



Jeffrey Scott Rodrian

April 13, 1954 - October 27, 2016

On the morning of October 27th, 2016, our Beloved Father passed away at Madison Health and Rehab from complications due to Multiple Sclerosis. He was 62 years old.

Dad was born in Milwaukee, WI on April 13th, 1954. He was the fifth child and third son of Roland Jacob and Ann Rodrian. As the youngest of five, he enjoyed being part of a large and close knit family. His brother Jim led him to the Lord at a young age so his faith, along with a love of math, a good book, music and coffee were a strong part of who he was. He attended Milwaukee Lutheran High and often remembered it fondly. He pursued engineering at the University of Wisconsin. And then went on to Bellarmine University in KY for his MBA. After graduating he started working at General Electric, and during this time, he met his future wife Elizabeth "Beth" Napier.

Jeff and Beth met at a bible study and bonded over their Christian faith and their mutual experience with being recently divorced after brief, and difficult, first marriages. When Jeff was offered a transfer within GE to a more permanent position out of state, he chose to leave the company so that he could stay in Louisville with Beth. They were married on Saturday the 22nd of July, 1978 at Saint Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville, KY.

Jeff and Beth settled in a cozy green house on Beuchel Bank Road where they welcomed their first baby girl, Jennifer Elizabeth, on April 18th, 1979. Jeff worked with American Air Filter during this time. Two and half more years brought Laura Elizabeth on August 16th, 1981 followed by their last daughter,

Sarah Elizabeth, on March 13th, 1984. The family moved to Newburgh, Indiana following a new management position for Jeff with Zoeller, Inc. During their five-years in Indiana they welcomed their fourth child and first son, Jeffrey Scott Jr. on June 24th, 1987 before returning to KY to be closer to Beth's family. Jeff returned to work with AAF and the family settled in Waddy, KY on 11 acres of land. A few years more brought their last child, Jacob Baxter on June 14th, 1991. It also brought the start of a small family farm in the shape of one wobbly Jersey calf and a few baby chicks and rabbits. Jeff showed himself incredibly adaptable and creative as he transformed the Waddy property to meet the demands of the farm's growth. He built outbuildings, maintained machines, and learned butchering, gardening and other aspects of homesteading on the fly. Pictures from this time show Jeff looking tanned and fit in overalls working on projects or playing with his children. At the same time he maintained a life as a businessman working in import/export for American Air Filter, and as a liaison for their overseas clients. His children fondly remember dinners out with clients as they learned about other countries and introduced some local Kentucky history and culture. He was also known as the man around the office who could fix a computer; as the age of computers came into its own, Jeff was eagerly keeping ahead of the curve tinkering with machines and working his way through thick manuals. His fascination with technology was a trait that remained with him throughout his life.

It was during this busy, active period at the age of 38 that he began experiencing a combination of symptoms that were impossible to ignore. He began experiencing tingling in his hands and feet, and he would find himself stumbling through steps as he experienced a sense of cognitive disorientation. When he received the diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis, it was difficult to know what to expect. It was a frightening diagnosis, and Jeff and Beth held out some hope that it was an error or a misdiagnosis. In the case of relapsing/remitting MS, it can be easy in the early stages to believe it was just a mistake, but the disease carried on slowly in the background as Jeff tried to

live a normal life and care for his family.

Things became more difficult as American Air Filters down-sized and Jeff's position was eliminated. His computer savvy led to a Position at PSST around the time his two oldest daughters were applying for College. That company changed hands a few years later, bringing about changes in the staff, and Jeff was in the market for a job once again. He was flying to an interview for a promising job in Arkansas on September 11 2001; when all airplanes were grounded due to terrorist activities, he was stranded in Louisiana and found a ride back home with a fellow passenger. That was a day that changed America, and its economy. The new job market was much harder to navigate, particularly since the MS was beginning to make it harder to learn and master large quantities of new information. A huge blow was dealt to the family when Beth died suddenly from complications to undiagnosed lung cancer. As the full weight of decision-making and family responsibility landed on Jeff's shoulders, the stress exacerbated his MS. His sheer will to keep moving forward and keep his family provided for was evident as he tried rental properties and fixing up a new place for himself and his two sons still at home. But it became clear that his decision-making abilities and short term memory were deteriorating. His daughter Laura was a huge help to him and her brothers, often stopping in to check on everyone and fix meals. Eventually, the decision was made for Jacob to move in with Jennifer, as Teddy left for college and Laura married and moved to De'Paul to earn her master's degree. Jeff moved to an apartment down the street from Jenny and family, where he could simplify his responsibilities but still be close to his four children in Kentucky. He was content in his apartment, and loved to take Jenny's 2 sons Gabriel and Caleb on nature walks; he loved to explore and had infinite patience! He enjoyed father son time with Jacob on the drive to school every day. Sara and Teddy were close enough to come spend the night on occasion and he was very proud of how Sara helped him decorate his apartment, and Teddy's devotion to his studies. He loved hiking the Berea Pinnacles, hiking one of

them faithfully every other day, joined by his dog Macey and the little pinnacle dog Tilly. Jenny and the kids loved to join him on these adventures. They will also always remember fondly the jar of chocolate chip cookies that Grandpa kept on his counter and would share when they visited.

As time progressed, Jeff moved through managed care to requiring more full-time care at a nursing home. His children and grandchildren were able to visit him often, and he was fond of his caregivers. Although MS had caused him to have some physical limitations, he retained his enjoyment of many things in life like black and red licorice or a good hamburger, UK basketball and the great outdoors, a good cup of coffee and a good movie, man to man chats with his sons and visits from his grandbabies, especially those that included a pizza party!

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to <http://www.nationalmssociety.org/Donate>.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Memorial Gardens

3250 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 1. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

LeCompte-Johnson-Taylor Funeral Home
1725 Louisville Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 223-5858
ljtfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://ljtfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Services

NOV 1. 1:00 PM (ET)

LeCompte-Johnson-Taylor Funeral Home
1725 Louisville Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 223-5858
ljtfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://ljtfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

TN

“ I did not know this man but I read his obit.....whomever wrote this I guarantee it made him smile from Heaven....great eulogy!!! Tony Newsome Frankfort ky

Tony Newsome - November 01, 2016 at 12:50 PM

JS

“ I cannot remember how we first met (perhaps it was at Living Waters Church?), but I do remember sharing fun times as my children played with the Rodrian kids. They dogsat for our dachshund, and we in turn took care of their pets. What began as guinea pigs and dogs turned into a mini-farm. My kids still talk about learning how to milk the cow. Jeff was always the steady hand around this busy family. Goodby, my friend.

Janet S - October 31, 2016 at 06:53 PM

KV

“ So sorry for your loss. Mark and Kim Vanover



Kim Vanover - October 31, 2016 at 05:52 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Scott Rodrian.



October 31, 2016 at 04:56 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Scott Rodrian.*



October 31, 2016 at 04:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Scott Rodrian.*



October 29, 2016 at 08:39 PM