



Jefferson "Jay" John Matthews IV

December 28, 1967 - May 10, 2022

Jefferson "Jay" John Matthews, IV of Covington, LA passed away on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 after a hard, courageous battle with prostate cancer. He was born in New Orleans, LA on December 28, 1967 to Jefferson John Matthews III and Norma Tauzin Matthews Gwin.

Jay is survived by his loving wife of 20 years, Annette; his cherished daughter, Sophia; his father, Jefferson (Sandra); his mother, Norma Gwin (Kenny) and his sister, Jeanne Curole (Rodney). He is also survived by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Ernest and Taeko Gauthier; siblings-in-law, Joan Ferguson, Laura Yerby (Robert), Keri Skeins and Scott Skeins; and nieces and nephews, Justin, Tanner, Hannah, Chase, Lainey and Rylee (James).

Jay is preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Jefferson and Katherine Matthews and maternal grandparents, T. J. and Isabel Tauzin.

Jay was a proud member of IBEW Local 130 since 1988 and was fiercely pro-union. He won the "Outstanding Apprentice" Award in 1992, and began a long career as an electrical journeyman, where he was able to mentor many apprentices and helpers on the job. It was important to him to pass on what knowledge he could, be it electrical or life experience, to help those younger or less experienced than him. He has many union brothers whom he loved, including his good friend, Roger Oakes. Although separated by distance, they spoke frequently and Jay cherished Roger's friendship.

Jay loved to fish and spent many happy days fishing with Gus Wilson and Gus's brother, Gary. Jay and Gus were friends since childhood and he had many comical stories about them as kids. Jay loved Gus as a brother.

Jay also loved being at his camp on Bayou Lacombe, which he put his heart and soul into rebuilding after it was damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He loved to fish from his kayak and to take boat rides out to the lake. Any time spent on the Bayou was time well

spent in his book. He loved sitting on the bench and feeding the fish and turtles in solitude equally as well as having family and friends over for a get together or crawfish boil.

Jay's daughter, Sophia, "Sophie" to her family, was his pride and joy. He made it to her high school graduation ceremony as one of his last acts of love. We will cherish all of our memories of Jay and will be challenged with how to move forward without him. We will miss his smile, his wit, his intelligence, his love, his direction, his company and his friendship. I know the first thing he did when he reached heaven was to find Boo, our beloved dog we lost last year. I know they are walking along a beach with the sun shining down on them, happy and at peace, searching the surf for fish and crabs.

Jay's family would like to thank his doctors at Tulane Cancer Center, especially Dr. Pedro Barata. Jay had the utmost respect for Dr. Barata and knew that he was under the best care possible for his disease. Dr. Barata and his entire team provided the care and hope we needed in order to make the most of his remaining life.

Jay wished to be cremated and his ashes spread over the Bayou, which his family will do at a later date. For now, family and friends are invited to celebrate his life at a memorial service to be held at E. J. Fielding Funeral Home, 2260 W 21st Avenue, Covington LA on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 4:30 PM with visitation beginning at 3:00 PM until service time.

Jay wanted everyone to raise a glass to him and remember the good times. In lieu of flowers, Jay would like you to consider a donation to Tulane Cancer Center in his name.

E.J. Fielding Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements. Please sign the E.J. Fielding Funeral Home online Guest Book at www.ejfieldingfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 21. 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM (CT)

E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services

2260 W 21st Ave

Covington, LA 70433

director@ejfielding.net; eileen@ejfielding.net

<https://www.ejfieldingfh.com/>

Memorial Services

MAY 21. 4:30 PM (CT)

E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services

2260 W 21st Ave

Covington, LA 70433

director@ejfielding.net; eileen@ejfielding.net

<https://www.ejfieldingfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Jefferson "Jay" John Matthews IV*



E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services - May 15 at 01:34 PM

MJ

“ *My sincere and deepest condolences to the Matthews family on their loss. I had the privilege of knowing and spending time with Jay during his electrical apprenticeship. He was an asset to our apprenticeship program and a pleasure to be around. His hard work and dedication to his studies resulted in his being selected to represent the apprenticeship program and IBEW #130 as our outstanding apprentice. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union #130 lost a good friend and brother.*

*Morty Branighan, Jr., Retired Director
New Orleans Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Program*

M. J. Branighan, Jr. - May 18 at 03:40 PM

JA

“ *Oh Jay-Gone too soon. What can I say...
You were only a baby when I moved from Louisiana, but oh what a baby! You were at my wedding in 1968, only 8 months old in a stroller. It's one of my most precious memories. My Mom and Dad, and Gramps, loved watching you grow, always ready to update me with fun stories of your antics. They were so proud of you and would have loved the man you became.*

Your wit, warmth, wisdom and generosity will be long remembered.

Whenever I visited you regaled me with Louisiana cuisine, whether it be Fried Fish, Gumbo, Crawfish or Oysters. Whatever you prepared was truly food for the gods.

You always put your family first and for that you will live on in our hearts.

While we thank God for sharing you with us for over 54 years, we all wish it could have been longer. I will carry you, that little 8 month old baby dressed for a wedding, with me until we meet again.

With love, Aunt Jan

Jan Atchity - May 18 at 10:52 AM

SM

Such special memories. Jay was so glad for your recent visit with him. He wanted that last visit with you and I know it is one you will cherish.

sandra matthews - May 20 at 09:36 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Jefferson "Jay" John Matthews IV.*



May 18 at 10:30 AM

MO

“ *Mom purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Jefferson "Jay" John Matthews IV.*



Mom - May 17 at 04:41 PM

DK

“ *We will never forget that Halloween that Jay and Gus dressed as Batman and Robin when they were teenagers in a child's size 8 or 10 costume because that was all that was left that night to get at Kmart. They fit like midriiffs and shorts. It was hilarious! They were a crazy pair. Jay had a great smile whenever we were in his company.*
With our sincere sympathy, Cherlyn & Darryl Klein

darryl klein - May 17 at 02:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jefferson "Jay" John Matthews IV.*



May 15 at 08:41 PM

MR

“ Jay, there are no words to say that will show how much you will be missed. Growing up, you were always like a big brother to me. I can remember going to parades, crawfish boils on the water, hanging out with family, and riding on the pontoon. Whenever you were there, we always ate good that's for sure! I will miss your hugs and witty spirit. Love and miss you always, Magan



Magan Russell - May 15 at 11:53 AM

KE

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Keri - May 15 at 10:36 AM

SM

“ Jay, I was so proud to become your father. Before long, we were creating a special bond that would last a lifetime. You were in diapers and crawling around my greasy garage floor, teething on a 9/16 wrench. I dragged you around in the woods with me and you would follow carrying your rifle. You were a quick study and became an avid hunter. You and Gus terrorized the woods on the West Bank. One day, you wanted to shoot black birds and I said ok, but remember, you need to eat everything you kill. You ate sixteen black birds that day.

You were born a fisherman and that was your true passion. People always tell fish stories, but son you always had the fish to show and for us to eat.

I was proud when you became a fourth generation electrician and a third generation IBEW Union Electrician. You ended your career with Ordes Electric when your battle with prostate cancer made it difficult to work. We are thankful for the support Ordes Electric gave you during your illness.

I will be reflecting on our times together. I can't imagine my life without you. Miss you so much my son, my best friend.

Love,
Dad

sandra matthews - May 14 at 06:12 PM

SM

“ Jay, Twenty-one years ago you became my step-son. I always loved the person you were and bragged about you frequently. I was intrigued by the things that always captured your attention; simple things like the osprey nesting in the trees on the Bayou, beautiful Bayou skies, sunsets, stars and driftwood. Umm, mentioning wood reminds me of how much you loved burning wood in the fire pit! You loved to cook and was excited when you tried something new with unique flavors or something as simple as biscuits (of course, this isn't simple for some people). Our camping trips, chats and marshmallow roasting by the fire, and taking the kids for a walk in the woods. Celebrating Saints' games, tailgating, parades, Kentucky Derby Day fun, and wine tastings. Out dancing with you was quite unique! I remember turning and seeing you with dancing moves I had never seen before, like changing a light bulb or starting a lawn mower. I think you were the originator of these dance moves. Playing games with you was fun and of course we were always the best (I know you would love hearing me say that). I liked to give gadgets for gifts and watch you figure out how to use them, especially the snow cone machine and potato peeler. Our sharing holiday celebrations, going to dinner as a family, having an ice cold beer....I could go on and on. I am going to miss you so much and there will be an emptiness in my life. But I will also have a heart full of love, happy memories and will thank God for blessing me with you, sweet guy. Rest In Peace.



Sandra Matthews - May 14 at 01:53 PM

DM

“ You were/are my hero. Most of my happiest memories in Louisiana involve you my cousin. I know so many people knew you so much longer than I ever got the chance to know you. I am sincerely jealous of all of the people who got to spend more time with you.

I remember when I was around 7 years old playing monopoly with you and arguing about how much change I owed you when you landed on Baltic ave. and paid me.

I remember coming over and believing you when you when told me you knew how to build a real laser gun.

I remember being sad when I came over and you couldn't play because you had diarrhea.

I remember you waking me up and leading me to a place where we were watching all the parents participate in a wet tee shirt contest while watching from under a van in 1978 at a bayou boogie van club event after we were supposed to be sleeping.

I remember missing you when I moved to California and sending you some trinkets to try to stay connected.

I remember always wanting to be more like you.

I will always love and remember you Jay. I know you'll be missed by everyone who ever really knew you.

David Matthews - May 14 at 12:39 PM

CS

“ Jay was such a shining light in the lives of others. I don't think I ever saw him without that big contagious smile of his. He will be greatly missed...the bayou won't be the same without him. ❤️

Coarie Matthews Stephens - May 14 at 12:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jefferson "Jay" John Matthews IV.



May 13 at 01:03 PM

AN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Annette - May 13 at 11:22 AM

AN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Annette - May 13 at 11:21 AM

RB

“ I will be most honored to officiate at the memorial service for this great man who was loved by all. My deepest condolences go to the family.

Sincerely,

Reverend Jack Boudreaux
Pastor Emeritus

Reverend Jack Boudreaux - May 12 at 01:15 PM

KS

“ Precious Jay...he fought long and hard. To know Jay, was to love Jay. He definitely made a mark on our lives and we will not be the same without his fun-loving presence. Rest easy Jay ❤️ Until we meet again...

KERI SKEINS - May 12 at 09:11 AM