fun and very old memories. There was a time as kids we were fishing at the lake, on the dock just before church, with church clothes on - and your Dad falls in - no fish on, he just lost his balance and now he's soaking wet. Or the time he was literally clotheslined by running into a clothesline at the Smith girl's playhouse - leveled, laying on the ground. As teenagers who could now drive, one time we went four-wheeling near Big Star, and I got stuck on the trail – he pulled me out with his ‘Eddie Bauer’ edition Ford Bronco II – he loved that truck, and I never heard the end of how Ford was better than Chevy. To many more to list. Through all those years, his spirit and laughter were constants. He truly knew how to enjoy life, and I hope those joyful memories bring you some comfort now. Please know I'm holding you all in my thoughts and sending my deepest sympathies.



Matt Bauder - May 28, 2025 at 07:07 PM

MB

June 13, 2003

MB - May 29, 2025 at 01:05 AM

MO

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Mother/Grandma - May 25, 2025 at 12:35 PM

AK

“ I will miss you greatly though I didn't see you very much you helped me grow as a person and showed me things I have never seen before I love you so much I didn't ever expect this to happen so soon. I wish you were still here but your in a better place now.

Amelia Kouw - May 25, 2025 at 12:26 PM

AK

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



Amelia Kouw - May 25, 2025 at 11:55 AM

DD

“ Donna, Deb and I are saddened to see this notice of Jeff's passing. We send a "virtual hug" hoping that there may be a time for us to connect in person to give you a real hug. We are back in Holland and would love to share a meal or cup of coffee with you. I will leave my contact information with the funeral home.

Doug DeLeeuw - May 25, 2025 at 08:07 AM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Amber Eggleston - May 24, 2025 at 01:47 PM

BG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Brent Groeneweg - May 24, 2025 at 10:16 AM

BG

*Jeff Kouw was more than just a friend; he was a good friend on countless adventures. I first met him many years ago, and our friendship grew stronger through shared experiences, particularly our fishing and canoeing trips in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA).*

*As I reflect on those times, I realize how much Jeff will be missed in his passing. His spirit, laughter, and love for the outdoors enriched my life and the lives of many others. The memories we created in the BWCA will forever hold a cherished place in my heart. Thank you, Jeff, for the adventures and the friendship. You will be missed dearly.*

**Brent Groeneweg** - May 24, 2025 at 10:20 AM

MK

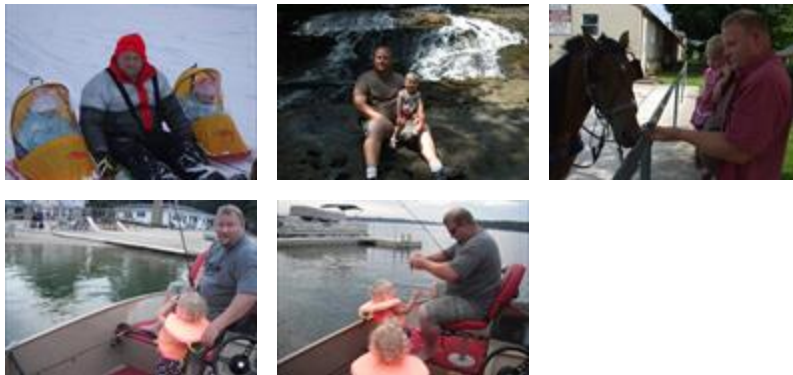
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



**Makayla kouw** - May 23, 2025 at 09:08 PM

EK

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



**Emmaline Kouw** - May 23, 2025 at 06:37 PM

EK

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**Emmaline Kouw** - May 23, 2025 at 06:36 PM

EK

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**Emmaline Kouw** - May 23, 2025 at 06:31 PM

EK

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**Emmaline Kouw** - May 23, 2025 at 06:30 PM

MK

“ 15 files added to the tribute wall



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**Makayla kouw** - May 23, 2025 at 06:11 PM

EK

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**Emmaline Kouw** - May 23, 2025 at 05:41 PM