



Gary Wayne Morningstar

May 15, 1958 - August 12, 2020

Gary Wayne Morningstar, 62, of Saline, Michigan, passed away August 12, 2020 at his home from complications of diabetes and heart disease. Gary was born May 15, 1958 in Ypsilanti, Michigan, to the late Robert and Velda (Alexander) Morningstar. He was a 1976 graduate of Saline High School, where he was a proud member of the marching band. A lifelong Boy Scout, he attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Gary was retired from Ford Motor Company, where he worked for many years. He was a gifted drummer and had an unrivaled depth of knowledge about music, particularly his favorite band Rush. He is survived by daughter Krystal, son Michael, brother Ronald (Shirley), sister Carol (John) Raymond, nieces Wendy (Pat) Michels, Julayne (Keith) Hughes, Brenda Morningstar, and Gail (Terry) Kruger. He is also survived by many cousins, several great-nieces and nephews, two cats, and many friends around the world. In addition to his parents, Gary was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Lee. The family will hold a private graveside ceremony. Gifts in Gary's memory may be directed to the American Diabetes Association at diabetes.org. Please visit rbfhsaline.com to send condolences to the family or post memories you have of Gary.

Tribute Wall



“ Gary Wayne Morningstar

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ Just heard the news of Gary's passing. We knew Gary from the University Church of the Nazarene in Ann Arbor years ago. He was part of the youth group and his parents were friends and involved with the church. Velda passed out mints each Sunday to the kids. We are so sorry for your loss. Rick and Cindy Fraker Hart



Cindy Hart - April 18, 2021 at 09:29 PM



“ Very sad to hear of his passing - he always had something kind or funny to say. We only spoke online, but have great memories of long conversations about music.

Thea - September 07, 2020 at 06:38 AM



“ So sad to hear of the passing of Gary. We were co-workers as well as musicians. Gary even sold some drums to me at one point. We on got the chance to jam together a couple times in all the years we knew each other. I wish we would've had an opportunity to see one another again..... perhaps in the afterlife. God Bless and R.I.P. Roger Swaney

Roger Swaney - September 07, 2020 at 12:22 AM

SM

“ Dear Morningstar family,
My prayers are with you as you mourn Gary's death. I knew him through my brothers and the Saline High School Marching band. He was always very kind to me and had a great smile. God bless you and comfort you.

Sue (Carter) Mulka

Susan M Mulka - August 29, 2020 at 09:30 AM

JO

“ While we have never met in person, we've had some great conversations both online and with voice chat. When I heard passed on, I cried. I will miss your posts and our chats. Good journey ORFie

Contentment

Jo - August 26, 2020 at 03:24 AM

TS

“ Gary, a truly dear friend...I'll miss you very much. A treasure of a man. God bless, Gare'.

Tina Silverio - August 25, 2020 at 07:21 PM

JE

“ ORF - such a presence in our online Rush community. Never met in person, but known him online for almost 20 years. Great guy with a huge heart! And very funny! You will be missed, brother.

Jeremy - August 25, 2020 at 02:10 PM

JB

“ ORF/Gary!

I only met you once in June 2008 - but I'm lucky because I'm from a far away country called Germany... ;) Your passion of prog music brought us together (we already knew each other virtually for many years) and we took a road trip from Koggie's place to Detroit to see the mighty mellotrön_.

Those were great times and I really enjoyed your company. It was like meeting an old friend.

I miss you, Gary.

Jürgen Bornmann - August 25, 2020 at 12:54 PM

NP

“ Gary, or ORF - as you were to me and many others - I always enjoyed talking with you, both online and when we met in person at Ytsecon III. You were a genuinely nice guy and so enthusiastic about the people and the things that you loved. You were one of the good ones, and I'm glad I knew you.

RIP, brother.

Nick Palmer - August 25, 2020 at 12:02 PM

CK

“ Dear Mike, Krystal and family,
So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. He was fun to chat with and always had a great story to share. Yes, he would speak of his love for music and how he like to play the drums with a big smile and a twinkle in his eyes.
God's blessings to all at this very sad time.
Carol Kind



Carol Kind - August 25, 2020 at 10:38 AM

DC

“ *" Spent a lot of time in that basement by the Drum Kit, Turntable & Foosball table.*

Mom Moringstar (AKA Velda) took us all in as her own. Many fond memories cruising the back roads of Saline and beyond. Gary always was recording with his "hat mic" be it in the basement or the back roads. Most of the time we didn't know it until the next time we stopped by and we listened to it. My brother introduced us all to Rush, he came home with Caress of Steel He said "These guy's are the next Led Zeppelin" Needles to say we were all hooked! Gary always made sure the latest album was on the turntable the day it was released.

Rest in peace, You are missed"

Dave Carter

Dave Carter - August 24, 2020 at 10:53 AM

SR

“ *I never met Gary in person, I knew him as Orfie on the Rush Forum. He was always friendly and loved to talk about all kinds of music besides Rush. He shared pictures of his models with us and his attention to detail was reflected in the finished product. As others have also shared, he made everyone smile with all his dancing banana gifs, he seemed to find one for almost any situation or to express emotion. What a clever funny man, we were lucky to have him as our online friend. Rest in Peace dear friend, I will never forget you.*

-Rhyta

Stephen Robison - August 24, 2020 at 09:27 AM

LA

“ I also knew Gary as Orfie from the Rush forum and also Fb. He always had lovely things to say and as evidenced here, was a forum favorite. Rush on in eternity, dear Orfie!

laura - August 23, 2020 at 01:00 PM

LO

“ Rest in peace, ORFie. I will miss you dearly.

Lorraine (from The Rush Forum)

Lorraine - August 22, 2020 at 11:20 PM

KL

“ Like others here, I knew Gary through the Rush fandom. He was a fun person to chat with, and came across as very enthusiastic when talking about our favorite band. Though we never met face to face, I enjoyed his company online and I will miss him.

My condolences to Gary's family and loved ones.

Kat (Soddy)

Kathryn Lively - August 22, 2020 at 11:00 PM

DB

“ I met Gary and conversed with him on multiple "Rush" band sites. He always had kind things to add to a conversation. He also always took the high road in a disagreement. He seemed to be genuine, thoughtful and had a big heart! I enjoyed looking at the models he worked on as they obviously gave him great joy. I just wanted to let the family know that he had MANY more friends online with a common love of music, family and friends.

My sincere condolences,

Pressure/Hopenosis

David Boisvenue - August 22, 2020 at 09:34 PM

GR

“ I never met Gary in person. He was an internet buddy through our common love of the band Rush. His personality shone through the message boards and Facebook though. A nice guy - who was friendly to everyone he interacted with.

He had a tremendous knowledge of rock music, and shared that freely with all of us on the boards.

I can only imagine what a great guy he must have been to his family and friends in the real world.

All I can really say to everyone who knew him, close and far, is that I am so sorry. May you all find peace in your memories of this fine fine man.

grep

p/g

grep - August 22, 2020 at 08:17 PM

T3

“ Dear Morningstar family and friends,

Very sad news, indeed...Rest in peace, Orfie,

I knew Gary through a Rush fan site / message board called The Rush Forum.

I didn't know him as Gary but rather as he was affectionately known as, Orfie.

His post on any particular topic were always punctuated with all sorts of dancing bananas gifs, which were sure to bring a smile to your face.

You knew if you were reading a post of Orfie's posts, that it was going to be kind, thoughtful and most likely, funny...if not for the dancing bananas! :)

I've attached a photo of Orfie (he's on the left end of the photo)...looking at him, with his Rush shirt on can't help but make me smile.

I'm sure that all of the folks at TRF share my thoughts in that we are heartbroken and will miss him dearly.

I am so very sorry your loss and promise to keep you all in my thoughts and prayers.

God Bless You,

-Stephen (The Cat 3)

The Cat 3 - August 22, 2020 at 12:57 PM

T3

“ 1 file added to the album Orfie



The Cat 3 - August 22, 2020 at 12:44 PM

JO

Wow, I can't believe he is gone. In this photo, his son looks so much like him when he was younger. I am so sorry for your loss Mike and Krystal. I am sending lots of hugs your way. My sincere condolences to you guys.

Joy - August 26, 2020 at 07:19 PM

 Shelly Venema

“ Oik7oo



Shelly Venema - August 20, 2020 at 02:50 PM