

formerly of Hiawatha , KS



James "Jim" Brian Martin, formerly of Hiawatha, KS died peacefully at Lawrence Memorial Hospital on April 28, 2015, at the age of 39.

James is survived by his mother, Mary Ward, Hiawatha; sister, Maria Ward, Sabetha; brother, Roger Ward, Sabetha; nephews, (his 'Little Man') Joshua Tackett and Rusty Sullivan; nieces, Kelly, Kassy and Haley Ward; and best friend, Brook Pace, St Joseph.

James was born on August 12, 1975, in Long Branch, New Jersey. From a young age James loved music. He was accomplished at singing and acting. He was a member of Tribal Fire and drama club in high school. He graduated in 1994 from Hiawatha High School. In 1998, he graduated from Northern Arizona University with a degree in hotel management. His profession allowed him great opportunities to travel. He visited and lived numerous places across the country. He met and warmed the hearts of so many. James's physical capabilities and professional career changed after a massive stroke in 2010. In spite of this, his immense passion for people, music and KU Jayhawks continued and brought him joy. James loved to celebrate all occasions, especially holidays. His festive spirit and enthusiasm will always be felt by those who love him.

Celebration of Life for James Martin will be May 23, 2015, 200pm-400pm at Hiawatha City Lake Kiwanis Shelter in Hiawatha, KS. Please join the family to share memories and celebrate James's life.

Memorials will be used to help with funeral expenses. Contributions can be sent in care of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, 124 S 7th St., Hiawatha 66434.

The family would like to thank numerous caregivers and hospital staff for their care and dedication to James. Special messages may be sent online at www.chapeloaksfuneralhome.com