



Chris John Lamesfield

April 15, 1944 - March 17, 2026

Chris John Lamesfield, 81, of Rapid City, passed away, March 17, 2026, in the care of the ICU staff of Munson Hospital. Chris was born on April 15, 1944, in Flint, Michigan. He graduated from Grand Blanc High School in 1962. He was in the US Army from 1962 through 1968. He married Sharon Klusmeyer on May 31st, 1981. They welcomed two girls into the world in 1982 and 1989. Chris lived a life defined by connection, passion, and a deep love for both people and nature. To those who knew him, he carried many titles—husband, dad, brother, son, friend, neighbor—but the one he cherished most was “Papa.” It was in that role that his warmth and playful spirit shined brightest. Chris loved in a way that was uniquely his own. He pushed his family to be strong, resilient and direct, always wanting the best for them, even when it wasn’t easy. Beneath that intensity was a steady, unwavering love that shaped the lives of those closest to him.

He found joy in the simple things—anything with tires, anything with four legs, and especially the outdoors. He was a member of the Pirates Car Club. If given the choice, Chris would have spent all his days surrounded by trees, listening and whistling along with the birds. Throughout his life, he made it a tradition to feed families of deer wherever he lived, forming a bond with the wildlife around him.

A true social butterfly, Chris never met a stranger. His service dogs often served as the perfect introduction, opening the door to conversations wherever he went. He loved being part of the moment, part of the community,

and part of people's lives.

One of his greatest joys was sharing meals with those he loved. Whether it was breakfast or dinner, Chris treasured the connection that came from sitting around a table, enjoying good food and even better company—especially when it included a touch of Southern comfort.

Chris leaves behind a legacy of love, strength, and stubbornness. He will be remembered for his big presence, his laugh and sarcasm, and the many ways he brought people—and even nature—a little closer together.

He was preceded in death by his father, Frank, and mother, Vivian; his stepmother, Trudi; his sister, Sandy; his brother-in-law, Tom; his father-in-law, Clifford, and mother-in-law, Wanda; another brother-in-law, David; and Blue, his faithful service dog and constant companion, along with many beloved animals who were part of his life.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon (nee Klusmeyer); his four daughters, Sherri, Ramona (Greg), Nicki (Dean) and Abby (Corey), and three sons, Norman (Crystal), Mike (Tina) and Scott; ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; his sister-in-law, Connie; his loyal service dog, Casper; Rocky; and many dear friends who became like family.

He will be profoundly missed by his family, his friends, and all those whose lives he touched.

Viewing will be on Monday, March 23 at the Kalkaska Funeral Home at 152 S Cedar St, Kalkaska, MI 49646.

Family viewing from 1pm-2pm, and friends and public viewing 2pm-6pm.

In lieu of flowers, we kindly invite you to consider making a donation to a non-profit animal organization of your choice, in honor of Dad's love for all animals. We will NOT be doing a service at this time. Burial will take place in the spring at Evergreen Cemetery. We will be having a bonfire later this year to celebrate his life.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **23**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Kalkaska Funeral Home
152 S Cedar St
P.O. Box 1457
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Tribute Wall



“ Love, Paula & Scott Lorbert purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Chris John Lamesfield.



Love, Paula & Scott Lorbert - March 21 at 10:35 AM



“ I have entirely too many memories of my dad to pinpoint just one. He taught me from a very early age to not be afraid to try new things. Taught me that is something is worth doing it's worth doing 200%.



Nicki Klama - March 20 at 12:26 PM