



Matthew John Lavelle

September 16, 1966 - August 4, 2019

Matthew John Lavelle departed this life to enjoy eternal happiness with the Lord on August 4, 2019. He was born on September 16, 1966 in Montgomery County, PA, to the late John and Dolores Lavelle. He was the youngest of five children of Irish heritage.

To describe who Matthew was in one page is impossible, but this is my best try:

Being around Matthew, you experienced his kindness, love, faith, generosity, cheerfulness, infectious sense of compassion for others, fantastic storytelling, wonderful sense of humor, his love for children and his unconditional love to his wife. Literally, an enormous heart.

As a kid, he was curious, introvert, with a big love for his family and his dog "Blanqui" who, as an adult, he still missed. As a 5 year old, he secretly enjoyed his escapes at night, opening the backdoor with a broom to explore the woods in Monroe while his parents slept. He was a boy scout to the highest rank. He treasured those adventures in his heart. He was very active in his Church as an altar boy and never missed a Sunday to glorify his Father.

As a teenager, he was very active. He belonged to the Monroe swimming team and to the football team all through high school. He anxiously waited for the STEAM Summer camps or "Nerd Camps" as he called them.

He graduated as a Mechanical Engineer. Jumped off in parachute more than twenty times. He enjoyed water skiing, swimming, mountain biking, fixed up cars, and photography. At a young age when many decide to explore the world, he decided to place his dreams on hold to take care of his mother who was a widow and had become blind. He dedicated his life to love, take care of, protect, guide and keep company to his mom until she passed next to him at home. In his thirties, he fought for his life when they found tumors in his knee. Doctors told him he will lose his leg. He fought, prayed, and never lost faith until he recovered 100%. Then, the next phase of his life started which cannot be told in singular

but as a story of true love.

At 36 years old, Matthew introduced himself to me. Although, I greeted him, I ignored him because I was too involved in what I was doing. He never looked back. He was a man of faith and that weekend before we met, he asked God at the beach to fill his heart with love because it wasn't whole. God answered his prayer and since that day our love story began.

Matthew and I started our nuptial adventures in 2005. We visited Hawaii for our honeymoon and since then we visited the islands 14 consecutive years. It became our second home. We traveled to Cozumel, Islas mujeres- Mexico twice, Aruba seven times, Curacao, St. John, St. Thomas, Ecuador three times, London eight times, Paris, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland three times, Norway, Belgium, and Netherlands twice.

Matthew was a thoughtful, loving, kind, protective husband. He was generous, funny and very patient. In 14 years 8 months he never went to sleep without saying to me "I love mi Bonita" regardless of it being a good or a bad day or whether his pain was so intense it was going to keep him up all night. Matthew was my soulmate, my best friend, my partner in every adventure, my rock, my cheerleader. We were always together, in the good times and in the bad times.

He was a citizen of the world. He had a passion for traveling, seeing the world, discovering new cultures, new languages and enjoying our Heavenly Father's creations while snorkeling and taking pictures despite his painful, complex and progressive illness called systemic scleroderma diagnosed in 2011. I can count in one hand the times Matthew complained of his pain. He never protested of his pain, he said there were others suffering more than him. He was always thankful for the help and support received through the Mayo Clinic. He never let his illness take away his joy of loving and helping others. Matthew taught us the true meaning of the word love. He always looked for ways to do volunteering despite his physical limitations during the last years.

Matthew was intellectually curious. He surprised me with his knowledge in multiple areas, Bible, science, history, technology, medicine, mechanics and more. Since his childhood, he had a constant desire to read and find out answers that made him a wise and interesting man, able to connect with anyone. Like I always said, he was a walking Wikipedia.

Matthew was an innovator, dreamer and very creative. He did not limit himself to one area. In his last years, he started writing his ideas from the most simple to the most complex

one. Since the first day we met, Matthew and I were a team in all areas of our lives. Matthew, the dreamer, and me, the doer.

He always emphasized being happy, and often it was the little things that brought him joy, spending quality time with family and friends, telling jokes, playing around with his nieces and nephews, watching movies or just enjoying time with me at home.

Matthew loved God deeply and he loved his family. His legacy can be summarized as true love, faith, compassion, and generosity. Everyone that met him can testify of this legacy despite his intense physical suffering.

Even after leaving this world, he made sure to help others by donating any organs that could help, in his case his corneas.

A memorial service to celebrate his life on this earth will be held at 6:00 pm on August 15, 2019 Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, located at 9401 S. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28273.

He is survived by me, Wendy Lavelle his beloved wife of 14 years and 8 months who will love him forever. I give thanks to God everyday for allowing Matthew to be part of my life for all these years.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Seva Foundation <http://seva.org>. Seva is a global nonprofit eye care organization that transforms lives and strengthens communities by restoring sight and preventing blindness.

Events

AUG **Celebration of life** 06:00PM

15

Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church
9401 S. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC, US, 28273

Comments



“ Dear Wendy - My deepest condolences to you & the entire family. I'm sure it would've taken away an indescribable part of your heart and no words from anyone can fill that big, vacant space in you. But do please know that you are much loved & respected by many around you. Please try to hug your fondest memories of Matthew to help anchor yourself.

With prayers & thoughts,
Nik (co-worker).

Nik Ram - August 15 at 05:26 PM



“ God's grace and peace be with you (Wendy) and family. While your loss is deep, I pray that in the days to come you'll find peace in knowing that Matthew is safe in the arms of Jesus. May His love sustain you too.



Drake Tunson - August 15 at 07:36 AM



“ Over the years I have enjoyed hearing Wendy's stories about her life and travel adventures with her beloved 'Corazon' Matthew. Wendy's write up is a wonderful celebration/tribute to Matthew's life and how much they enjoyed life together. I know there are no words that will take away the pain but I hope that there is some comfort in knowing that there are people who care. Sending hugs and strength to all of the family to get through the next few weeks.

Sherry
(Wendy's Co-Worker)

Sherry Otte - August 13 at 09:19 AM



“ My sincerest and heartfelt condolences to Wendy and the entire family. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time. I never personally met Matthew, but worked with Wendy for years and loved hearing about their wonderful travels. Wendy, please know that you are loved and supported.

With Deepest Sympathies,
Trish Yaniero
(Wendy's co-worker)

Trish Yaniero - August 13 at 06:13 AM



“ Dearest Wendy,

May the many precious memories you created with Matthew be a grace keeping him close to your heart and embrace you with love, peace, and warmth in your time of healing.

I would like to share with you a bible verse my children and I used for my departed husband's memorial. I hope you find the same comfort we received from it.

"I have fought a good fight, I finished my course, I have kept my faith." ~ 2 Timothy 4:7

You will always be your loving husband's "mi Corazon".

With deepest sympathy to you and your family,
Nancy Argente
(Wendy's co-worker)

Nancy Argente - August 12 at 11:23 AM



“ My heartfelt condolences to Wendy and the rest of Matthews family. I worked with Wendy over the years on different projects; while I never met Matthew I would like to offer the following that gave me comfort when my father passed away:

He Only Takes the Best

God saw he was getting tired,
and a cure could not be,
So God put is arms around him
and whispered, "Come with me".
With tear-filled eyes we watched
him suffer and slowly fade away,
Although we loved him deeply,
We could not make him stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands put to rest,
God broke our hearts to prove to us

He only takes the best.

My prayers and thoughts are with you.

Carol Perry

Carol Perry - August 12 at 10:15 AM



“ My condolences to Matthews family. I did not have a chance to meet him but worked with Wendy and enjoyed hearing about their many travels. Wendy - sending you love, strength and prayers.



Natalie Kenjic - August 12 at 09:19 AM



“ I met Matthew during high school in the early 1980's. He was a bundle of kindness, fun and just an all around good human being. He is such a huge part of my high school memories. To this day, I have never heard a negative word spoken about Matt. He was one of the good ones.
My heart goes out to his wife Wendy. I am sending out love to her and prayers up for her strength. I pray in time that the lovely memories the two of them created will wrap her in peace and fill her heart.

Anna Parler Dahl - August 10 at 02:14 PM



“ I went to high school with Matt. He was older than me but he was always smiling and had a kind word. The world is a little less brighter without him.

Teresa Caldwell Gillespie - August 09 at 08:39 PM



“ Matthews will always live in the hearts of those who had the blessing of getting to know him.

Janet Lueiro - August 09 at 07:41 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Lourdes Solis - August 09 at 07:40 PM



“ So Sorry for your Loss.Matt was great Man and will Be Missed.

Monty Funderburk - August 09 at 09:38 PM



“ Lourdes Solis lit a candle in memory of Matthew John Lavelle



Lourdes Solis - August 09 at 07:25 PM



“ Tio Matt was really sweet and nice uncle. love Christine

Lourdes - August 09 at 07:26 PM



“ I met Matthew when her beloved wife Wendy introduced him. His curiosity in learning about other cultures was notable. He asked me interesting questions about my country. I immediately noticed his passion for culture and people. I will always remember his smile and kindness . RIP



Andrea Matias Lemoine - August 09 at 07:10 PM



“ Candace-Ballantyne Chapel lit a candle in memory of Matthew John Lavelle



Candace-Ballantyne Chapel - August 09 at 04:07 PM