



Robert Blaine Burgess

April 12, 1995 - August 17, 2025

Robert Blaine Burgess, age 30, of Rolla, Missouri, passed away suddenly in Columbia, Missouri. He was born on April 12, 1995, in Rolla, to Melissa (Wright) and Tommy Burgess.

Robert was a 2013 graduate of Sullivan High School. He was a kindhearted soul who truly loved life and the simple joys it brought—feeding the birds and hummingbirds, playing pranks on his mom, and spending time with his loved ones.

A gifted musician, Robert could play the keyboard, drums, and his favorite, the guitar. He loved every style of music and shared that passion with everyone around him. He was also known for his selflessness and compassion for others. Whether helping an elderly neighbor with groceries or ensuring a stranger made it home safely, Robert never hesitated to lend a hand.

Robert's love extended to animals as well. He often rescued stray pets, found them homes, and even worked to make sure they received proper care. More recently, he found a new passion in cooking, delighting in learning and creating in the kitchen. Above all, Robert loved his family dearly—he called his mom every single day, a testament to the bond they shared.

He is survived by his mother, Melissa Wright Hopen of St. James, MO; his

brother, Tyler Hopen of St. James, MO; his fiancée, Megan Lewis, and their four- legged family, Cujo, Ash, Juno, Navi, and Venus, of the home; aunts, Sara Gann of St. James, MO, Rebecca Arthur of Tulsa, OK, and Jenny Simmons and husband Casey of Devils Elbow, MO; special cousin, Cole Simmons of Joplin, MO; as well as a host of extended family and many friends who will miss him deeply.

Robert was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Sharon Gann and Richard Wright; paternal grandparents, Fred and Julia Burgess; and his cousin, Hunter.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, August 31, 2025, at 1:00 PM at the St. James Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary, with visitation beginning at 11:00 AM. Interment will be at the St. James Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to your local animal shelter or an animal charity of your choice. Cards are available at all James & Gahr locations.

Cemetery Details

St. James Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 31. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - St. James
117 Seymour St.
St. James, MO 65559
(573) 265-3232
dcjames@fidnet.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Service

AUG 31. 1:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - St. James
117 Seymour St.
St. James, MO 65559
(573) 265-3232
dcjames@fidnet.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Caleb Yeggy and Tayrn Stewart purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Robert Blaine Burgess.*



Caleb Yeggy and Tayrn Stewart - August 23, 2025 at 11:36 AM

TB

“ TYFYS

Tyler Bresson - August 23, 2025 at 09:45 AM