



Matthew Koleski

July 5, 2021

Matthew Koleski, passed away July 5, 2021. Matt is survived by his Forever Love; Christine Tanghe, and was a loving caring role model to Drew Hite. Loving son of 54 years to Sharon and Edmund Koleski. Also loving son to Pam(Frank) Ventimiglia and Chuck Tanghe. Dear brother to Robert, Ingrid (Kirk) Rudolph, Sue (Joe) Giallombardo, Kristen Messing, Jenny Pekar, Philip (Andrea) Tanghe and Breanna Ventimiglia. Loving uncle to Matt (Brittany) Firchau, Zachary Rudolph, Emily (Paul) Allen, Nick and Tony Giallombardo, Michaela and Hayden Messing, Spencer and Cam Pekar, Great Uncle to Jackson and Evie Firchau and Marco and Mateo Tanghe.

Visitation will be held at Wasik Funeral Home on Thursday, July 8, 2021 from 5-8 p.m., Friday, July 9, 2021 from 1-8 p.m. Funeral Services will be held July 10, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., also at the funeral home.

Matt Koleski was a man larger than life and that's an understatement.

On July 5, 2021 the hockey world lost one of its players. Not just one of its players, but a legend in the sport of Roller Hockey, Matt Koleski. Matt has been involved in roller hockey for more than 3 decades, in all aspects of the sport. Matt was a former Director of Hockey at Little Caesars Roller Hockey out of Joe Dumars Fieldhouse. He has been the leader of one of the most successful roller hockey programs in the country, the Detroit Bordercats, and even more importantly, he has been a leader, a mentor, a coach, but most importantly, a friend to thousands in the roller hockey community. His impact in the hockey community along with the world cannot be overstated.

Words cannot express how everyone feels. Just like many of you, Matt had a major impact on everyone's lives. Moving forward for us as individuals and as a company will be a day to day process. We will miss Matty more than words can express. If you didn't know Matt and your life hadn't been effected by him, what you need to know is that he was one of the good ones. The one that people talk about, that puts a smile on your face when you walk into a room and was always there for a conversation, a helping hand, or to share a drink with. We have lost once again a coach, a friend, and overall a class act that always led by example. Rest in peace Matt Koleski. We will all miss you. ~ courtesy of Mike Farinelli.

They say God takes the best ones from us too soon and this surely is the case with you as I can only assume he needed someone to coach a big game or teach someone how to take a one timer. You will be missed my friend and I definitely cherish all of the good times we shared. See you on the other side...RIP Matty #93 ~ courtesy Tim McManus.

@93 Matt Koleski

Memorial donations to The Capuchins would be appreciated.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 8. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Visitation

JUL 9. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Funeral Service

JUL 10. 10:00 AM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Township
49150 Schoenherr Rd.
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(586) 532-8600
shelby@wasikfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

BC

“ On behalf of the Capuchin brothers I offer my deepest sympathies on the passing of Matthew. It is truly humbling to receive memorial donations in honor of his life. Please be assured of the brother's prayers for the entire Koleski family during this great time of grief. May perpetual light shine upon Matthew.

Br Nick Blattner Ofm Capuchin - July 12, 2021 at 12:25 PM

LB

“ Matty,

I will always remember the times when you would give me tips on playing roller hockey, but after awhile there was no hope for me LOL. You will always be remembered for your big smile and huge heart. I will truly miss you.

May God bless you and your family

Leonard Bugli

Leonard Bugli - July 09, 2021 at 04:02 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.



July 09, 2021 at 12:03 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 10:45 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 08:10 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 04:38 PM



“ *Our family met Matt through my husband Dennis DeGripp. He was a great funny guy who always met you with a smile!! Coaching kids from them falling down to skating circles around him. My son Dennis DeGripp Jr. Holds him in high regard s. Heart felt prayers to all affected by his passing!*

Carla Degripp - July 08, 2021 at 04:27 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 02:26 PM



“ *Matty and I knew each other since we were young kids. We grew up playing hockey together all the way from mites to a National Junior Championship with Compuware to college hockey roommates in Fairbanks, Alaska. If there was a day we could go back to, it would be to play the endless hours of street hockey again with Matt, Mike, and myself in the LaLonde driveway. I'll never forget on my wedding day in Minnesota when Matt and Mike had to go back to the church and find our lost marriage license. Matt - your laugh and easy going personality will be missed by all who knew you. Rest easy, my friend — Shawn Chambers*

Shawn Chambers - July 08, 2021 at 02:14 PM



What great memories, Shawn. Matti used to talk about you all of the time. I am so sorry that you lost such a special friend.

Jackie Baker - July 09, 2021 at 10:04 AM



“ *Aunt Sharon and Family, my heart hurts for you all. Though I never met Matt he sounds like he was just an amazing and kind man. Sending my love, strength, and prayers to you all.*

Dena Sytniak - July 08, 2021 at 11:28 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 11:23 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 11:08 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 11:00 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 08, 2021 at 09:54 AM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.



July 08, 2021 at 08:46 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.



July 07, 2021 at 10:24 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.



July 07, 2021 at 08:53 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.



July 07, 2021 at 07:38 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 07, 2021 at 07:32 PM



“ *Matt,
You where always my partner whether it be Organizing our Michigan SW teams, playing as teammates or opponents, coaching together or on opposite benches, traveling all around the world with Team USA or just consoling each other during tough times. Working for you was an honor. Roller hockey will never be the same to me again, although I will keep pushing on because I don't want to disappoint you. I will miss hearing your voice. Whenever I hear the letter Z pronounced Zed I will forever think of you my friend. See you on the other side "Pro".*

Dave (Zed) Zarem - July 07, 2021 at 07:31 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 07, 2021 at 07:14 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 07, 2021 at 07:01 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 07, 2021 at 06:54 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 07, 2021 at 05:12 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 07, 2021 at 03:34 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Matthew Koleski.*



July 07, 2021 at 03:29 PM