



## David Joseph Kostrzewa

December 23, 1966 - November 20, 2018

David Joseph Kostrzewa passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, November 20. David was born on December 23, 1966, in Chicago, Illinois, to Kathleen Ann (Perry) Kostrzewa and Joseph Gerald Kostrzewa. David's family moved to Traverse City in 1972 and he graduated from Traverse City High School in 1985. In 1991, he received his Bachelor of Science degree from Arizona State University where he studied business and marketing. David worked in southern Florida for many years in the real estate business before returning to Traverse City in 2008 to be closer to his family. Most recently, he was a sales consultant at Comfort Center Furniture stores.

Everyone who had the good fortune to know David remembers his wide grin and infectious laugh. He loved telling jokes and had a sense of humor that he shared with everyone. David was happiest when with his family and friends, and he was most at peace on the water, whether swimming, scuba diving, sailing or motoring. A mariner at heart, David loved the blue water of the Bay, blue like his deep blue eyes. David was also constantly learning new skills and taught himself to play the guitar. His favorite music was the blues, 70s hard rock by bands like AC/DC and KISS, and, of course, Jimmy Buffett.

David was preceded in death by his mother Kathleen (Perry) Kostrzewa, and his nephew Logan Shea. He is survived by his father, Joseph Kostrzewa, stepmother, Inez Schmidt of Traverse City, MI; sisters Ann (Brent) Kelly of Howell, MI, Mary Kay (Bill) Petroskey of Traverse City, MI, Susan (Cris Crisp) Kostrzewa of New Canaan, Connecticut; nephews and niece Jansen Shea, Keith and Brent Petroskey and Brittney Akers, as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. We know that God has welcomed David with open arms.

A memorial will be held on Thursday, November, 29, from 3:00 to 6 p.m. at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home at 305 6th St, Traverse City. A brief service will take place at 4 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Cherryland Humane Society. Kindly

share thoughts and memories with David's family at [www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com](http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com).

# Events

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**NOV** **Visitation for Family and Friends** 03:00PM - 06:00PM

**29**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home

305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**NOV** **Memorial Service** 04:00PM

**29**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home

305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - November 29, 2018 at 07:21 AM

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“ Joe, Ann, Marn & Sue

It seems like yesterday we shared all of the wonderful times with our families, including Dave. I think Dave even worked for us at the funland. Last spring Mark and I sat with Joe and Dave at the Father Fred cigar dinner talking about those good old times and being good old boys then and now.

We remember going to the Comfort Center and Dave would lay on a bed to demonstrate how comfortable it was. His head on a pillow, hands behind his head, and a big smile on his face. We should have taken a photo

Dave is now in a place where he is safe and all family can find comfort in that. Our family will always remember the good times and we all miss Dave

Arne & Judy Lundmark

**Arne & Judy Lundmark** - December 01, 2018 at 09:03 AM

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“ I wish I could be there right now with you all, celebrating this wonderful, kind and hilarious person. I have a bunch of photos that Dave gave me years ago up and candles lit and I'm with you all in spirit. We became friends when we were 12 yrs old, and we've been friends ever since - I'm so so grateful we just saw each other just this past August, and I was planning to see him in December when I'm going to be there.

I remember when we were first friends, but not really close friends yet, and I would call him every night to ask him what our math homework was for an excuse to talk to him ... cracks me up now, since we got to be so close. His laugh and stories and kind heart will always and forever be with me.

Recently Dave gave me advice for a friend of mine (who he didn't know) who was struggling, and I told my friend about it and it helped him. I had wanted to tell Dave that his advice helped my friend - so I texted him and told him I had something I

wanted to tell him. It was good news, so I wanted to tell him in person on the phone rather than via text. My last text from Dave was, "What do you want to tell me? Inquiring minds want to know." I can't believe I hadn't yet texted back before his passing, it breaks my heart.

So what I hope more than anything is that he knows that he was and still is a very bright light in this world and a wonderful person and friend, and that he helped people he didn't even know. I wish I would have told him that, and it's a reminder to always prioritize telling people how important they are. I know he knew that because I had said it before, but I guess we always wish we could say things like that just one more time.

Sending so much love to David's friends and family - and to my pal Dave - love love love.

**Alison (Stoll) Sterling Nichols** - November 29, 2018 at 03:06 PM

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“ I am so very saddened to hear of David's passing. It's been many years since I've seen him, but we were back yard neighbors of the Kostrzewa's as young children, so they (Ann, Mary Kay, David and Susie) were the first friends my sisters and I ever had. I remember David as a really nice, unassuming person. A fond memory I have of David is the time that he climbed the large cherry tree in their backyard. I think we were all there, but he didn't announce it or anything, he just climbed. He must have been about 4 or 5 years old now that I think of it, but he climbed really high. At one point, he realized he couldn't get back down. Mr. Kostzrewa (Joe) came out and got him down. David didn't brag or grandstand about how far up he'd gotten as he wasn't looking for attention, he was just doing his own thing.

To all the Kostzrewa's, please accept my deepest sympathy and know that we are all thinking of you at this time. -Kevin Schack

**Kevin Schack** - November 28, 2018 at 10:32 PM

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“ My deepest sympathy to Joe and his family. May the angels welcome him to Paradise where he can celebrate God's love with Aunt Joanie

**Elaine Schnepf** - November 28, 2018 at 05:42 PM



“ Sorry for your lost Praying for you and family

**Pat and Al Bader** - November 29, 2018 at 02:20 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the family of David. I met David a couple of years ago as I prepared his tax return for him. He was always a delight to converse with, and had a very warm and genuine countenance about him. I think I can safely say that we both had an

enjoyable time sharing life, tax and tips. God bless you all.

Anne Shier

**Anne Shier** - November 30, 2018 at 09:17 AM

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“ Thinking of all my cousins as you go through another difficult time. Sending peaceful thoughts. - Pam Leidlein

**Pam Leidlein** - November 28, 2018 at 11:54 AM

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“ Rest In Peace, Dave... You Left A Positive Impression On Sooo Many People's Lives... You're Truly Loved and Will Be Truly Missed By Soo Many



**Wendy L Taylor** - November 27, 2018 at 04:00 PM

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“ Vicki Rumbach lit a candle in memory of David Joseph Kostrzewa



**Vicki Rumbach** - November 27, 2018 at 09:51 AM

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“ We saw Dave two weeks ago & had a nice conversation @ the Comfort Center. He was a friend of our son, Matt Allen. He will be missed.

**Betsy & Maurie Allen** - November 27, 2018 at 07:26 AM

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“ Will always remember your love for music, animals, smiles, and most importantly your family and friends.  
See you on the other side my friend. You're at peace now.



**Lisa** - November 27, 2018 at 07:02 AM

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“ David had such a pure soul. He was one of the first people to greet me with open arms, when I moved back to Traverse City from California in 1983. I haven't seen David since HS Graduation, but cannot believe he's not with us anymore. God rest your soul David. David Clark.

**David Clark** - November 26, 2018 at 08:17 PM

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“ Dave,  
I sure miss all our great times in Ft Myers, I still remember playing B-ball with you & my brother Joe...and our lunches at Hooters, the first place we would go when I got off the plane.

Charlie Silverii

**Charles Silverii** - November 26, 2018 at 07:10 PM

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“ KATIE CARLISLE lit a candle in memory of David Joseph Kostrzewa



**KATIE CARLISLE** - November 26, 2018 at 03:35 PM

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“ I can see Dave’s smile as kids, jumping in his pool at the house on top of holiday pines. I’d be there swimming with Susie, my little brother and Mary Kay - my sister Wendy off someplace with her bestie Ann- highlight of my day was to see Dave Smile and swim with us “little kids!” He was so nice and just as handsome as could be! He always said hi to me in school, even in junior high with his friends ; he’d stop and say “hi Kelly” my friends were all “who’s that??” He was just a nice person and I will always have fond memories of him in my childhood. I’m so sorry to Ann, Mary Kay, Susan and Joe! He was too young but now is at peace with Kathy.

**kelly don stuhmueller** - November 26, 2018 at 10:17 AM