



Lou William Kester

August 24, 1973 - November 24, 2025

Lou William Kester, 52, of Carthage, Missouri, passed away on Monday, November 24, 2025, at Freeman Hospital in Joplin. Lou was born in Shawnee Mission, Kansas, on August 24, 1973, to Lou and Donna Jo Kester. He has lived in Carthage since he was 8 years old and a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church. He was a self-employed truck driver.

He is survived by a son, Matthew Kester; and two daughters, Madalyn Smothers (Bryson) and Scarlett Courtney; his mom, Donna Jo Kester; five grandsons, Dawson, Salem, Jonah, Theodore, and Orion; and one granddaughter, Luna, all of Carthage, Missouri.

He was preceded in death by his dad, Lou Ernest Kester; and two brothers, Sean Kester and Shane Kester.

There will be a funeral mass held for Lou at 2:00 PM on Friday, December 12, 2025, at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Carthage, Missouri. The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 2:00 PM prior to the service at St. Ann's Catholic Church.

Online condolences may be made at www.ulmerfh.com.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Ulmer Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 12. 1:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
Carthage, MO

Funeral Mass

DEC 12. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
Carthage, MO

Tribute Wall

SB

“ So sorry for your loss Matt.

Sherri Bailey - December 11, 2025 at 07:36 AM

AL

“ I'm simply stunned. Lou was always first to smile, first to laugh, first to crack a joke, first to give a bone-crushing hug. I have always held the Kester family close to me heart. I'm keeping everyone who knew and loved Lou in my prayers. My deepest condolences.

Amy Locke - December 03, 2025 at 09:13 AM

JW

“ I just ran into Lou a few weeks ago at the grocery store. Stunned to hear he is gone. We worked together 30 years ago and meeting in public was our catch up time. We shared a sense of humor that would make us both laugh almost to tears. I will miss Lou. Condolences to the whole family.

Joel Wallsmith - November 29, 2025 at 08:49 PM

DM

“ Lou,
You and growing up with your family was the best. Ours hearts are so broken. We will miss you and that infectious smile my friend. Our hearts and prayers go out to The Kester family, friends, and loved ones.



Lou, until we meet again rest easy my friend. God Bless ❤️ 🙏

Love and Prayers,
The Moeder Family
Dana, Anthony, Aurea
Erica, Maeleigh, Gabriel

Dana Moeder - November 26, 2025 at 04:51 PM

JB

“ I am so sorry for your loss. He was a nice man who could really sing! Sending Prayers Jettie

Jettie Bell - November 26, 2025 at 07:02 AM