



## Derek Joseph Graves

April 2, 1987 - December 8, 2024

Derek Joseph Graves, 37, of Chesterfield, passed away Sunday December 8, 2024. Derek was born in Northampton on April 2, 1987, to Gary and Colleen (Demerski) Graves.

He was a 2005 graduate of Hampshire Regional. After graduating high school, he worked alongside his father as an apprentice electrician, later receiving his electrical license and taking over his father's business. Derek lived life to the fullest and had many hobbies he enjoyed, such as golfing, playing on a pitch league with his uncle Mike, snowmobiling and his absolute favorite, boating on the Connecticut River with his family and friends. He was an amazing father to both of his daughters and was active in all their activities as well as coaching his daughters T-ball team. Derek had an amazing personality and made friends everywhere he went and was always willing to lend a helping hand with anything.

Derek is survived by the love of his life, Amber Spiess, two beautiful daughters, Emery Jade and Raelynn Rose, his father Gary and mother Colleen, all of Chesterfield, his brother Austin and his girlfriend Amanda Ashton, his nephew Aiden all of Westhampton, his grandmother, Constance Geiger of Florida, uncle Mike and aunt Kathy Graves, aunt Kathy Rice and her husband Bob, uncle Kevin and his wife Nancy Graves, aunt Carol Demerski, uncle Peter Demerski, best friends Alex and Whitney Antosz, dogs Ruby and Daisy, and many cousins and friends. He will be deeply missed by everyone who knew him.

He was predeceased by his maternal grandfather, Francis Demerski, and paternal grandparents, Philip and Theresa Graves.

Calling Hours will be Sunday December 15, 2024, from 2-5 PM at the DROZDAL FUNERAL HOME, 120 DAMON RD., NORTHAMPTON. Services and burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to an account set up for his daughter's college fund. Please make checks payable to Raelynn and Emery Graves, and it may be sent to Easthampton Saving Bank, 297 King St., Northampton, MA 01060 or to Amber Spiess, 62 Willcutt Rd., Chesterfield, MA 01012.

For more information, or to leave the family a personal condolence, please visit [Drozdalfuneralhome.com](http://Drozdalfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

DEC **15**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Drozdal Funeral Home  
120 Damon Rd.  
Northampton, MA 01060  
drozdalfh@aol.com  
<http://Drozdalfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ *This is an unimaginable tragedy for the friends and family of Derek. My heart goes out to you. Just know that he died doing something that he loved, and he would want everyone to carry on and be happy. I know that's easier said than done but time will heal.*

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**Christopher Hayes** - December 18, 2024 at 08:01 PM

JB

“ *Dear Amber, Emery Jade and Raelynn Rose, Please accept my condolences on losing Derek. I was shocked and saddened to hear of his death so suddenly and in the prime of his life. I only knew him briefly when he did electrical work at my house this past summer, but liked him immediately. He was cheerful, prompt, got the electrical work done that I desperately needed and was an excellent mentor and teacher to his assistant who obviously knew less than Derek, but was eager to learn. His passing is a loss, not only to you, but to anyone who could depend upon his electrical expertise and beautiful spirit. With deep sympathy, Judy Babcock of Worthington*

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**Judy Babcock** - December 15, 2024 at 04:09 PM

DL

“ *So sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with you all. Always enjoyed playing Pitch with Derek and seeing, interacting with him and his daughters when they visited. Hang in there, hard as that must be right now. ❤️*

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**Dennis Lyman** - December 15, 2024 at 11:29 AM

RF

“ Gary , Colleen and Family ;  
So sorry at the tragic loss of your son Derek. While I did not know him, I have heard nothing but good things about him. His energy and skill in his work. His love for his family and daughters. His enthusiasm for fun and his friends.  
My heartfelt condolences to you and your family. May he rest in peace.  
Dick Fournier

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**Richard Fournier** - December 15, 2024 at 08:02 AM

LW

I am so sorry for your loss. ❤️We share in your sorrow.

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**Linda and Gary Willemain** - December 15, 2024 at 03:33 PM

FW

“ From The Windzios purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Derek Joseph Graves.



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**From The Windzios** - December 14, 2024 at 01:16 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Derek Joseph Graves.

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December 14, 2024 at 11:36 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Derek Joseph Graves.



December 14, 2024 at 11:36 AM



“ Your night girls, Abs and Jen purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Derek Joseph Graves.



Your night girls, Abs and Jen - December 13, 2024 at 11:28 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Derek Joseph Graves.

December 13, 2024 at 08:25 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Derek Joseph Graves.



December 13, 2024 at 08:25 AM

MK

“ *Derek our friend:*

*We met you around 5-6 years ago when you came to do our electrical work at our home. Throughout all our remodeling endeavors no matter when I called you, you showed up. And of course if you didn't call me back or text back I would send you funny messages via text and you would call me and say how busy you were but would take care of us. Over the years you told me about Amber and your sweet little girls and how proud you were of your family , and the love you had for all of them.*

*You would always invade my soda stash and my candy jar, and if we were not home I'd tell you to just walk in. We trusted you and knew whatever was the task you had it done right away. We will both miss your smile , your stories, me harassing you, and most of all we will miss you driving down the street in your white truck. It's still so sad to think that you our gone , but know we will always remember and adored you our friend . God Speed  
Love Charlie & Mary Klepacki*

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**Mary & Charlie Klepacki** - December 10, 2024 at 07:33 PM

JC

“ *Jacob C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Derek Joseph Graves.*

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**Jacob C.** - December 10, 2024 at 03:14 PM