



Danny James Thayer

December 26, 1962 - January 10, 2023

Danny James Thayer, a life-long resident of Neodesha, KS, passed away Tuesday, January 10, 2023 in Bel Aire, KS at the age of 60.

Danny was born December 26, 1962 in Pittsburg, KS to Edward “Ned” and Donna (Battitori) Thayer. He grew up alongside 5 siblings, attended Neodesha High School, and graduated in the class of 1981. After graduating high school, Danny attended Independence Community College, then Pittsburg State University before going to the Police Academy in 1986.

In his younger years, Danny married Kimberly George. Although they later divorced, they were blessed with 3 children, Nakita, James and Anthony. He then reconnected with his high school sweetheart, Laura Zabel, and they were engaged and looking forward to many more years together.

Danny was a Neodesha man, and his home town was a huge part of him. He was well known as Assistant Police Chief and then Police Chief until his retirement in 2017. He made a huge impact on many people through his career, and many of the people he met in his journey made a huge impact on him. He was a member of the HUD Housing authority, the St. Ignatius Catholic Church, and the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, which he served as President for one term.

He loved to hunt, fish, watch football, cook, and most of all, being a police officer. He had a huge heart and a huge family, as all of his hunting buddies and fellow law enforcement were all considered family to him. He loved Christmas, as his birthday was the day after, so he considered the 25th as Christmas only until 6 pm, because after that, it was Danny's Eve.

Danny will be missed by his family, friends, and all those that knew him.

He is survived by his mother, Donna (Brian) Taylor of Olathe, KS

His fiancé, Laura Zabel of Bel Aire, KS

His children, Nakita Thayer (Bryan Gryder) of Shell Knob, MO, James Thayer of Topeka, KS, and Anthony Thayer (Anna Frontaura) of Olathe, KS

His siblings, Bill Thayer of Neodesha, KS, Joy (Lance) Prunty of Neodesha, KS, Brogan (Natalie) Taylor of Florida, and Brianne (Kyle) Winters of Olathe, KS

His aunt and uncle, Darlene (Mike) Burnett of Camdenton, MO

His brother in law, Dusty Allison of Olathe, KS

Numerous nieces and nephews, and many, many friends

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, father, Edward "Ned" Thayer, and sister, Brandy Allison

The family will receive friends at Visitation/Celebration of Life from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at the St. Ignatius Catholic Church Hall, 816 Grant St., Neodesha, KS 66757, with Rosary being prayed

at 12:45 PM.

Graveside service will follow at approximately 1:30 PM at Farmington Cemetery, Harper Road and 1800 Road, Fredonia, KS, turn right on 1800 Road

After graveside service, family invites anyone wanting to fellowship to the VFW Post 3018, 10283 Harper Road, Fredonia, KS 66736

Memorial contributions can be made to the Neodesha Blue Streaks Football team or the Neodesha Police department, and can be mailed to or left with the funeral home.

Services entrusted to Countryside Funeral Home, 420 S. 20th, PO Box 247, Fredonia, KS 66736

Cemetery Details

Farmington Cemetery

Just east of Harper Rd on 1800 Rd
Fredonia, KS 66736

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **18**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Ignatius Catholic Church Hall
816 Grant St.
Neodesha, KS 66757

Graveside Service

JAN **18**. 1:30 PM (CT)

Farmington Cemetery
Just east of Harper Rd on 1800 Rd
Fredonia, KS 66736

Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 17, 2023 at 04:00 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 17, 2023 at 10:34 AM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 17, 2023 at 09:50 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 16, 2023 at 10:28 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 13, 2023 at 05:47 PM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 13, 2023 at 03:23 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 13, 2023 at 01:51 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 13, 2023 at 12:14 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 13, 2023 at 11:46 AM



“ *My sympathy to the family. I do remember him while teaching in Neodesha. Lots of good memories may all you good memories help ease your sorrow at this time. Lois (Leipersberger) Staley*

Lois Staley - January 13, 2023 at 11:32 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Danny James Thayer.*



January 13, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ *Danny (Bear) was well loved and respected by the class of '81. He was an, often, quiet example of Gentle strength. My condolences to his loved ones. He will be remembered.*

Liz Barbee - January 12, 2023 at 10:41 PM

JS

“ I have a lot of memories with Danny as a coach and teacher to being a friend. I always enjoyed our visits. He will be missed. Prayers to the family.

Jerry Scott - January 12, 2023 at 08:48 PM

HS

“ Worked with Danny for Many years, he was a great guy and a great Friend. He will be missed by many, but he will always hold a special place in my heart. Many will not understand but we went through a lot of doors together and I could not have asked for a better back up.

Harry Smith - January 12, 2023 at 08:38 PM

MM

Have known Danny for many years. Was always a great guy. He will be dearly missed. RIP BROTHER SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE!!

Mark McCleary - January 13, 2023 at 10:20 AM

SH

I looked up to his Dad when i was in high school his was one of my teachers and he was very sick- so I would go to their house and do whatever I could to help them, (i.e.)mow the grass trim the trees etc. Thats when i got to know Danny fast forward we worked together in Law Enforcement and i helped him outfit his patrol cars .i did not know he had any issues or I would have been to visit him. Family I am sorry for your loss!

Sid Howell - January 13, 2023 at 11:52 AM

DA

Prayers and love to Danny's family.

Diann Richards Anderson - January 15, 2023 at 11:56 AM

LA

I'm truly sorry for your loss. I worked with Danny back in 1987 when Wes Sade was Chief of Police. Danny was such a great guy, for the next 25 years I would sometimes stop in and see him on my way through to the KBI lab in Pittsburg just to say Hi.

Larry Arnold - April 02, 2024 at 09:38 AM