



John R. Gallivan

March 9, 1969 - March 5, 2026

John Richard Gallivan, 56, of Elbridge, New York, passed away on March 5, 2026, at Crouse Hospital due to a sudden illness. John was born on March 9, 1969, in Syracuse, New York, to Mary Ann Gallivan and John Richard Gallivan Sr. He attended West Genesee High School and soon after began working as a roofer at Van Derhoof Roofing Co., Inc., where he dedicated more than 30 years of hard work.

John was known for his love of music, playing the guitar, cars, and skull collectibles. He was also an amazing cook who loved sharing meals with those he cared about. In his earlier years, he enjoyed spending time at the Town Shop in the Village of Camillus. John was a fighter who bravely battled and survived cancer.

Those who knew John understood that beneath his tough exterior was a gentle and caring person. He loved his family deeply and would do anything for them. To many, he was a true teddy bear — strong on the outside but soft and kind-hearted.

John was preceded in death by his father, John R. Gallivan Sr., and his grandson, Giovanni Desimone. John was also preceded in death by his best friend, Nick Sakran Jr. They had been best friends since elementary school, and we like to imagine they are jamming together again in heaven.

He is survived by his mother, Mary Ann Gallivan; his brother, Tim Michael (Kristine) Gallivan; his sisters, Mary Margaret Demperio and Irene Marie (Pat) O'Donnell; his sons, Johnathan Richard Gallivan and Collin Michael (Lauren) Desimone; and his beloved grandchildren, Liam Gallivan and Gianna Desimone. He is also survived by his nephews Timothy (Kristin) Gallivan, Patrick (Chelsey) O'Donnell, Michael O'Donnell, and Matthew (Jenna) O'Donnell; and his nieces Emily Demperio and Juliana Demperio.

A poem the family would like to share in John's memory:

God saw he was getting tired,
And a cure was not to be,
So He put His arms around him
And whispered, "Come with me."
With tearful eyes we watched him suffer
And saw him fade away.
Although we loved him dearly,
We could not make him stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard-working hands to rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.
Although his heart stopped beating,
His love will always remain.
His absence puts upon our hearts
A very heavy strain.
For now he is in a place of everlasting rest,
We just have to understand that God
Only takes the best.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, March 10th from 5 to 8 pm at B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee St., Camillus. Services will be Wednesday, March 11th at 10 am at the funeral home. Burial will be in Greenlawn Memorial Park, Warners.

Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to Clear Path for Veterans, 1223 Salt Springs Rd, Chittenango, NY 13037 or online at <https://www.clearpath4vets.com/get-involved/donate>

Please share memories and sign his guestbook at www.BLBUSH.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **10**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home
10 W. Genesee Street
Camillus, NY 13031
(315) 672-3400
info@bushfuneralhome.com
<https://www.bushfuneralhome.com/>

Service

MAR **11**. 10:00 AM (ET)

B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home
10 W. Genesee Street
Camillus, NY 13031
(315) 672-3400
info@bushfuneralhome.com
<https://www.bushfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments created a Tribute Video in memory of John R. Gallivan*



B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments - March 10 at 09:07 PM

KK

Such & what a Beautiful Life Johnnie has experienced & created in his shortened time on this earth we know here, I am blessed to have known him & I am sure I am just 1 of many of his chickadees!! 🙏❤️🕊️
🙏 Love & Rest in Peace Johnnie

Kimberly Kearney - March 17 at 12:20 AM

MJ

“ *Mark & Stacey Johnson purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of John R. Gallivan.*



Mark & Stacey Johnson - March 10 at 07:10 AM

DM

“ *My sincere condolences to the family*

Doreen McDonough - March 09 at 05:47 PM

TA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Tammy - March 09 at 01:16 PM

PW

“ Paul Warner purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of John R. Gallivan.



Paul Warner - March 09 at 12:03 AM

PW

“ Paul Warner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John R. Gallivan.

Paul Warner - March 09 at 12:03 AM

CF

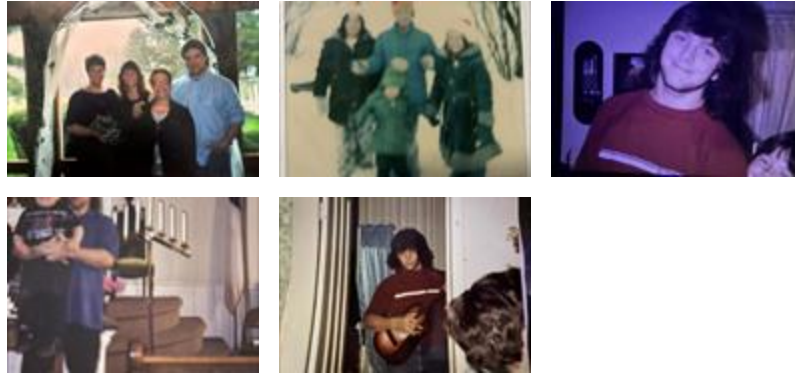
“ Ciciarelli/Mcnamara Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of John R. Gallivan.



Ciciarelli/Mcnamara Family - March 08 at 11:07 AM

DK

“ 9 files added to the album *Tribute Wall*



Debra Klotz - March 07 at 08:37 PM

DK

“ 1 file added to the album *Deb's pics of Johnny*



Debra Klotz - March 07 at 08:18 PM

JS

“ *Jen, Liz, Alicia, Shawn & Jack Sakran purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of John R. Gallivan.*



Jen, Liz, Alicia, Shawn & Jack Sakran - March 07 at 05:03 PM

JS

“ Jen, Liz, Alicia, Shawn & Jack Sakran planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John R. Gallivan.

Jen, Liz, Alicia, Shawn & Jack Sakran - March 07 at 05:03 PM

MH

“ John, Tom and I are so sorry for the loss of your father. You and your family are in our prayers. Mary and Tom Humphrey

Mary Humphrey - March 07 at 03:36 PM

CV

*My heart aches for this news- i am sorry I did not know.
My memories of Gallivans' one & many are filled w/ fondness.*

Sincerely, Cheryl Vermilya

Cheryl A. Vermilya - March 08 at 08:27 PM