



Jeffrey E. Royston

March 27, 1953 - February 28, 2025

In loving memory of Jeffrey E. Royston

Jeffrey E. Royston, 71 of Kalkaska, died suddenly on February 28, 2025. He was born on March 27, 1953 to the late Eugene and Florence (White) Royston in Lansing.

Jeff lived a life on his own terms, unapologetically himself until the very end. A free spirit with a love for the open road, he found joy in riding his Harley building trikes and embracing the thrill of the ride. His work in the oil field and behind the wheel of a semi-truck reflected his restless nature. Jeff's world was filled with music – strumming his guitar, pounding his drums, crafting lyrics to the songs that spoke to his soul. And, of course, he never missed an opportunity to crack a joke – usually one that would make you blush.

Though he was a father of eight and a grandfather to fifteen, expressing love wasn't something that came easily to him. He was proud of his children, even if he struggled to show it. In his last year, he made the choice to move closer to them, perhaps a quiet attempt to bridge the gap time had created. But, despite the distance, his family was a part of him, whether he showed it or not. He lived for the party, for the stories, and for the freedom to be exactly who he was – selfish at times, but always true to himself. Through it all, his loyal dog, Max, remained by his side, sharing in his adventures and misadventures alike. Though he may not have fit the mold of a traditional father or grandfather, his presence was undeniable, and his spirit will ride on in the hearts of those who knew him.

Jeff leaves behind his eight children listed first, fifteen grandchildren, and two great grandchildren: Tony Flintoft of Moorestown, Nicole Jewell (Hunter Jewell & Carter Jewell) of Charlotte, Corbin Royston (Kayla Royston & Trinity Milbourn – Jasper Milbourn and Maelynn Milbourn) of Olivet, Jeffrey Royston and Kelly Royston (Ryan Royston, Julie Demusky & Brooklin Royston) of Traverse City, Jenae Arnold (Jackson Arnold & Joncee Arnold) of Kalkaska, Larry Baumchen and Danielle Baumchen (Jordan Baumchen & Max Baumchen) of Kalkaska, Brittany Gratiot (Madi Gratiot & Piper Gratiot) of Kalkaska, and Jacob Royston and Liz Grice (Willow Royston & Raya Royston) of Kalkaska; siblings: Jerry (Sue) Royston, Jill (Larry) Smith- Walters, Joanne (Kelly) Drozdak.

A Celebration of Life will be scheduled for the spring. Friends and family will be invited to share their stories and raise a glass in his honor. May the road ahead be endless and the music always play loud. Ride free, Dad.

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

Tribute Wall

BB

“ So sorry for your loss. Sorry so late. Prayers for family and friends.
Jacob & Liz

Bobby Bishop - April 15, 2025 at 08:35 AM

CH

“ Chris Housholder sent a virtual gift in memory
of Jeffrey Royston



Chris Housholder - March 07, 2025 at 02:38 PM

LR

My deepest condolences to the Royston family he was an awesome friend I will always keep him in my heart may he rest in peace fly high Jeff u will be miss but never forgotten.

Lupe Rodela - March 20, 2025 at 07:39 AM

CH

“ I'm so sorry to the family who lost a dad, brother, grandpa he truly was a good man selfish with a heart of gold he did love everyone although he didn't show it but he never showed emotion except mad he may not have said it or showed it but he loved his family I've heard him talk about it cry about it in the little over a yr I knew him he was a pain but with a heart watch him help and help and help people who would shit on him daily watching him turn the other cheek like God said to do when people try to take his life he was a strong man very very knowledgeable really glad I got to meet you too sorry you had to go the way you did fly high man I know you're up there giving God hell

Chris Housholder - March 07, 2025 at 02:33 PM