



Jeffrey Pate

February 27, 1962 - June 11, 2011

Jeffrey A. Pate, 49, of Iron Mountain, lost his hard-fought battle with A.L.S at his home on June 11, 2011. He was born Feb. 27, 1962 in Lincoln Park, MI, the son of the late James and Kay (Palmer) Pate.

Jeff graduated from Lincoln Park High School and moved to Iron Mountain eleven years ago. He worked as a carpenter.

Jeff married Debra May on May 25, 2002 in Iron Mountain.

He enjoyed collecting baseball cards, playing baseball and cheering for the Detroit Tigers. He liked watching football and was an Oakland Raiders fan. Jeff also enjoyed woodworking, and weight lifting.

Jeff was a very proud father and grandfather. He really loved his family and enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren playing baseball with them and teaching them how to cut wood.

Jeffrey is survived by his wife Debra, five children Nicole (Rommel) Rodriguez of Jackson, MI, April Pate of Riverview, MI, Tanya (Mike) Thomas of Niagara, Jamie (Brian Hord) Andersen of Iron Mountain, and Paul (Tamara) Andersen of Negaunee, one sister Joyce (Johnny) Qualls of Lincoln Park, one brother Kenny Pate of Lincoln Park, and seven grandchildren Kianna and Rimick

Cain, Jakob and Caleb Heffner, and Dylan, Hazel, and Jayden Rodriguez.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a grandson Landon Paul Andersen, and two special friends Jerry Livingston and Dan Campbell.

Visitation will be Tues. from 6-7pm at Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 7pm Tues. at the funeral home. Rev. James Brown will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests the memorial be made to the A.L.S. Guardian Angels 33761 Limerick Lane, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

Condolences to the family of Jeffrey A. Pate may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home with the funeral arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 14. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Funeral Service

JUN 14. 7:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

KF

“ Jeff and I never met other than here on the internet. We connected on the ALS Forum since my father had ALS as well. (He passed away the day before Jeff did) I do have a favorite memory of him, other than a game we played when one of us was having a down day. I would send him some lyric's from a song from the 80's (hair bands) and he would guess the song and send me back one for me to guess. But, my favorite memory of all time was May 17th of 2010. (My husband and I were also married in May 2002 and he suddenly passed away in 2007) I was especially feeling down as our wedding anniversary was coming up and I was grieving hard for my husband. Jeff, of course was there with all the right comforting words for me. On the 17th, I packed up my blanket and my husbands Bengal Leopard cat and went to the cemetery. I sat there just sobbing under the tree where my husband is buried, and its hard to explain other than it being a "God shot" . All of a sudden I felt a sense of calm, peace and love. It stopped me and took my breath away. When I got home, I messaged Jeff about the experience and he told me he was praying for me. I asked about what time that was, and it turned out to be the EXACT same time I had the "God shot" It gave Jeff goosebumps he told me. I will NEVER EVER forget that to my dying day.

He will be missed by so many people. He was truly a blessing in my life.

Sincerely,
Kari Sullivan

Kari Sullivan - Friend - June 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“*Deb, I am truly sorry that I couldn't be at Jeff's funeral. I was out of town when I got the news. I think Jeff was a wonderful man and always enjoyed talking with him. I was pleased that you 2 had each other. I am very honored to have known Jeff through his beginning journey of recovery and the wonderful man he came to be. I will always think of him strolling through the house and his laugh. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him I am sure of that. He was fortunate to have you in his life and please let me know if I can help you in any way.*

Lots of Love, Sue and Dale

sue gustafson - friend - June 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MF

“*Please accept my sincere condolences at the loss of such a vibrant and strong man. I met Jeff through the ALS Forum last year when my husband was dx with ALS. We became facebook/email friends. Jeff emailed words of support frequently and was philosophical when my husband, Marty, died last June, just two months after dx. I know from his emails to me that he loved his wife, adored his children and grandchildren, and felt that family was the most important thing in the world. Peace be with you.*

*Mary Kramer Ambrose
Houston, TX*

Mary Kramer Ambrose - Houston, TX - Friend - June 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“*Jeff was a friend of mine from Alsforums.com. He shared so many wonderful ideas, thoughts, and humour with all of us. My favorite was his time at the Tigers game. His love for his family is what I will remember most. HUGS Les and Lori*

lori shipman - reno, NV - ALSforums friend - June 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ I am very sad to hear the news of your passing Jeff. My heart goes out to all of your family and friends. We had a lot of good times and laughs back in the day. I always had fun with you, your brother Kenny, and everyone else back then. I know I have not seen you in a long time but I will always remember you. Your spirit will always live on. Rest in peace Jeff.

Todd Lane - Friend - June 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ Debby, i am so so sorry to hear about Jeff's passing. I will never forget him, Dan and Jerry. He lived his life in the best way he could and was a fine man. I know you and his family, friends will miss him deeply. Take care and God Bless,

Holly McCarthy

holly mccarthy - Colleague and favorite carpenter - June 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ To Jeff's family and friends,
Jeff grew as a fine man through the years i knew him, he loved his wife, and he was a fine carpenter. His laugh made me laugh and the twinkle in his eyes showed when he was happy, confident in himself, and living his life in the best way he could.

I know he will be missed by all and I will pray for him nightly, take care and god bless you all. Holly McCarthy

Holly McCarthy - Kevil, KY - Colleague, and favorite carpenter! - June 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ To have known Jeff was to have known what a true blessing from God must be like.
He touched me in a way I will never forget. His laughter, his positivity, and his sincerity will always be with me.
Jeff knew his final destination and he is home now. His spirit will remain with all of us and rejoice in the fact that we will all see him again!
May God Bless Deb and her family.

Danny Bianco - Friend - June 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ My memories of Jeff are when we were little. It was always fun when we got together with Joyce, Kenny and Jeff. Gramma, aunt Kay and uncle Jim were there too. I can still here uncle Jim yelling at us for cutting up. Those were the days. I haven't seen Jeff in a long time, but always remembered him in my prayers. He is in Glory now with his mom and dad and gramma. Best of all he is with our Lord, no more pain, only peace and joy. Love you Jeff, you will be missed.

Pamela Piiparinen - Lincoln Park, MI - cousin - June 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ My sincere condolences to the pate family. Sending thoughts and love to the family. Jeff was a great guy, you will be deeply miss. untill we meet again

Kelly Sanders - Lincoln Park, MI - Friend - June 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ Growing up as a young boy some of my best memories were when I got a chance to spend time with Jeff and Kenny. We always had a good time. Even when we got into a little bit of trouble. Jeff was a cut up and sort of a risk taker. I can still hear the words "Jeff" yelled by Uncle Jim warning us . I will forever cherish the time I got to spend with Jeff. It is so sad . So many of my favorite people in the world are gone to be with the Lord. Grandma, Uncle Jim, Aunt Kay and now Jeff. I will wait for the day in heaven when we can all be together Again.

*"I love You Jeff",
Billy*

Billy Ramey - cousin - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ You were the best thing that happened to my sister, the girls and all those grandbabies. You made them so happy. Thank You. And thank you for our conversations. You are now at peace.

Audrey Felix - Sister-in-law - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ My deepest sympathies are with the Pate family You will be missed jeff.

Teresa Cratty - friend - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ My prayer's and thought's are with the family, may peace find you some day as you try to heal. Know that Jehovah has him in his memory and you will see him again in the resurrection.
I can remember Jeff riding on a unicycle calling me flea and was like a big brother back in the day.
I haven't seen him in age's, but did alway's say a pray for him. I'm gonna miss the chance I should of had by seeing him when I move back, downriver.

Rest in peace my friend, I love you

Amy Holbrook - child hood friend - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Jeff the first time you made me smile was when you and Dennis made the news paper with him on your shoulders riding a unicycle. After that the laughs just kept coming, you have been a bright light in my life and I am honored to have been a part of yours. I smile now as I think of our little silly inside joke where we would complement each other's appearance “No you look good”. Goodbye for now Jeff and Rest well.

Les Hapney - Friend - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Jamie and Family,
Our sincerest sympathy to you and your family

Kay Meyer - Friend - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Please accept my deepest condolences. I didn't know Jeff; I work with Deb. I have enjoyed reading the other posts that people have been posting;it sounds like he was a wonderful person. May your memories bring you comfort during this difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Please know that you are loved and cared about by many!!!!

Selena Okler - friend - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Jeff and I, well all of us that hung out together, we had a lot of good times. we had some bad times to, but nothing we did'nt cause ourselves mostly. Jeff was also somewhat of a prankster, and loved to laugh. where we came from, and where we ended up, are two completely different lives and lifestyles. I thank the Lord for finding Jeff, and for finding me, and for bringing us to our loved ones who would help guide us to a deeper love for the Lord. Deb and Family I've never met you but I love you, God bless you, and hope to meet you soon.

Dan Qualls - Rock Island , TN - FRIEND - June 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ SO SAD TO SEE YOU GO JEFF MY MEMORIES OF YOU I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE GOOD TIMES DOWN AT THE CREEK AND RUNNING FROM THE COP'S.YOU WERE A GOOD FRIEND TO ME JEFF I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU.LOVE YOU YOY..RI

tammy begin - friend - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PF

“ Jeff my friend. You and I have been Best friends since I was 13. We went through n did so many things together while growing up. We shared so many GOOD TIMES over the years. And though we parted ways some years back we allways remained as we allways were BROTHERS. And though it saddens me very very much that you are gone I know I will see you again my friend. I know you know I love you and I will miss you. Good by for now Jeff. Untill we meet again. Your Brother Pat.

Patrick D Condon. - Lincoln Park., MI - Friend. - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ With your brave smile I will remember you as a very strong man! It was wonderful to meet you and so very sad to see you go. We will meet again in our passings and I will greatfully give you a BIG HUG! Deb....we are so sorry for your loss. He has now won his battle and will be waiting for you with open arms. Hugs to you!

Aunt Schmoo - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Deb, Do you remember the day he asked you to marry him.??? How tall that man stood when you said "yes". If ever you both were to have this journey together-know that us outsiders wittness many many blessed memories.
Love cindy

C Carlson - Kingsford, MI - Friend - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Deb, Sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Jill Laitinen - Friend - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

OI

“ My sincere condolences to the family of Jeffrey Pate. May you find comfort in knowing that our creator cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7) He promises a time when "all in the memorial tombs" will come to life again.(John 5:28,29). Please be comforted until that time is realized.

Olivia Cooper - IL - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Thank You Jeff for being such a good friend to my Jay. You are now in the arms of G-d, as is my Jay. Rest in Peace.

Lori Kiinney - Friend - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ Actually, I live in Canada now, but the sign in wouldn't let me put that.. Growing up, my Uncle was always tons of fun. I have memories of him being very young. He'd bring me lollypops and stuff and I'd hide them between my bed. Babysitting, he always experimented on us with new recipes he made up. He had a huge passion for cooking and was a real homemaker. Like the kind you see on TV. When my brothers and I went through a swearing faze, he made us put a quarter into a brown paper bag every time we cursed. We'd collect quarters from in the couches and stuff just to let out the F bomb, hah! He was a good man and a great Uncle. I can't believe I'm writing in his eulogy.. It never seems real until it happens to somebody you know.

Tiffany Qualls - Lincoln Park, MI - Neice - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ It was always great talking carpentry work together. Thanks for the smiles! Take care of Landon, for me.

Paul Andersen - Negaunee, MI - step son - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ i WATCH YOU GROW UP. I LOVED WHEN YOU TOOK YOU ONE WHEEL BIKE AND RODE IT UP AND DOWN THE STREET. I WISH WE COULD HAVE STAYES CLOSER BUT I AM GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO TALK THIS YEAR. i WISH THE BEST FOR YOU FAMILY AND SEND ALL MY LOVE TO THEM.

CHERYL MINNICK - FREIND - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ In a very large family as the Pate family is - one precious member can be missed by so many! But Jeff's influence went way beyond the confines of the family proper.

Jeff touched so many lives in so many ways. When at an event in his honor last October, it was very clear how many wanted to honor him for the way he had honored them. People he had worked for, done repairs for, loved, taught, talked with and suffered ALS with. His influence and touch was very wide.

I also had the chance to see the love and dedication that Jeff and Deb have had to each other! I was very blessed to spend just a bit of time with them. And Jeff's wonderful dog-pal protected and loved him without question.

Jeff will be missed. Deb - thank you for being who you have been for Jeff. I for one am so thankful he has had so much love around him and such a wonderful family to love. To all the kids - cling to your good memories and tell the stories over and over again to your children. Through you - the grandchildren will never forget. Joyce and Ken - you know I love you!

with much love - Linda (Pate) Lawther and family

Linda (Pate) Lawther - Ypsilanti, MI - Cousin - June 13, 2011 at 12:00 AM