



## James A. McLafferty

May 23, 1978 - March 8, 2025

IN MEMORY OF:

James A. McLafferty

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

James A. McLafferty, age 46, of Murphysboro, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, March 8, 2025.

He was born on May 23, 1978 to James E. and V. Louise (Rushing) McLafferty in Murphysboro, Illinois.

He was a graduate of Murphysboro High School in 2006, and then he attended John A. Logan College Auto Body School. He loved fishing and playing his guitar.

Survivors include his two daughters, Mallory McLafferty and Parker McLafferty; father, James; sister, Mary (John) Adams; niece, Brittney

Spurgeon; nephew, Timothy K. Spurgeon; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Along with his mother, Louise, he is preceded in death by his step-mother, Mary Jane McLafferty; grandparents, Grace Muriel McLafferty and Joe McLafferty, Madge and Lawrence Rushing; uncles, Bill McLafferty and John McLafferty; and aunt, Teresa McLafferty.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 10:00 AM at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Murphysboro with Father Joel Seipp officiating.

A memorial visitation will be held prior to the Mass from 9:30 AM until 10:00 AM at the church.

Inurnment will follow the Mass at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park.

The cremation of James A. McLafferty will be personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Pleasant Grove Memorial Park

31 Memorial Dr.  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-1145  
crain@crainsonline.com

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAR 26. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (cst)

St. Andrew Catholic Church  
724 Mulberry St.  
Murphysboro, IL

## Memorial Mass

MAR 26. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (cst)

St. Andrew Catholic Church  
724 Mulberry St.  
Murphysboro, IL

## Inurnment

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MAR **26**. 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM (cst)

Pleasant Grove Memorial Park  
31 Memorial Dr.  
Murphysboro, IL 62966  
(618) 687-1145  
[crain@crainsonline.com](mailto:crain@crainsonline.com)

# Tribute Wall

EMAIL ME

KIARGA@PROTONMAIL.COM  
I DO NOT HAVE CHAT APPS

“ We met a little over 30 years ago in the spring semester of Mr. Whitaker's electronics class and were instant friends, so much so that Mr. Whitaker soon separated us to opposite sides of the classroom! My earliest memory of us together was when got to class early before Mr. Whitaker arrived and hung a taped-together poster-sized dot-matrix printout of Mr. Whitaker on the chalkboard with the text, "QUIT MILKING YOUR MONKEYS", which was a favorite expression of that teacher that he used often when speaking with Rufus and me especially. Mr. Whitaker kept that image in his office till his retirement I think :)

The final memory we made together was in April of last year when we borrowed one of my dad's old classic cars to pick up my nephew Logan from the Carbondale High School. Logan had asked to be picked up in a way that made a scene in front of the school, and Rufus and I were so so happy to oblige!! We arrived early and sat in the car directly in front of the main school doors blaring music near a police car as all the kids rushed out. We felt like we were in high school again for that moment and I'm so happy to have that great memory as our last.

Attached here are my first and last photos of Rufus. 1995: an epic unforgettable little impromptu party at my rented room in Murphysboro. 2024: after picking up my nephew from high school.



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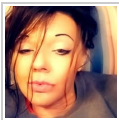
Kiarga Agraik - March 16, 2025 at 01:17 PM

GA

“ 1 file added to the album James "Rufdog" McLafferty



Garth - March 16, 2025 at 12:42 PM



Garth this is amanda could you get in contact with me 6182033740

Amanda Rogers - March 16, 2025 at 07:33 PM

EH

“ I'm met Rufus back in high school when I lived in Illinois only for a few years but during that few years, I was there, he had become a good friend and he was always hanging out with us at my moms along w Tommy, Ronnie, Chris, Danny, jeremy and the rest of the small circle I met and since remained friends with. He was around if you needed advice, and you could talk to him and he was honest with his response . Lol. I'm sorry to hear how times changed him and I hope he is at peace from whatever his troubles became. RIP old friend, way to young ☐☐☐☐

Eda Hoffsten - March 12, 2025 at 11:45 AM

MM

“Dad I haven't seen or spoke to you in over 5 years. I'm not going to be filled with resentment. I'll remember fun dad and our unnecessary noise making times in the car. I remember your calloused finger tips from playing the guitar and your extensive knowledge about history. I will continue to watch the simpsons for you. I will continue to live for you and for myself. Your banana curls will forever be with me on my own head as we look alike and share the same hair pattern. I will continue to listen to NOFX and Black flag and I will jam in your honor. There will not be a day where I dont think about you even in the years we did not speak I thought of you. And I accept you as you are. Goodbye dad and I'll see you again sometime. I hope I can see you again when you are laughing.

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**mallory mclafferty** - March 12, 2025 at 10:08 AM

TC

“I met you in Highschool, "Thelmas" English class.. You, Me, and Jimmy. You were always the funny witty guy. You told me you played guitar and I mentioned how I wanted to learn but hated going slow and "just playing chords and Mary Had a Little Lamb crap".. You said "I can teach you easy and you will be rockin in no time!"... And you did!

We hung out for years, at smokers hall in the Mall, at your place, then you got the trailer at your parents which became hang out central. I remember the birth of your kids, bud bud, Bill and "Milo", all of it.

You meant more to me than I could have expressed, and I know things drifted, but I still cared what happened to you and how you were doing.

I hope you have found peace brother, and release from chains of this life. I will always tell your stories so that you memory lives on. Rest well old friend. --Coffel

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**Tom C** - March 12, 2025 at 06:30 AM



“ *I've practically known you my whole life. We spent 20 yrs and had 2 beautiful children in that time.  
I wish you nothing but peace. RIP JAMES*

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**Jennifer Wohlwend** - March 11, 2025 at 03:55 PM