



Jeffrey "Jeff" Ray Eaton

October 15, 1969 - July 24, 2024

Jeffrey Ray Eaton "Jeff" of Salem, Missouri passed away Wednesday, July 24, 2024, peacefully at home surrounded by his family after a courageous battle with stage 4 renal cancer, he was 54. Jeff was born in St. Louis, Missouri on October 15, 1969 to the late Everett and Joan (Coker) Eaton.

Jeff went to work for Kraft/Craig Foodservice, later known as Alliant Foodservice, which later yet be known as US Foods, where he spent 35 years and eleven months; he started out in the warehouse before moving into the transportation dept as a truck driver, he was then promoted to lead Springfield driver, transportation supervisor, and on his last promotion he was named Sr. Transportation Manager. He enjoyed his job and knew full well with each promotion came a new set of responsibilities and always faced them straight up, and head on.

Jeff married the love of his life, Miss Michelle Nicolle Bowen on May 13, 2006, and together they built a family, and a life filled with love and laughter.

Jeff loved fast cars, and was a proud Chevy guy, and was super proud of his 69 Camaro. He was into classic cars and was always buying and selling something. He enjoyed people, and liked to make you laugh, even during his three-year battle, he was still making jokes all along the way to the end. He belonged to the Liberty Baptist Church. Most of all Jeff was a husband, father, and had just recently been promoted to grandpa, earlier this year. Jeff and Nikki had just built a new home on a few acres outside of town that gave them a place to keep her horses and him a few head of cattle. It is a beautiful home

that Jeff designed.

We bid farewell as we mourn the loss of a lively, and dignified soul, a soul that brought joy and fulfillment to many, and whose legacy will live forever.

Jeffrey Ray Eaton is survived by his devoted wife of 18 years, Nikki Bowen Eaton, of the home; sons, Landon McDonald, and wife Krista, of Salem, MO, and Jaiden Eaton, of the home; sister, Angie Eaton, of Salem, MO; mother-in-law, Tammy Bowen White, of Salem, MO; sisters-in-law, Madison Bates and husband Adam, of Licking, MO, and Mackenzie Bowen, and Nathan Laster, of St. James, MO; grandson, Cohen McDonald; nieces and nephews, Zack Kemp (Bella), Megan Kemp, Sofia Brooks, Cactus Bates, Saylor Bates, and Kingston Laster; a host of extended family and many friends. In addition to his parents Everett and Joan Eaton, Jeff was preceded in death by his father-in-law Earnie Bowen.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, July 29, 2024 at 1:00PM at the Grace Community Church in Salem, Missouri with special friend, Mike Smith speaking. A visitation for family and friends will be held at the Church prior to the service on Monday, from 11AM until service time. Interment will follow at the North Lawn Cemetery where he will be laid to rest by his mother and father. Memorials are greatly appreciated to the Project Win Cancer Support Group, a local charity where 100% of donations stay in Dent County, cards are available at all James & Gahr locations.

Cemetery Details

North Lawn Cemetery

Hwy 19 North
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-3117
dcjames@fidnet.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 29. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community Church
Salem, MO 65560

Service

JUL 29. 1:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community Church
Salem, MO 65560

Tribute Wall

BM

“ Benjamin M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jeffrey "Jeff" Ray Eaton.

Benjamin M. - July 28, 2024 at 12:02 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jeffrey "Jeff" Ray Eaton.



July 27, 2024 at 03:04 PM

VF

“ Jeff was one of the nicest people I have ever known. He was always the same. A kind word, a sweet smile, a gentle demeanor. My heart is broken for Nikki, his sons, and all his family. He and those who loved him, have persevered as they reflected Christ through a great trial. May the Lord sustain and comfort all of you. Much love, (Virginia) Faye Flint- Hedley

Virginia Faye Flint-Hedley - July 26, 2024 at 05:51 PM