



## Duane John Messing

June 19, 1967 - December 22, 2014

Duane John Messing, age 47 of Tacoma, Washington passed away unexpectedly on Monday, December 22, 2014 at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington.

He was born on June 19, 1967 in Harbor Beach hospital to John and Peggy Messing.

Duane had a love of cooking from early on in his life; starting at the age of 14 he began working at the former Nunneley's Roadhouse. He was a 1985 graduate of Harbor Beach High School. From there he went on to St. Clair Community College and then to The Culinary School of Kendall College in Evanston, Illinois, where he graduated with his culinary degree. Duane then traveled to Seattle, Washington where he worked at O'Sheas Catering as the executive chef also as a sous chef at Emerald Queen Casino and Hotel in Tacoma, Washington.

Duane is survived by his parents, John and Peggy Messing of Harbor Beach, two sons; Noah and Sam Messing of Tacoma, Washington, three sisters; Pam and John Will of Harbor Beach, Denise Morell and special friend Keith Maurer of Bad Axe, Dawn and Kevin Pleiness of Harbor Beach, six nieces and nephews; Natasha (Austin) Bancroft, Cory Will, Kayla and Tyler Morell, and Hunter and Brooklyn Pleiness, and his godparents; Roy and Evelyn Stein of Harbor Beach.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Ray and Bertha Messing and Charles and Hazel Kanaby.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held 12pm on Saturday, January 10, 2015 at Holy Apostles Church Ruth, Michigan gathering will be from 10am-12pm at the church. Memorials may be offered to the Family Discretionary Fund. Arrangements are being handled by the Ramsey Funeral Home of Harbor Beach. Condolences can be shared at [www.RamseyFH.com](http://www.RamseyFH.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JAN 10. 12:00 PM (ET)

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church  
Ruth, MI

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ I was one of Duane's last close friends. He worked and lived just one block away from my home in Tacoma. Duane quickly became a permanent part of our community. It was easy to become pals with him - we were very good pals until the end. I know Duane had two boys. I'm writing this so those two boys know that, although there was some sort of separation, your father constantly thought about you. The proof is that he couldn't shut up about either of you. It has been more than a decade since his passing. He had such a sweet spirit - I just can't forget about him to this very day. I hope one day each of his boys will stumble upon this post and - maybe feel the hugs he wanted to give you when he was alive.

David Bellarts - May 02, 2025 at 01:14 AM



“ Duane John Messing

October 04, 2023 at 01:24 PM

KW

“ Kelly Walling lit a candle in memory of Duane John Messing



Kelly Walling - January 09, 2015 at 06:19 PM

KW

*My thoughts & prayers to you all!!*

Kelly Walling - January 09, 2015 at 06:20 PM

KR

“ Smiles and love. Your beautiful sons lighten this loss just a bit. Yet guarantees your continuance. Thank you for the laughs and kindness.

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**Kristian** - January 07, 2015 at 11:37 PM

HD

“ I learned what "real" food was from Duane. Seriously, if you never had his roasted garlic platter, you have not tasted what he could do with food. I tried things that I had frequently turned my nose up to because I knew I would be delicious. And the pasta...oh wow...every pasta dish was amazing!

His laugh was contagious and you could hear it from 3 rooms away. It was very rare that I didn't see Duane with a smile on his face when he was talking with friends or talking about food. And boy did he love growing food! I loved seeing what new things he had planted when he had so very little room growing stuff on the apartment balcony. And I was just darn jealous of the garden he grew when he finally had the room to do it right. He was very talented. I see that in his boys. He'd be so proud of what a hard worker Sam turned out to be, just like he was - taking pride in his work. He'd be just as thrilled to know what a riot both of them are, I know that everybody in the afterlife is hearing him laugh when he watches his boys.

I'll always remember Duane and I'll always be grateful for his introduction to what real food could be and of course, I'll always hear his laugh when I think of him.

Rest in peace, Friend.

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**Heather Dyer** - January 07, 2015 at 10:51 PM

HD

"I knew IT would be delicious"

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**Heather Dyer** - January 07, 2015 at 10:52 PM

SW

*wonderful tribute, HP!*

sonya wilcox - January 08, 2015 at 12:03 AM

SB

“ *Shannon Blake lit a candle in memory of Duane John Messing*



Shannon Blake - January 07, 2015 at 09:33 PM

FE

“ *"My sympathy and prayers to the Messing Family in the loss of their loved one. I pray and say as we have been doing now for centuries: "Eternal rest give to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on him forever. May he rest in peace. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace."*

*Sincerely,*

*Fr. Donald J. Eppenbrock , RC-Priest*

*Sacramental Pries of Ave Maria Parish, Lexington, MI*

*Peachtree Estates, 5778 Main St., #1, PO #202, Lexington, MI*

*48450-0202*

Fr. Donald J. Eppenbrock - January 07, 2015 at 02:11 PM

LK

“ *I was so sorry to hear of Duane's passing. I always had such a good time working with him at Nunnley's and just hanging out. He always had a big smile for everyone and was just a genuinely happy person. I will always remember him fondly. My heart breaks for his family and my thoughts and prayers are with them all. Love you ~Laurie Kirsch*

Laurie Kirsch - January 07, 2015 at 10:22 AM



“ Sacred Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Duane John Messing.



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January 06, 2015 at 09:35 PM



“ I had the pleasure of working with Duane over the past few years. I didn't know Duane on a personal level very well, but he was very passionate and enthusiastic about his profession. His energy level was one to be matched. It was noticeable through every conversation with Duane that his intense passion for food and the culinary arts was a part of who he was as a person. Duane would often come back from his weekend talking about food that he had tasted and read about. Duane was always upbeat and goal oriented, and his work ethic displayed a willingness to accomplish the tasks that were needed in order to feed his guest the high quality food that they deserved. Duane suddenly leaving us left many of his co-managers and employees missing him during the holiday season. It was an honor to work with someone like Duane who shared his smiles and laughter with everyone that he met. He will be missed.

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**Aaron Miriello** - January 06, 2015 at 03:17 PM



“ Dan & Kim Booms lit a candle in memory of Duane John Messing



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**Dan & Kim Booms** - January 06, 2015 at 11:26 AM

PA

“ Pam lit a candle in memory of Duane John Messing



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**Pam** - January 06, 2015 at 05:32 AM

JS

“ John And Joey Sutton lit a candle in memory of Duane John Messing



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**John and Joey Sutton** - January 06, 2015 at 05:32 AM

JJ

“ Duane was the most passionate and enthusiastic guy I ever met when it came to all things cooking and food related, he really really loved what he did! You could not get a word in edgewise when Duane got to explaining his latest new found recipe or secret mushroom picking spot. He loved mushroom picking and gardening in addition to cooking and included his young sons, my nephews Noah and Sam, in that passion. Duane was a fantastic father when his boys were young and he was a great guy to have as a brother in law, always accepting, kind, funny and someone you could really look up to and respect his hard working passionate ways. His family and friends are all in my thoughts during this difficult time, most particularly his amazing sons that are now fine young men that Duane would have been so very proud of. It's a terrible terrible sad loss that Duane had to leave this earth at such a young age, the world will not be the same without him. Rip Duane!

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**Jamie Johnson** - January 05, 2015 at 10:00 PM

SW

*Jamie, I love this.*

sonya wilcox - January 05, 2015 at 11:31 PM

PW

*This describes Duane to a "t"!*

Pam Will - January 06, 2015 at 06:05 AM



“ *The Broken Chain Catholic frame was purchased for the family of Duane John Messing.*

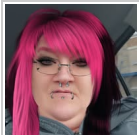


January 05, 2015 at 09:22 PM

SW

“ *<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/fvgxntr2604hx3k/AADE2zuHPV3jVm861-NqCml-a?dl=0> This is a link to many pictures of Duane.*

Sonya Wilcox - January 05, 2015 at 08:52 PM



“ *Marci Page-Johnson lit a candle in memory of Duane John Messing*



Marci Page-Johnson - January 05, 2015 at 05:50 PM

SJ

“ *Sibyl Johnson lit a candle in memory of Duane John Messing*



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**Sibyl Johnson** - January 05, 2015 at 05:00 PM

SW

*Mom, thank you for buying that "Broken Chain" frame. I know how much you loved Duane and how much your heart is breaking, too. I love you.*

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**sonya wilcox** - January 05, 2015 at 11:34 PM

SJ

“ *We're incredibly sad you're gone. You were loved & respected as our son in-law. We'll try to always keep your memory alive for your boys. They're so lucky to have you as their father.*  
*RIP, Jim & Sibyl*

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**Sibyl Johnson** - January 05, 2015 at 04:58 PM

SW

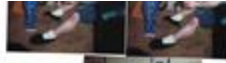
*Mom, thank you for buying that "Broken Chain" frame. I know how much you loved Duane and how much your heart is breaking, too. I love you.*

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**sonya wilcox** - January 05, 2015 at 11:35 PM

SR

“ 4 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Sonya Wilcox, RMR** - January 05, 2015 at 03:06 PM

SR

“ *Duane was absolutely the hardest worker I've ever met in my life. He loved to cook and he loved to work and he was amazing at both. He had a boisterous and infectious laugh. Everyone who met Duane liked him, and with rare exception, he liked everyone. He saw the good in people. He always thought he was born to cook, but the truth is he was born to be a dad. When we had Noah and then Sam, he transformed into the most amazing dad I've ever seen in my life. I've NEVER seen a man who loved his kids more, who was more devoted or patient, or who played with his kids more. Noah and Sam were absolutely the light of his life.*

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**Sonya Wilcox, RMR** - January 05, 2015 at 02:34 PM