



Craig L. Gay

December 21, 1967 - December 1, 2018

Traverse City - Craig L. Gay, 50, of Traverse City, passed away Saturday, December 1, 2018 at his home, surrounded by his family.

Craig was born on Thursday, December 21, 1967 to Byron and Sheila (Borders) Gay in Ann Arbor. The family later moved to Traverse City. Craig graduated from Traverse City Central High School in 1986.

Best described as a man with a heart of gold, Craig went out of his way to help anyone, never expecting anything in return. Everything he did was from his heart, a heart that radiated kindness, compassion and love. He was often referred to as Superman by loved ones, a nickname he truly embodied.

Craig was a gifted locksmith and safe technician. Always learning and advancing in his trade to be the most prepared for any situation that arose- whether it was knowing the ins and outs of the latest tech advanced keys for cars or being able to duplicate a set of keys just from a picture- Any knowledge he could arm himself with, he knew would help someone, someday. In recent years, he was a manager in the hardware department at Home Depot. He deeply appreciated his Home Depot family, as much as they appreciated him. His greatest joy was spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren. Craig adored his dog Bentley and cat Sorcey. Bentley and Craig were often seen patrolling the neighborhood making friends with everyone they met. Craig and Yvonne attended West Side Community Church and he was a member of the Cedar Rod and Gun Club. He was a passionate outdoorsmen and car enthusiast.

Craig is survived by his wife, Yvonne Doehring-Gay, whom he married on March 19, 2005 in Traverse City; children Brooke (Matthew) Filcek of Portland, Kasey (Brian) Stubbs and Tyler Doehring, all of Grand Rapids; grandchildren Josephine and Augustus Filcek, Charlotte and Imogene Stubbs; his parents, Byron and Sheila Gay of Traverse City his brothers William (Beth) and identical twin brother, Kevin (Mary Jane), all of Traverse City; his father in law, Donald Saffron of Benzonia, along with many aunts, uncles, nieces,

nephews and friends, including a very special aunt, Pat Borders of Chelsea. Craig was preceded in death by his beloved uncle Ronald Borders and his mother in law Nancy Saffron.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Craig's team of talented doctors and nurses, as well as Comfort keepers, Area Agency on Aging, and Heartland hospice.

A service is planned for Thursday, Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. at West Side Community Church to celebrate Craig.

Memorial contributions may be directed to:

The Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, 2977 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 1651, Southfield, MI 48304
(www.nationalmssociety.org);

JDRF Great Lakes Chapter, 4595 Broadmoor Ave SE Kentwood, MI
(www.jdrf.org/greatlakeswest/);

The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, 25200 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 110, Southfield, MI 48033 (www.epilepsymichigan.org).

Events

DEC **Celebration of Life** **01:00PM**

6
West Side Community Church
4975 E. Traverse Highway, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ We are heartbroken to hear the news of Craig's passing. Yvonne, Colin has so many great memories of how welcoming you both were to him when he first came to the states from England. And you both opened your home in friendship and love. I will always remember his infectious smile. Knowing how devoted you were to Craig and to our Heavenly Father; I believe that you will again be reunited for eternity. You are truly in our thoughts and prayers and we are sending you hugs. Marie and Colin Taylor

Marie and Colin Taylor - December 11 at 11:56 AM



“ To all of Craig's family,
May our loving God wrap His arms of comfort around all of you and give you His comfort.
Many in my condo building had new locks put on by Craig.... I just thought he was so kind and thoughtful at that time. My sympathy to all, so sorry for your loss.

Darlene Miller



Darlene Miller - December 09 at 10:51 PM



“ Kevin and Mary Jane, you are in my thoughts as you deal with Craig's loss.

Bonnie Willings - December 07 at 09:14 AM



“ I love scrolling through the pictures and seeing Craig's wonderful smile. He was always smiling, even at times he didn't feel well. Many good times shared and memories to cherish. We love you Craig, always. May you rest in peace.

Sondra and Brian Halliday - December 06 at 07:18 AM



“ 57 files added to the album Craig



Yvonne Gay - December 05 at 08:43 PM



“ Beautiful!!

Terri-Anne - December 06 at 04:09 PM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Craig passing. He bought my Ford van for Northwest Lock from my late husband Richard Rodebaugh and we both liked him very much. Kevin and Mary Jane, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Bless you.

Betty L Stiles - December 06 at 06:47 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Craig L. Gay.



December 05 at 01:51 PM



“ "Perhaps they are not stars, but rather openings in the sky where our loved ones shine down to let us know they are well and happy. Saturday night a new star was added to Heaven when Craig arrived. Craig was an awesome man, and he and Yvonne were an amazing couple. Their love for each other was evident to anyone who knew them. This Superman and Wonder Woman were completely devoted to each other during Craig's lengthy illness. We have truly lost a friend, husband, father and grandfather. Much love to you and Yvonne. We will see you again someday....but not quite yet! "

Gail & Jack Kelly - December 05 at 10:22 AM



“ We are sorry to hear of your loss. Our family was so fortunate to make many happy memories with Craig, he touched our lives in so many ways. He will be missed, Craig will remain in our hearts and memories.



Deb Neuman - December 05 at 08:52 AM



“ REST IN HEVEN WITH THE MOST HIGEST THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. YOU HAVE RECIEVED YOUR ANGEL WINGS " MR SUPERMAN" WE WILL MEET ON THE OTHER SIDE "HEAVEN".

Aleta Lung - December 05 at 05:33 AM



“ I'm so sorry for your loss Yvonne, May God watch over you and your family in your time of grief. You are in my prayers.

debbie sierzputowski - December 05 at 09:57 AM



“ Craig. We worked with him at Home Depot and we were blessed to be his coworker and friends . He was a blast to be around and his demeanor was very contagious. See you on the flip side my friend . Be free of all your pains and watch out for all of us . Love ya my friend.

Dean Steinbauer - December 05 at 01:09 AM



“ Very nice. Craig was a great friend who cared for everyone and put them first in everything. I will miss his smile and kind heart but his soul will live forever. See you in heaven my friend.

john fyfe - December 04 at 08:19 PM



“ It is with much sorrow felt for the loss of Craig, always offering a friendly smile and a helping hand in anything he thought he could help with. When Craig found Yvonne, it was a match made in heaven, both living and loving for each other. This was a friendship like none other I have witnessed, the early years being filled with all sorts

of adventures. The latter years filled with even more love that was very apparent in the trials that were dealt out to Craig and Yvonne. If it wasn't for Yvonne, Craig would never have made it as far as he did, a testament to the commitment both had in the relationship. Craig could not have asked for a better care giver and partner to go through what he had to endure in his life with Yvonne teaching herself how to deal with all of his ailments, with the medical profession that "practices" medicine and with many of his own family not ever realizing the gravity of his ailments. If it wasn't for the love of his wife, children and friends he could never have endured his burden, Craig was a true superman and Yvonne the original wonder woman. Craig will be missed greatly.

David Fashbaugh - December 04 at 07:35 PM



“ So sad to hear of his passing . I enjoyed seeing them come into Rico's. What a Beautiful Couple. Thoughts and Prayers for his family during this difficult time !

Barbara Bates - December 04 at 08:49 PM



“ This obituary was written beautifully, this describes Craig perfectly as the man that we all knew and loved. You Yvonne was the love of his life. Love you girl.

Diane Koch - December 04 at 06:02 PM



“ That smile and beautiful spirit will be missed. Rest in peace my friend.



Michell - December 04 at 02:06 PM



“ Jacquelyn Joppich Morgan lit a candle in memory of Craig L. Gay



Jacquelyn Joppich Morgan - December 04 at 09:45 AM