



## James Richard Coleman III

December 27, 1990 - August 3, 2025

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James Richard Coleman III, age 34, of Chelsea, Michigan, passed away on August 3, 2025. He was born in Ann Arbor on December 27, 1990, to Julie Ann Coleman and the late James Richard Coleman Jr.

James met the love of his life, Caitlin Wilder, in 2015 while working together in Tampa, Florida. Caitlin was so nervous when they first met that she opened with a few dad jokes—luckily, James had his own ready to go. From that moment on, their laughter was endless. James had a rare gift for making those around him laugh until they cried. He and his sister Danielle shared an especially strong bond, often calling each other twin, despite being two years apart, and getting each other going with their signature back-and-forth laughter that could stretch on.

James was a natural jokester who also found joy in life's simplest pleasures. He loved mowing the lawn and would proudly show Caitlin his freshly cut handiwork like a kid at show and tell. One of Caitlin's most cherished memories is from the early days of their relationship, when James secretly flew back to Florida from Michigan, hid inside a box, and jumped out to surprise her—a grand, romantic gesture that perfectly captured his playful and loving spirit.

James and Caitlin were married on October 22, 2022, eager and excited to build a life together.

He was also a proud and loving uncle to his nephew, Del, and the two shared a special connection through their mutual love of trains. Whether discussing their favorites or playing together, James made sure every moment with Del was filled with joy, curiosity, and imagination. He also cherished spending time with his brother, Zack, whether talking for hours or hanging out with him and Del, enjoying activities together, and creating lasting memories.

Professionally, James worked as a service technician at Carlo and Sons Trucking. He was known not just for his dedication and strong work ethic, but also for his playful energy—he kept a Super Soaker and cans of silly string tucked in his toolbox, ready to prank unsuspecting coworkers at any time.

James had a soft spot for animals, especially his beloved rescue dog, Reef. She was more than a pet—she was his constant companion. It wasn't uncommon to find the two napping side by side or sharing a slice of pizza.

A true lover of the outdoors, James especially treasured his time at the lake. Growing up on Portage Lake—where his grandmother, Mytie Coleman, lived until her passing in 2010—he made some of his happiest memories. He could swim for hours on end, and those closest to him joked that he must've been part fish. The water brought him peace and joy, and he never passed up a summer day at the lake. He especially loved spending time with his family out on his dad's boat, soaking in the sun and feeling the wind rush from tubing, surrounded by laughter and love.

James also loved venturing to Michigan's Upper Peninsula, where he and his mom enjoyed rock hunting, sharing a quiet, meaningful time they both cherished. Summers were also spent with his grandparents, Doris and Eugene Umlor, along with his brother Zack and sister Danielle. Together they went on "mystery trips" and biked all over their neighborhood.

James was preceded in death by his father, James Richard Coleman Jr., and his grandmother, Mytie Coleman. He leaves behind a legacy of laughter, love, and joy in the hearts of those who knew him. He is survived by his wife, Caitlin Wilder-Coleman; mother, Julie Coleman; brother, Zackary Coleman; sister, Danielle Coleman; nephew, Del Coleman; his grandparents, Doris and

Eugene Umlor; uncle, Steve Umlor; and step-father, Mark Stewart.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family, checks may be received by the funeral home.

Arrangements entrusted to Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home - Plymouth.

# Tribute Wall

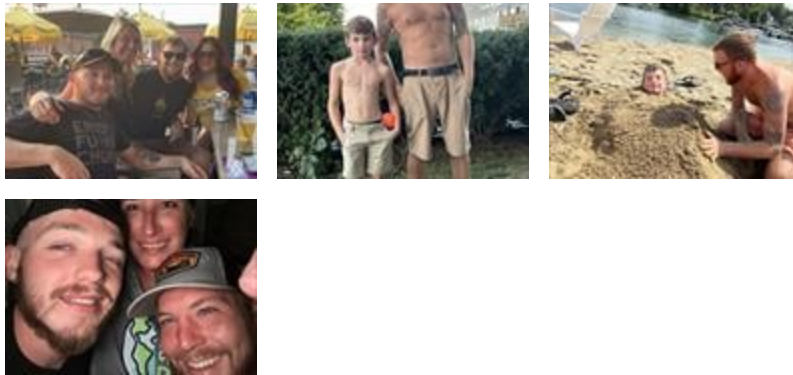
MH

“ *My condolences to the family. We used to shoot darts together on a team at a Sports pub in Holiday, Florida. He always used to tell me he wanted to become a movie producer and so I had him sign a bar napkin, so I'd have the signature of someone famous. He would talk about home near Ann Arbor, Michigan. Myself, being from Ohio, had never heard of the small town there, so he drew a little map on the back of that bar napkin.*

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**Matt Hartman** - November 30, 2025 at 09:36 AM

LG

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**Lindsey Golowesky** - August 10, 2025 at 09:57 PM

BH

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



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**Brett Harper** - August 10, 2025 at 03:53 PM

FB

“ Francisco E Boleaga purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of James Richard Coleman III.



Francisco E Boleaga - August 09, 2025 at 05:58 PM

FB

“ Francisco E Boleaga planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Richard Coleman III.

Francisco E Boleaga - August 09, 2025 at 05:58 PM



“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home - August 08, 2025 at 09:14 AM