



Wesley "Wes" J. Wainwright III

December 12, 1968 - January 8, 2024

Wesley "Wes" John Wainwright III, 55 of Peoria passed away on Monday, January 8, 2024 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center.

He was born on December 12, 1968 in Peoria to Patricia A. Welch and Patrick W. Conner.

Wes is survived by his mother and step-father, Patricia and Ernest Taylor of Peoria; significant other, Terry Miller of Peoria; sisters, Melissa Wells and Buffy Close of Peoria; brother, Nicklaus Barnett of Peoria; nephews, Tyrell, Juliene, Preston, Deondray, Timothy and Jazz; nieces, Shelby, Anniah and Aaliyah; great-niece, Jaylinn, great-nephews, Tyce, Kylen and Trystan and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Patrick Conner; maternal grandparents, Emmet and Marjorie Welch and sister, Mary Close.

Wes' passion growing up was always music. He had a superior musical aptitude and could learn any song just by listening to it. Although the trombone was always his favorite, Wes could play any instrument he picked up. He would often mention how his days in the Woodruff band and being part of Ms Papich's Jazz band were some of his best memories.

After high school Wes spent time in the Army Reserves and then became an

electrician and built Wainwright Electric. He loved being Daddy to his canine children Alana, Luther, Alexa and Brie. And as our big brother, Wes was quick to offer whatever help he could and was always there when we needed him.

Never believing in the “pomp and circumstance” of life, Wes’ final wishes were to take care of his family and ensure he was not burdening us with the traditions of losing a loved one. He chose cremation and begrudgingly agreed to a small celebration of life because he knew those that loved him would want some time to remember and celebrate that we had the pleasure of having him in our lives, though it was cut way too short. Whether we call him Son, Big Brother, Nephew, Uncle, Boyfriend, Cousin or Friend, we will all miss him terribly.

Warrior 4 Life! And now a Warrior with Wings!!

Online condolences may be made at www.schmidthaller.com

Tribute Wall



“ LexisNexis Insurance Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Wesley "Wes" J. Wainwright III.

LexisNexis Insurance Team - January 11, 2024 at 02:04 PM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Wesley "Wes" J. Wainwright III.



January 11, 2024 at 02:04 PM



“ Melissa,

I'm sending prayers for you and your family during this very difficult time. May you and your family find comfort in your memories of your brother and the love you shared.

Julianne Cummings

Julianne Cummings - January 11, 2024 at 09:58 AM

JE

“ So I'm sharing for my brother Adam because he shared this with me the other day and he isn't able to share right now. But his favorite memory with Wes was going to Kartville with Wes and him driving all crazy crashing into the side walls and as young kids we were flying all over the little dune buggies. Wesley was the best at making that ride crazy fun and I myself remember that as well. He always made each adventure EPIC! Wesley will always be missed by his AZ cousins love you Wes!

Love your cousins Jess and Adam

Jessica - January 11, 2024 at 03:24 AM

TV

Wes was my cousin he was always willing to help anyone and everyone! He was like a jack of all trade music, house remodeling, mechanic and so much more you will be missed by all that you crossed paths with love you cousin til we meet again 🙏💕 Tiffany Vaughn & Family

Tiffany Vaughn - January 11, 2024 at 09:54 PM

MP

Wes was one of the most Talented students I ever had in my 30+ years of band directing.

Had a great sound on trombone and loved his music - That combined with his present smile Made him a joy to teach. So sorry you didn't get to live a longer life and share more music, Wes 🎵. Ms. Papich from Woodruff high school back in the day...

Mary Jo Papich - February 17, 2024 at 12:48 AM

BH

“ *Melissa and Family,*

I am terribly sorry for your loss and my prayers are for peace and comfort for your entire family during this time.

Brad Hames

Brad Hames - January 10, 2024 at 09:54 PM