



John Samuel "Sam" Klein

June 16, 1955 - December 20, 2021

John Samuel Klein (Sam) passed away December 20, 2021 at the age of 66 from COVID-19 at the OSU Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio. Sam is survived by his dear friends Robbie McDonald, Ehmano Orso, Steve Sessis and Sam's sister Jenny Rytel of Chattanooga, Tennessee. He is also survived by his niece Adrienne Allender and his nephew Alex Rytel. He is the son of long deceased Morris R. Klein and Nancy A. Paterson Klein. Sam is a graduate of Thomas Worthington High School, class of 1974. Sam spent most of his adult life as a mobile DJ owning his own company called Road Show Sound. He provided music and acted as master-of-ceremony for countless weddings, parties and bar mitzvahs. He was always an exemplary showman with a great sense of humor and a resonating voice that commanded attention. Sam is perhaps best remembered by Columbus area residents of a certain age as Mr. Tree at the downtown Lazarus department store during the Christmas holidays in the 1970's. Sam spread laughter and joy wherever he went. He will be sorely missed by anyone whose life he touched with his kindness, warmth and sense of humor. There will be a memorial service in Columbus, Ohio in the spring: The date to be announced at a later time.

Tribute Wall



“ *John Samuel "Sam" Klein*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *I had the honor of living with Sam while I attended OSU. He took me in as family and Sam became part of our family. He was loved by all and will be truly missed. I can't count all the weddings we attended while providing entertainment for countless guests. I learned to DJ from Sam, but more importantly how to love people. I don't think I ever saw him in a bad mood. He attacked life with joy and happiness. I hated not being able to see Sam for the last few years due to Covid. We used to go to dinner every week and talk about how to solve all the world's problems. I remember when Sam was there when my son was born and was the first to visit us when we got home. Truly a people person and we have a huge void to fill. Thanks Sam for all the memories and for being there for me on many different occasions.*

Brad Corbett - January 24, 2022 at 09:07 AM



Hi Brad. Don't know if you remember me, Kevin. I roadied for Sam & remember you living at his house and also DJ'ing. I'm glad to hear that you stayed in touch with him. I last saw him about 20 years ago & was thinking that I should drop by to see if he still lived at the same place then I heard that he had passed. So many great memories.

Kevin Looker - January 24, 2022 at 04:24 PM



Awesome guy, Sam was! We have been friends and competitors for around 40 years. My brother Scott graduated with him, 4 years before me and has always asked about him. He will be greatly missed!

Greg Mezger - January 27, 2022 at 03:24 PM

SS

“ Sam, Though I have a lot of childhood memories, I can, without hesitation, say that most of the ones worth remembering were of times I spent with you. I distinctly recall a humid summer night in 1968 sitting on Tim Layman's screened porch with all of the neighborhood kids talking about where we saw ourselves and what the world would be like all the way ahead to the year 2000. Man, did we miss that by a mile, but it was a fun night just being a kid. Ah, childhood.....That, and going to the movies with the gang, our bike rides, and being with your best friend. Remember sitting in my dad's Caddy listening to Sinatra 8 tracks? What two teenage kids listened to Frank Sinatra in 1968? What a couple of dweebs! It may not have been a perfect life, but those memories I have make it seem pretty close, especially having had you as my friend. We may not be blood related, but you were then and always will be my brother. You keep everyone laughing up there. We'll cross paths again some day. Miss you, Man.
Steve

Steve Sessis - January 22, 2022 at 10:29 PM

JS

“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



Jenny Klein Rytel, Sister - January 22, 2022 at 04:47 PM

KV

Jenny , I am so sorry to hear this news , I lost touch with him but thought of him throughout the years. I was one of his roommates during the 80's . Always a kind , caring , jolly soul! RIP Sam ❤️

Kari Vaughn - February 14, 2023 at 10:41 AM