



James "Woody" Savage

July 21, 1987 - June 16, 2019

James "Woody" Savage, 31, died unexpectedly, Sunday, June 16, 2019 at his Sioux Falls, SD, home.

James Henry Savage was born on July 21, 1987, in Sioux Falls, SD, the son of James Alan and Kathryn (Sinning) Savage. He grew up and attended school in Sioux Falls where his teachers would comment on what a kind boy he was, demonstrated by how he looked after kids who were bullied or had disabilities. He played football, basketball and baseball as a youth. James became a sports stats fanatic about players and teams in football, basketball, baseball and golf. In 2006, he graduated from Lincoln High School.

James had an affinity for art and expressed this through cooking. Most recently, he worked in food service for Ovation Foods where he was recently promoted to head chef. He prepared food for large events at the Premier Center, Sioux Falls Convention Center, Sanford Pentagon and at Canaries Stadium.

James attended Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. He enjoyed working out, concerts and the outdoors, specifically kayaking. He enjoyed hanging out with friends. Most of all, he loved his family. He was preceded in death by his father, James Alan Savage and grandparents, Norma Sinning and Jim Savage.

Grateful for having shared his life are his mother, Kathryn Savage (Stuart Swann), Sioux Falls, fiancé, Hailey Schrieber, Sioux Falls; step-siblings: Jamie, Erin, Jessica and Tyler; grandparents: Henry (Judy) Sinning, Lennox

and Shirley Savage, Apple Valley, MN; aunts/uncles: Connie and Bruce Thiewes, Apple Valley, MN, Steve and Patricia Sinning, Lennox and Becky and Doug Jorgensen, Lennox; special friends: Ryan Rezac and Kaitlyn Schrieber; his beloved dog, Jax, as well as many cousins, other relatives and a host of friends.

Memorial services will begin at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 22 at Second Reformed Church, Lennox, SD. Visitation, also at Second Reformed Church, with the family present, will be 2 hours prior to the service from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Tribute Wall

SH

“Woody and I were good friends for a time. I met him at Red Lobster and we used to hang out a lot. He was soul friend of mine that I will never ever forget.

Sara Corujo (Harle) - December 08, 2025 at 11:41 AM

CB

“Woody will always hold a special place in my heart. He was among the precious few truly good-hearted, authentic and caring people you meet in this world. I still have the wooden train whistle he so generously gave to me when we were kids as childhood friends. There was no special occasion necessary for him to do that - just a spontaneous act of kindness. It shows exactly the kind of person he was, and will be remembered as. God bless you friend.



Christopher Burnette - October 04, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DS

“So very sorry to hear of Woody's passing. He was so very much loved by his father & me. He was always so polite, kind & respectful whenever he visited Jim & me. He had a kind heart and will be missed by many.

Deborah Savage - July 11, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ *Curly blond hair, with a smile that never failed to lighten your day as a toddler. His sweet sensitive soul and his wonderful character were his inherited traits. . His life ended too soon. I am so sorry this was your story’s end. Love you, I wish it would have been different for you.*

Connie Savage Thiewes - July 11, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ *I worked at 4 Hills Gas Station for about 6yrs and had the pleasure of interacting with Woody on many many occasions. I was just informed of his passing and I am so terribly sorry that this happened. What an astounding loss! I'll be thinking of you during this horrible time.*

Doni - July 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *Dear Kathy and family, I was so sorry to hear of James' death. It is such a tragedy to lose a child. The anniversary of my daughter's death is in a few days. It has been 32 years. I pray for you during these most difficult of times. I am so sorry.*
Mary Avair

Mary Stake Avair - June 26, 2019 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ *Kathy,
My heart just breaks for you at the loss of your son James. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.*
*Love,
Patrice*



Patrice Mingo - June 24, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ So heaven has received another angel The night sky another star
Your life has become a loving memory. We know you will never be
far. I know you are watching over all of your friends and family As
our lives goes on. I'll always treasure the memories we had. You
were a loving caring big hearted person. You will always hold a dear
place in our hearts. I just truly can't believe your time has come and
you are gone. Rest easy mÃ amigo â™;Woody - James Henry
Savage

Maribel Campos - June 22, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Miss ya bud. May u find your peace and happiness in heaven. I
know you will be in good hands and we will all see you on the other
side.

Kyle Krause - June 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I worked with Woody at John Harris. He always put forth such great
effort. His positive attitude and enthusiastic personality was a day
brightener.

Chris Smith - June 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Woody had a unique way of being able to make everybody laugh no
matter what the circumstance was. He was the most kind hearted
man I had ever met and will be sorely missed. Thinking of Kathy
and family during this time.

Jeremy Mollet - June 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss. Acts 17 verse 27 says, “He is not far off from each one of us”. May God continue to be with your family. We love and pray for you. Love u Kathy.

Jasmyn and Bauer family - June 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Woody, you were the kindest, most loving and free spirited person that I had ever met. I will always cherish our memories together. Your mother is in my thoughts and prayers. Until we meet again, my friend. Now rest.

Kylie Busse - June 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ Woody, your truly gonna be missed !!! A VERY bright star in a dark world hopefully (not really) things will be pleasant and wonderful were your at please give Wanda a hug and kiss from Rebel and I and let her know I dearly miss her!!! Woody playing Fire on the Mountain just for you kid!!!

Kenny Wright - June 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ I am so sorry Kathy. My heart is breaking for you.

Colette Peterson - June 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ I am so sorry for your loss, Kathy, and to all of Woody’s family. May his light shine forever!



Shellie Delaney - June 20, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ I am heartbroken to hear of Woody's passing. I have so many fond memories of him from the John Harris days and sleepovers with Chris and the gang. I always loved his smile and his spirit. May God be with you and may He wrap his loving arms around you, Kathy!

Sara Burnette - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ I am so very sorry to hear about Woody. You are all in our thoughts.

Cheri Fodness - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ Woody you are a star that shined a little brighter than most you will be truly missed rest in peace my friend

Julie Geary - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KJ

“ So sorry for your loss Kathy. You are in my every thought and prayer! I love you

Kamie Johnson - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Kathy and family, I enjoyed being Woody's music teacher at Patrick Henry. He was so full of life. God bless you and the entire family.
John Mogen

John Mogen - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ I worked with Woody at Lonestar. I really enjoyed working with him. He will be missed.

Chalyce Gamber - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *Saying prayers for Woody and all your family. Thinking of you all.*

Barb Flynn - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ *Oh, the memories of Woody from Lonestar. He was like a tornado that came through and left a mess behind him. But in spite of that he could be quite good at what he did and was just one of those guys that you couldn't help but like! I look back fondly at our days working together and will never forget him. Woody, you left this earth way too soon, rest in peace my friend.*

Tracy Kaiser - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *No more fighting with yourself..be at peace now...miss you dearly.*



melanie sides - June 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you, so sorry for your loss.*

Lisa Peterson - June 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ *Our deepest. Sympathy to the family*

Arlo,Vonnie Larson - June 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Gene & Martha Fauth - June 18, 2019 at 12:00 AM