



James Arthur "Jay" Beard III

August 19, 1977 - October 11, 2024

James Arthur Beard III ("Jay"), age 47, of Gardendale, AL, passed away unexpectedly on October 11, 2024. Jay was loved by many and held many different roles throughout his life; although, his favorite role, and the one everyone will remember him by, is his role as a father to his beloved son, Jace.

Jay was born and raised in Gardendale and was a 1996 graduate of Tabernacle Christian School. Jay was an avid Alabama fan and a pillar of the Gardendale community. He was involved in many of the Gardendale community sports. He coached flag football, basketball, baseball, soccer and CrossFit Kids. Not only was Jay a coach favored by so many, but he was also a friend like no other. Jay was the true definition of reliable. There was no task too daunting for Jay to do for someone. He was often the first call for people when they needed help. He was quick witted and was everyone's favorite person to be around. He brought light and laughter to everyone he encountered and had a genuine heart that made everyone feel welcome.

Jay has been reunited with his brother, Robert Daniel ("Danny") Beard, who predeceased him on March 14, 2010. Jay leaves behind countless loved ones. He is survived by his son, James Arthur Beard IV ("Jace"); parents, Jim and Penny Beard; sister, Kelly Beard Jackson (Drew); nieces, Adalee and Cathlyne Jackson; significant other, Erika Morton; Erika's children, Addison

("Addi"), Colton, Weston, Kaiden, and Anderson ("Andi"); Jace's mother, Casey Downey; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins. Jay also leaves behind many loved ones at his tight-knit CrossFit Gardendale community.

Arrangements for Jay will be held on Monday, October 14, 2024. The service will be held from 5-6 pm at Gardendale First Baptist North Campus with a reception following immediately from 6-8 pm at Gardendale First Baptist South Campus in the Family Life Center.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Jay Beard Memorial Fund for Jace Beard held at First Horizon Bank.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 14. 5:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale First Baptist Church North Campus
316 Mountain Crest Pkwy
Gardendale, AL 35071
(205) 631-8791

Family will receive guests

OCT 14. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gardendale First Baptist Church South Campus/Family Life Center
940 Main Street
Gardendale , AL 35071

Tribute Wall



“ Catherine Duncan lit a candle in memory of James Arthur "Jay" Beard III



Catherine Duncan - October 25, 2024 at 11:10 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of James Arthur "Jay" Beard III.



October 14, 2024 at 09:39 AM



“ Rhonda Whidden lit a candle in memory of James Arthur "Jay" Beard III



Rhonda Whidden - October 13, 2024 at 09:34 PM