



## Ryan Daniel Stafford

July 12, 1975 - July 12, 2016

Ryan Daniel Stafford of Cadillac passed away unexpectedly, Tuesday, July 12, 2016. He was 41.

He was born July 12, 1975 in Traverse City to Daniel and Sherry (Kirvan) Stafford. Ryan graduated from Cadillac High School in 1994. He went on to earn his associate's degree from Kirkland Community College in Criminal Justice.

Ryan graduated from the police academy and accepted a position as a patrol officer in Mackinaw City. From there served in various places as an officer; earning specializations throughout his law enforcement career as a SWAT team member, undercover officer, K9 officer with his German Sheperd, Erik and motor patrol.

After his time as a police officer Ryan worked at Trendwell Energy for seven years before purchasing Wildcat Construction in Manton where he was the current owner.

He enjoyed water sports; spending time fishing with his daughters and boating with family and friends. Ryan was an avid hunter, both with a bow and gun. He enjoyed camping and golfing. His greatest joy in life was spending time with his wife and daughters.

On July 22, 2000 at Zion Lutheran Church in Cadillac he married the former Amy L. Keelean and she survives him along with their daughters, Morgan and Chloe.

He is also survived by his parents Dan and Sherry Stafford of Cadillac; siblings, Kurt (Anne) Stafford of Bloomfield Hills and Karey Scholten (Pete Scholten) of Charlevoix; nieces and nephews: Gracie and Mac Stafford, Kylee, Abbey, Megan and Claire Scholten and Mason and Leah Keelean; grandmother, Alice Egelus of Cadillac; grandfather, Gordon Kirvan of Cadillac; Father and mother in-law, Larry (Leona) Keelean of Lake City; brother in law, Brian (Cindy) Keelean of Traverse City and grandfather and grandmother in-law Richard and Barbara Keelean of Lake City.

Ryan was preceded in death by a grandfather, Major Dan Stafford; grandmother, Hilda Kirvan and grandparents in-law Ruby and Ted Sundell.

Funeral services will be held 10:30 a.m. Saturday July 16, 2016 at Zion Lutheran Church in Cadillac with Reverend Scott Torkko officiating. Friends may meet the family from 4-7 p.m. Friday at the Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services in Cadillac.

An online guestbook is available at [www.petersonfh.com](http://www.petersonfh.com).

# Tribute Wall

TW

“ Amy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. I am in shock. its times like this that life is soo hard to understand and figure out. Cherish your wonderful memories you made together.

Tim n Chris Wilkes - July 13, 2017 at 10:10 AM

MD

“ I'm so very sorry for your loss. I knew Ryan through school as we both attended Cadillac High. He was a great kid when we were in school and grew to be an even greater man.

Mary Duncan - July 19, 2016 at 01:53 AM

EP

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. You have an angel watching over you and your family now. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Erin Pityk - July 18, 2016 at 12:23 PM

RB

“ Our heart felt condolences. A great guy taken too soon. Our thoughts and prayers for all your family.

Rick & Annette Blaschuk - July 15, 2016 at 11:16 PM

AD

“ I am very sorry for the loss of your brother. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family

Al DiBernardo - July 15, 2016 at 06:36 PM

SB

“ Kurt and family, praying for you all.

Sarah Banks - July 15, 2016 at 06:26 PM

TK

“ Kurt amd Anne, So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to your family.

Terri Kenney - July 15, 2016 at 06:22 PM

BH

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Ryan was a great guy.

Brooke Henry - July 15, 2016 at 04:33 PM

GM

“ My heart is sad for the thought of losing Ryan, my deepest sympathy for his family and friends, he surely will be missed.

Gary McDougall - July 15, 2016 at 12:11 PM

MK

“ We loved your son. I can't ever remember seeing him without that devilish grin of his. He was a happy boy and a cheerful man who lived life to the fullest every day. We will miss him and cherish many happy memories. so sorry for this loss.

Margo Kurtzman - July 15, 2016 at 11:56 AM

JP

“ I only knew you as a childhood friend and just wanted to send my condolences to his friends and family.

Jamie Pate - July 15, 2016 at 10:30 AM

TM

“ So very sorry for your loss.

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**Tony and Frances Maddox** - July 14, 2016 at 09:40 PM

WW

“ So very sad. My heart goes out to all of you.

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**Wanda Watts** - July 14, 2016 at 09:07 PM

JH

“ Amy we are crushed to hear about Ryan. He was an amazing guy. He was one of Jason's favorite partner in crime. I love hearing the stories of the two of them on the job. I will truly miss seeing the pictures of him and the girls on Facebook. He really was a great dad and husband.

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**Jason and Amy Howe** - July 14, 2016 at 08:38 PM

SM

“ My heart is breaking for all of you, I am so sorry for you loss. I want to share a special memory of Ryan, when he was a little boy he would walk down to my house on Lynn St and plat soccer with my dog Barney. It is a precious memory I am privileged to hold. I hope this memory makes you smile. My sincere condolences.

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**Susan (Webster) Martz** - July 14, 2016 at 07:03 PM

RA

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Amy, we will keep you, the girls and entire family in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Rob and Kristin Aungst** - July 14, 2016 at 06:56 PM

LR

“ I am so very sorry!! So many prayers for you and the girls. Big hugs to you all.

Liz Reynolds - July 14, 2016 at 03:38 PM

MP

“ My deepest sympathies to the Stafford Family during this difficult time. You are in my prayers

Mark Pimentel - July 14, 2016 at 02:26 PM

JV

“ Our hearts go out to the Stafford family and friends. Thinking of you at this difficult time.

Joy VanDrie - July 14, 2016 at 01:47 PM

JB

“ I am a third cousin in the metro Detroit area, my deepest condolences to the Stafford family as well as all extended family and friends.

Jennifer Burney - July 14, 2016 at 11:46 AM

JD

“ So saddened and shocked to hear this news. Praying for your family. Our sincere condolences

Jan & Gary Dahlquist - July 14, 2016 at 08:42 AM

GS

“ Our hearts are with your entire family at this difficult time. You were a great man, Ryan. All are proud to have known you. God Bless!

Garret & Rebecca Salter - July 14, 2016 at 08:34 AM

JC

“ Words cannot express the sadness we share with you! Though we knew Ryan for a short time he was an amazing person. Please know you and the girls are in our thoughts and prayers as you seek answers and closure.

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**Jenn & Jason Cherwinski** - July 14, 2016 at 08:22 AM

TS

“ From the moment we met as young kids we had a true connection. We've kept that connection ever since. We had a love for each other that only true friends can have. I will never forget the day we met, riding on your motorcycle, and all the fun we shared. I've never stopped loving you & I never will. I guess Chad & you, will have some stories to tell. I love you, and have since the day we met at our first picnic!! I'm so glad we never lost touch & we became closer, then ended up being kind of related. Thanks for all the wonderful memories we made together!!!

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**Tina Schappa** - July 14, 2016 at 07:12 AM

MJ

“ Thinking of you at this difficult time.

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**Matt Jager** - July 14, 2016 at 06:26 AM

EM

“ There are no words to express the deep sadness shared -- just know many are here for you with love and prayers. In deepest sympathy.

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**ELSIE MOORE** - July 14, 2016 at 05:49 AM