



## Nathan James Vallee

July 14, 1978 - November 26, 2019

Love was not enough, and below are his mother's words. I am so deeply broken, and hurt. I will always love you, my forever guy, my husband, Nathan Vallee.

Always, Ellie

Nathan James Vallee—father, son, brother, husband, friend, businessperson and artist—died on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 in Plymouth Township, MI. He was 41 years old.

As owner of Apex Decorative Concrete, Nathan loved to share his artistic passion for floors. From factories to churches to homes, concrete was his canvas and his clients loved his work.

He married Elizabeth Gondek Vallee on August 26, 2019 and expanded his family from two children--Adam Vallee and Maya Vallee Wagner—to four with the addition of Aden and Fallon Gondek.

Born on July 14, 1978, to Edward J. Vallee and Joan Witte, he was known for his quick wit and for being a risk taker. Last month he told his mother, “I am grateful for all the amazing things I have been able to experience. I have done more crazy, cool and awesome things in one life than most ever dream of.”

For example, when he working in the entertainment business as a young man, he invited his mother and stepfather (Larry Mrazik) to a Brian Setzer and Orchestra concert in Pontiac, MI. He left free tickets for them at the door. When they could not find him, they asked a friend where he was. They pointed to the stage. There he was, in front of thousands of people laughing and joking with the star of the show, Brian Setzer.

Nathan began a life-long struggle with mental illness early in his life. He lost control over his life due to alcoholism, which was his form of self-medication. He tragically ended his life and it was the ultimate relief for his pain. Surviving him are his wife, children, father, mother, stepfather, sisters Rachel Kingsley (David, Gibson, and Franklin Kingsley), Harmony Faust (Philip, Henry, and Rosemary Faust), Sarah Rogers and brothers Thomas and Braden Vallee, Colton and Garrett Kitts. He is predeceased by his grandparents and his biological father David Rogers.

To share a memory, please use the Share a Memory tab on this web page.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family and Friends

DEC 7. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenfh.com

## Honoring

DEC 7. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenfh.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Nathan James Vallee*

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December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy to all Nathan's family. I am a cousin of Ed Valee. I met Nathan for first time at a Roman family reunion about 7 summers ago. He was an interesting young man who many talents. We continued FB relationship and it was great to follow his love of his children and his absolutely stunning artistic design at his company Apex.*

*I have had many friends and family lives changed by suicide. It is tragic. It is one of the most difficult tragedy to have to face.*

*I am so very sorry that Nathan left us all and for the sadness it has caused. Memories will keep us all close to him.*

*Sincerely sent with love,  
Laura Probst Lewellen*

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**laura probst lewellen** - December 11, 2019 at 09:45 AM



“ *I learned of this sad news today, Dec 8th. The last time I spoke with Nathan was Nov 22. We started a phone relationship Oct 2018. Helping each other. I had hoped to meet him and his family next year. He was a very special man. My deepest condolences to his wife, mother, son, daughter and everyone who is effected by his death.*

*Jennifer Benson, Santa Fe NM.*

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**jennifer benson** - December 08, 2019 at 12:36 PM

AP

“ Nate and I lived together in Hamtramck across from Motor Lounge where he was the head barback and I was head of security. We would finish work around 3am/4am, and afternoon working all night we would jump in my truck and go wherever everyone else was, usually the tail end of a Rave or after hours place somewhere in Detroit. I can't count the number of Friday and/or Saturday nights (really Saturday and/or Sunday mornings) we did this. We would eventually find our way home, but always through the neighborhoods and abandoned buildings that made up the majority of the city at that time. Sometimes we would stop at some random building and explore. We would just imagine the spaces as they were in their hay days, with shift workers coming and going, people working various machines, and so on. We would then go home, sit on the porch, have some coffee, and just talk as the sun came up. Eventually we would retire to our rooms, and do it all over again. I doubt there are many interesting places we didn't explore in this way during those days. I remember those days fondly. Nate was a good guy, through and through. We all have our demons to contend with, but it seemed like when we would explore the city in it's pre-turnaround days, his were minimized as we imagined and discussed what it must have been like before it's decline. RIP brother.

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**Abe Pilkington** - December 07, 2019 at 01:47 PM



Those were Nathan's good all day. He seemed to be so much happier then. Thank you so much for sharing. I'm putting all the memories into a book for his children. His Mom, Joan

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**Joan Witte** - December 18, 2019 at 07:52 AM

LV

“ *Joan, Larry and Family,  
Peace and comfort are yours to keep, protected because you are  
loved.  
Spencer & Lisa Vanderhoof*

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**Lisa Vanderhoof** - December 07, 2019 at 08:44 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Nathan James Vallee.*



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December 06, 2019 at 07:03 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of  
Nathan James Vallee.*



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December 04, 2019 at 12:49 PM

YF

“ *Your Integrity Staffing Family purchased the Simp  
ly Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Nathan  
James Vallee.*



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**Your Integrity Staffing Family** - December 04, 2019 at 11:00  
AM



“ My favorite memory of Nathan was when we decided to be all “damn the man” for homecoming and I was going to wear a suit and Nathan was going to wear a dress! Well I wore the suit but Nathan’s mom busted him trying to get out of the house in the dress! We still had a blast at the dance and we were interviewed by the student paper. Good times. Love you Nathan.

Nicole Baldrige - December 03, 2019 at 10:01 PM



Thank you Nicole. There are so many memories that I had forgotten.  
JOAN

Joan Witte - December 18, 2019 at 07:50 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Nathan James Vallee.



December 03, 2019 at 12:53 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Nathan James Vallee.



December 02, 2019 at 11:32 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Nathan James Vallee.*



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November 30, 2019 at 06:44 PM



“ *While we never had a chance to meet Nathan, Liz was like a big sister to our son, Connor (Contonio). Uncle Mark and I are saddened by your loss and will keep your family in our thoughts and prayers. The Lemko's (Jen Caputo's aunt and uncle". Peace.*



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**Peggy and Mark Lemko** - November 30, 2019 at 06:39 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nathan James Vallee.*



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November 30, 2019 at 12:53 PM

DB

“ My name is Danielle Bennett, but I was Danielle Worrall when I met Nate. He was in my two hour block of TV Production class for 11th and 12th grade. As a rendition of the new dance show, I chose to remake it and he was BY FAR the star of the show.

I was very awkward and lost in high school but he was always so nice to me. Always making me smile. He was SO fun eye and quick. He was different. Not like everyone else. Like he was an old soul.

It was an honor to know him and thanks to his kindness I broke out of my shell. Today, I'm a silly woman who wants to laugh all the time. People always say I have an amazing sense of humor and I contribute part of that to Nate.

I send all my love and prayers to his gorgeous wife and family. I could tell by the posts that she was his absolute love of his life. 😭

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**Danielle Bennett** - November 29, 2019 at 07:40 PM