



Scott M. Starlin

March 2, 1973 - March 17, 2026

Scott M. Starlin, 53, of Cadillac passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, March 15, 2026 in Cadillac.

Scott was born March 2, 1973 in Cadillac to Clorinda (King) Starlin and R J Starlin.

After graduating from Cadillac Senior High School, Scott remained in the Cadillac area, taking classes at Baker College and working until a work-related accident prevented him from continuing his occupation and limiting his mobility. Although the accident altered his lifestyle, Scott remained active in the things he enjoyed. Scott was a talented photographer and artist, creating pen and ink drawings from photographs. He also enjoyed spending time outdoors. Scott learned very quickly and excelled at computers and everything “techy.” Scott was known among his family and friends as the one who would always provide a helping hand with anything from life advice to tech support and anything in between. He loved deeply those who were important to him. Scott married Cindy Rutkowski July 10, 1996 and, while they divorced in 2001, they had remained friends until the time of his death and Cindy survives him.

In addition to Cindy, Scott will be sadly missed and is survived by his son, Robert Starlin (Kimberly Mathis) and their sons, Owen and Austin, of Holly, MI, his mother, Clorinda (King) Starlin of Cadillac; brother, Robert Starlin (Dr. Helane Folske-Starlin, Deceased February 20, 2026) of Conception Junction, MO; sister, Jessica Starlin-Ronan (William), nieces, Cloey and Hazel, and

nephew, William Ronan, all of Cadillac. He is also survived by aunts and uncles, Bill and Sandie King and Hazel Holly all of Cadillac, Kevin and Gena King of East Jordan, Connie Starlin of Cedar Springs, Juanita Gibbons of Farwell, Michael (April) Starlin and James Starlin of McBain, as well as many cousins and friends.

Scott was preceded in death by his father, R J Starlin, an infant brother, Brian, his paternal grandparents, Wallace and Gurley Starlin, maternal grandparents, Richard and Ardith King, uncles and aunts, Bobby F. Starlin, Milan Starlin, Marshall and Carol Starlin and Ruby Gibbons.

Suicide is a tragedy no one expects and leaves the survivors to struggle with, not only profound grief of loss, but also questions of wondering, whether more could have been done – even while seeing the signs and attempting to help. If you suspect someone you know is struggling with thoughts of self-harm, Scott's entire family urges you to take whatever steps are available to talk to someone and seek help in the hope of preventing a tragic outcome.

Cremation has taken place and there will be a celebration of life later in the summer. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

TD

“ I was a frown of Scott's older brother Bob and got to spend time with Scott and occasionally RJ. They all had strong personalities and were quick witted and I really enjoyed hanging out with them. Scott, like all little brothers was always under foot as they say. I wnjoyed watching him infuriated his brother, like all little brothers do. Times are hard and stressful, but I hope the family knows that Scott won't be forgotten and we will miss him. Hope to see Bob someday and catch up. Blessings to the family.

Tim Dewey - March 23 at 09:25 AM

TD

Friend of Scott's bother

Tim Dewey - March 23 at 09:26 AM

PP

“ Chorinda, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family as Scott moves on. God Bless and keeping you strong.
Phil and Jan Potvin

Phil Potvin - March 21 at 02:54 PM

HC

“ I first met Scott when I worked on his first car at the Highpoint GM in Cadillac.

Must have been 1988. I saw him occasionally after that, and then daily when we both worked at the precast company for many years. We became good friends, and were quick to throw barbs at each other in the hardworking fast paced environment in which we thrived.

In the fall of 1995 I was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Of course I'm still here, they were mistaken. Along the two year path to remission/cure I lost everything I held dear. When it was all said and done, Scott took me into his home, where I continued to work and heal from the trauma of my ordeal.

He was the kindest, gentlest, most infuriating, stubborn, quick to laugh and quick to hurt person I've ever had the pleasure of knowing.

I talked to him just 18 days ago. I live in Arizona these days, and was snowboarding at June Mountain in California. We chatted for over an hour while I warmed up in my truck.

I told him "I love you, Brother, come visit"

I will miss you. I love you. Rest easy at home.

Harold Cooley - March 19 at 12:15 AM

LM

“ Ooh Scott 😞 my friend till the end. Since first grade you told me you were going to pick on me forever, and you did. And as we grew older we often reminisced, more than once, about our field trip to the house to see your dad’s horse, his pride and joy. You talked me off a few cliffs of my own. Gave me reassurance when I didn’t think it was going to be possible. You told me to never give up. I just wish you would have called me one more time. You made a sad face into a smile with your jokes and a little picking on me thrown in. I’m glad you shared a conversation with me while you were on your trip to California and with your stops along the way. Good for you for spreading your dad’s ashes in the oceans. I been driving past your road for many years now and each time I have thought about you and have stopped by several times. Now the drive past your road seems much different. I drove down to the house the other day and stopped just at the start of the driveway. You usually would have messaged me and told me “ I see you” lol.. through the cameras. You did not that day and it was missed. You will forever hold a special place in my heart as you have, seems like since day one. Until I see you again, I will miss you dearly my, forever friend. 😞😞
❤️

Lisa Moore - March 18 at 09:00 PM

EM

My deepest, heartfelt condolences. I did not personally know Scott. But I do know he had great parents and a super family. People have to know they are not at fault. You could not have known and stopped this event. I am so sorry. God's Peace. Many Blessings.

ELSIE Moore - March 18 at 10:29 PM

CM

“ *Clorinda, know I am praying for you and your family. I am so sorry for your loss but you have many memories of him and your showed so much courage in reaching out to others who might need help. Our prayers are with you. Your cousin Corinne Marsh in va*

corinne marsh - March 18 at 06:32 PM