



Jason R. "Jay" Vallee

February 15, 1983 - January 4, 2025

Jason Richard Vallee, known to all as Jay, of Pawcatuck, Connecticut, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, January 4, 2025, at the age of 41. He was born on February 15, 1983, in Leominster, Massachusetts, to Gerard R. Vallee and his wife Sherry (Griffith) Senior of Fitchburg, MA.

Jay was a bright and passionate individual, with an insatiable love for learning, writing, and sports. He was a 2001 graduate of Oakmont Regional High School in Ashburnham, MA, where he excelled both academically and athletically. Throughout school Jay was an active participant in baseball, soccer, and basketball, earning recognition for his dedication on and off the field. He played for the Oakmont Outlaws soccer team and was proud of his team's multiple trips to the state championships. In addition to his academic and athletic pursuits, Jay worked at Market Basket throughout high school and college where he developed lasting friendships and a strong work ethic.

One of Jay's most cherished memories was his travel to Europe at the age of 13, when he participated in the People to People Ambassador Program, an experience that ignited his lifelong curiosity about the world.

He went on to attend the University of Hartford, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2005 with a degree in Journalism. During his college years, Jay worked as a supervisor lifeguard at the university's sports center and contributed to various academic and extracurricular pursuits.

Jay's professional journey included a number of roles in journalism. He started as a staff writer at the New Britain Herald and later worked as a staff writer for the Record Journal in Meriden, Connecticut. From 2010 to 2014, he served as the editor for the Southington & Berlin Patch, an online news platform. For the past decade, Jay contributed as an editor and writer at the Westerly Sun, in Westerly, Rhode Island, where his work earned him respect as a skilled journalist and a reliable voice in the community.

Outside of his professional life, Jay had a deep love for baseball, both as a player and an avid fan. Jay was also passionate about history, research, and storytelling. His work led him to a deep interest in Norse-Celtic animism, which he explored extensively in his writings. He was also the proud author of a children's book, a project close to his heart.

Jay is survived by his loving family: his father Gerard Vallee and stepmother Renee, of Fitchburg, MA; his mother Sherry Ann Senior and stepfather Bernard, of Daytona Beach, FL; his grandmother Sue Harris of Daytona Beach, FL; his siblings Christopher P. Vallee and his wife Jacquelyn of Clinton, MA, Andrew J. Vallee and his wife Maria of Taunton, MA, and Alyssa S. Marcinkus and her husband Ryan of Daniel Island, SC; his step siblings, Shaun Boutwell and his wife Nicole, Chelsea Bydlinski, Elisha, Erika, and Ethan Senior; He was the proud uncle to his nephews and nieces, who will miss him dearly. Jay also leaves many aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and is fondly remembered by his former girlfriend Shannon and her son, Alex.

Jay was predeceased by his sister Deanna Marie Vallee in 1982.

In addition to his family, Jay leaves behind a lasting legacy of work, wisdom, and kindness. He touched the lives of everyone he met with his exuberant personality from his colleagues in journalism to the many friends he made

along the way. His curiosity, enthusiasm, and joy for life will be remembered by all who knew him.

Calling hours will be held in the Isabelle & Anderson Funeral Home, 316 Clarendon St., Fitchburg, MA on Friday, January 17th from 12:00 noon – 2:00pm. Words of remembrance will be held at 2:00pm.

lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Jason Vallee, may be made to Joslin Diabetes Center by <https://www.joslin.org/support-joslin/ways-give> or by check made payable to “Joslin Diabetes Center” with “Philanthropy, 529 Main Street, 4th Floor, Charlestown, MA 02129.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

JAN 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM.

Isabelle & Anderson Funeral Home
316 Clarendon St
Fitchburg, MA

Words of Remembrance

JAN 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Isabelle & Anderson Funeral Home - Fitchburg
316 Clarendon Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
(978) 343-4407

Tribute Wall

JH

“ I knew Jay mostly as a teammate growing up in Ashburnham. From the time we were probably 8 or 9 up through high school we were intermittent teammates on the baseball field, basketball court, and soccer field. As a child/teen there are certain attributes in a person/teammate you tend not to recognize, that as an adult truly stand out. Some of those are a positive attitude, steadfast work ethic, and caring teammate. Jay embodied all of those things. When I heard the news of his passing, like everyone that knew Jay, I thought back on memories we had together and although it's been 20 years since we've seen each other I can remember those qualities clear as day. As someone who has coached kids for the past 15 years and now has a son of my own, I only hope I can instill those characteristics into all the boys I get the opportunity to work with. My deepest condolences to Jay's friends and family, I hope you get some comfort in knowing that smile has left a lasting impression on many people Jay came in contact with.

Lots of Love,

Jaime Hancock

Jaime Hancock - January 18, 2025 at 06:20 PM

BL

“ I met Jason when he was in a relationship with a family member many years ago. When that didn't work out I remained friends with Jason on Facebook and we would stay in touch through comments. I appreciated his professionalism as a journalist and often found my views aligning with his. He was a good man who cared about those closest to him, his profession, and his country. We need more of that, instead we have one less champion of the truth.

Brian Loffredo - January 16, 2025 at 12:04 PM

MU

“ Jason and his family were friends of ours when he lived in Ashburnham growing up years ago. We will always remember his smiles, kindness and friendship. Jason’s positivity was contagious. He was an important part of a group of athletic boys who loved soccer and gave it there all. Our heart and prayers to his beautiful siblings and parents. Wayne and Maria Hancock

Maria Ulloa-Hancock - January 13, 2025 at 02:35 PM