



## Derk Gates

April 19, 1968 - December 21, 2016

DERK ALLEN GATES WAS LOVINGLY WELCOMED INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2016 AT 11:56 AM. HIS PARENTS WERE AT HIS SIDE. HE WAS 48 YEARS OF AGE. BORN APRIL 19, 1968 IN LEBANON, HE WAS THE SON OF DAMON L. AND PATRICIA BURNS GATES WHO SURVIVE.

HE GRADUATED WITH THE LEBANON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1987. HE THEN PURSUED HIS INTEREST IN TECHNOLOGY BY ATTENDING A VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS AS WELL AS TAKING SOME CORRESPONDENCE COURSES THROUGH IUPUI. FOR THE MOST PART, DERK WAS SELF TAUGHT AND UTILIZED HIS ACCESS TO THE INTERNET TO LINK WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD. THROUGH THE YEARS, HE PURSUED MANY INTERESTS WHICH INCLUDED PHOTOGRAPHY, ATARI GAME REPAIR, CB RADIO COMMUNICATION, CHESS, MUSIC OF ALL GENRE'S, BUT MOST OF ALL, COMPUTERS FOR THE STRENGTH AND INDEPENDENCE THEY OFFERED.

HE FORMED HIS OWN DJ BUSINESS, NGN DJ'S, INC. WITH TWO PALS, MIKE NELSON AND BRYAN NICELY WHEN HE WAS 17 YEARS OLD. THE BUSINESS HAS CONTINUED THESE MANY YEARS AS OTHER PARTNERS AND PARTICIPANTS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED, INCLUDING BLAINE BOYLAND, SCOTT BURRESS, DUSTIN REYNOLDS AND TIM

MAINES. THE NAME MORE COMMONLY UTILIZED NOW IS, "DJ ON WHEELS". IN 1994, HE, CHRIS BROWN AND DARRIN DeBard ESTABLISHED IN-MOTION, LLC AN INTERNET PROVIDER SERVICE WHICH HE CO-OWNED FOR OVER 10 YEARS. FOLLOWING THAT, HE BECAME A PART OF WEB CONNECTIVITY, LLC WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1999 BY BLAINE BOYLAND AND MARK PING. DERK HAD WORKED WITH THEM AS A DATA CENTER OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR MANY YEARS.

DESPITE A DIAGNOSIS OF SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY AT 18 MONTHS OF AGE, DERK AMAZED HIS DOCTORS AND THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY BY PERSEVERING THROUGH MYRIAD HEALTH CHALLENGES. HE NEVER LOST HIS WILL TO LIVE AND HIS LONGEVITY CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO HIS DEEP AND ABIDING FAITH. HE HAD A WEALTH OF FRIENDS WHO SPENT COPIOUS HOURS IN THE GATES HOME (OFTEN REFERRED TO AS "HAPPY HOUSE"). HE WAS BLESSED WITH A FAMILY WHO ADORED HIM AND AN EXTENDED FAMILY WHO TREASURED HIM. WITH THAT BEING SAID, IT WAS OFTEN DERK WHO WAS THE "ROCK" WHEN STRENGTH WAS NEEDED. HE WAS INCREDIBLY INTELLIGENT, INSIGHTFUL, HAD A GRAND SENSE OF HUMOR AND A VERY TENDER HEART. ASIDE FROM HIS DEEP FAITH, HE OFTEN TURNED TO MUSIC TO HELP SUSTAIN AND LIFT HIS SPIRITS AND HAD FORMED FRIENDSHIPS WITH A VARIETY OF MUSICAL GROUPS. IN ADDITION, HE HAD A SOFT SPOT IN HIS HEART FOR "CRITTERS" AND HIS DOGS WERE AN INTEGRAL PART OF HIS DAILY LIFE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS. THE FEW TIMES THIS TOUGH, BUT GENTLE SOUL SHED TEARS WAS WHEN AN ANIMAL WAS HURTING OR HAD CROSSED THE "RAINBOW BRIDGE". WE KNOW HE IS NOW REJOICING WITH HIS BELOVED POOCHER, HOBO, TRUCK, THUNDER, AND GUS.

HE WAS A SERVANT OF THE LORD AND WAS LOYAL TO HIS CHURCH, CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST, WHERE HE OFFERED HIS TALENT AND WISDOM OVER MANY YEARS. IT IS WITHOUT A DOUBT THAT DERK ALLEN GATES IS NOW RUNNING AND LEAPING WITH JESUS!

IN ADDITION TO HIS PARENTS, HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS UNCLE MICHAEL E.

BURNS OF LEBANON; COUSINS BRADLEY BURNS (TRACY) OF CAMBY, IN, BOYD BURNS (TONYA) OF NEWNAN, GA AND THEIR CHILDREN. ALSO SURVIVING IS HIS PATERNAL GRANDMOTHER, JOANN GATES OF FLORIDA, UNCLES DON, DENNY AND DAVID GATES, AN AUNT, DENISE CHITWOOD, AND NUMEROUS COUSINS AND THEIR CHILDREN! IN ADDITION, LOVED ONES CONSIDERED AS FAMILY ARE KARI WILLIS AND HER CHILDREN KOLTIN WILLIS AND ALEXA COLE AS WELL AS STEVE COLE AND SON STEVEN COLE. A VERY SPECIAL PERSON IN DERK'S LIFE HAS BEEN SUSIE-MATT SIMECA AND FAMILY OF PENNSYLVANIA. HE ALSO LEAVES BEHIND FAITHFUL CANNINE COMPANIONS "GABBY" AND "GATOR BOY."

HE WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HIS MATERNAL GRANDPARENTS, EUGENE AND BERNADENE BURNS, PATERNAL GRANDFATHER DORMAN GATES AND GRANDMOTHER DOROTHY JANE GATES, HIS AUNT SANDE BURNS AND HIS BELOVED BROTHER, GRANT GATES.

VISITATION IS 3-7:00 PM TUESDAY AT CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,  
910 FORDICE RD., LEBANON. FUNERAL SERVICES WILL ALSO BE HELD AT CENTENARY ON WEDNESDAY AT 1:00 PM WITH PASTOR ANTHONY STONE OFFICIATING. BURIAL WILL FOLLOW AT OAK HILL CEMETERY, LEBANON. MYERS MORTUARY IS IN CHARGE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, MEMORIALS MAY BE MADE TO THE BOONE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY, CENTENARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, OR THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION.

# Cemetery Details

## Oak Hill Cemetery

935 East Washington Street  
Lebanon, IN 46052

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 27. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Centenary United Methodist Church  
910 Fordice Road  
Lebanon, IN 46052

## Service

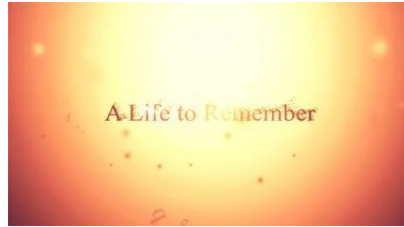
DEC 28. 1:00 PM (ET)

Centenary United Methodist Church  
910 Fordice Road  
Lebanon, IN 46052

# Tribute Wall



“ *Myers Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Derk Gates*



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**Myers Mortuary** - December 26, 2016 at 04:02 PM

SU

*Beautiful. Just beautiful. <3*

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**Susie** - December 26, 2016 at 06:31 PM

SH

*Wonderful collection of memories captured in photos. I'm sure they only scratch the surface of how many memories he made with those he loved and who loved him. RIP Derk - you will be very missed my friend.*

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**Stephanie H.** - December 26, 2016 at 07:59 PM



“ *Derk Gates*

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November 27, 2022 at 01:43 PM

JB

“ *Gator and Patty,*

*I just read this news! I don't know what to say other than I'm so sorry for your loss of Derk. I was off line with computer problems and would have responded sooner had I known. May God grant you peace in this trying time.*

*Jim Bogan*

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**Jim Bogan** - December 29, 2016 at 12:29 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Derk Gates.*



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December 27, 2016 at 02:22 PM

SU

“ *1 file added to the album LifeTributes*



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**Susie** - December 26, 2016 at 06:36 PM



“ 60 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Myers Mortuary** - December 26, 2016 at 03:51 PM



“ *Judy Carney Peacock lit a candle in memory of Derk Gates*



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**judy carney peacock** - December 24, 2016 at 03:23 PM



“ *Susie Matt-Scimeca, Tina & Benjamin purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Derk Gates.*



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**Susie Matt-Scimeca, Tina & Benjamin** - December 24, 2016 at 01:27 PM



TI

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



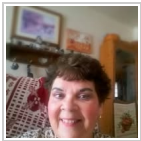
Tina - December 23, 2016 at 08:32 PM

LM

“ Lealynn Martin sent a virtual gift in memory of Derk Gates



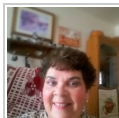
Lealynn Martin - December 23, 2016 at 03:36 PM



“ Mary Dewitt sent a virtual gift in memory of Derk Gates



Mary Dewitt - December 23, 2016 at 09:35 AM



*My prayers are with you and Damon. May you find comfort through God during this difficult time. To know that Derek is at peace and can walk and breath is the greatest gift God can give you. And that he lived to be 48 is a true testament of the great care he got .*

Mary Dewitt - December 23, 2016 at 10:04 AM

ES

“ *Eris And Don Sallee lit a candle in memory of Derk Gates*



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**Eris and Don Sallee** - December 23, 2016 at 08:43 AM

ES

*Thinking of you at this difficult time. Now Derk is running, flying and could be in charge of all the angels choir. <3*

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**Eris and Don Sallee** - December 23, 2016 at 08:45 AM

WI

*God bless you Derk Gates.*

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**Will.Pullins** - December 23, 2016 at 09:06 AM

CZ

“ *Cindy Zimmerman lit a candle in memory of Derk Gates*



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**Cindy Zimmerman** - December 22, 2016 at 02:34 PM