



Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner

October 15, 1962 - March 18, 2026

UTICA – Christopher James “Chris” Kistner, 63, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, on Wednesday, March 18, 2026. During his final moments, he was listening to one of his favorite songs, “Ramblin’ Man” by The Allman Brothers Band, a fitting soundtrack for a man so deeply loved.

Born in New Hartford on October 15, 1962, Christopher was the son of the late William and Kathryn “Kathy” (Brewer) Kistner. He was also blessed by the love and guidance of his stepfather, John “Jack” Mehaffy. Chris was raised and educated in Utica and was a graduate of U.F.A in 1981.

At one time, Chris was married to the former Roxann Hill, and from that union came the blessing of three sons. He later married the former Marina C. Schriever on June 11th, 2005, and together they shared a loving and devoted marriage until his passing. They enjoyed many memorable trips together including some fantastic ones in Lake George.

Chris once worked for Gould Computer Systems in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where he skillfully assembled computers. After returning to the Utica area, he was employed by Utica Metals as an enameler making automotive emblems and most recently by Microfoam, Inc.

Chris loved all animals, a passion he shared with his youngest son Steven.

Over the years Chris had many pets and was also not afraid to take on some of the more exotic pets like snakes and turtles.

From a very early age, Chris developed a love and appreciation for cars. When not working, Chris could always be found driving his sons to go camping in his Buick Estate station wagon, or helping family or friends out by fixing their cars. There were not many things on a car Chris could not fix. His love and passion for cars will continue on through his son Kyle and grandson Owen.

Anyone who knew Chris, knew him to be a simple guy who was most happy doing simple things...whether it was fishing, going to car shows, cruising in his 1968 Buick Skylark or spending time with his loving wife, kids and grandkids. He didn't need much to be happy. He lived for his family.

Chris is survived by his loving wife, Marina; his sons, Kyle and wife Brandy Kistner, Steven Kistner and partner Joshua Bateman; and his stepson, Brandon Hill and family. He was a very proud and loving Opa to Mackenzie and Owen Kistner, whom he adored and helped raise with great love and devotion. Also cherishing his memory are his sisters, Michele Plourde, and Gina Kistner DiDonato; his twin brothers and their wives, John and Tina Kistner and Jeff and Jaime Kistner; several nieces and nephews. His uncle Mike and Rosemary Brewer; in-laws, Kevin and Denise Schriever; and many special friends, especially those who he met while volunteering at the Utica Maennerchor and Bavarian Festival.

Chris was additionally predeceased by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Oskar D.L. "Dieter" and Irmgard M. (Schilling) Schriever.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2026, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South Street, corner of Hammond Avenue.

Christopher's Funeral Service and Celebration of Life will commence at 3:00 p.m. at the funeral home. For those unable to attend, you may be present virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81903135170>.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 4. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

APR 4. 3:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

JF

“ John and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner.



John and family - April 03 at 08:20 AM

JF

“ John and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner.

John and family - April 03 at 08:20 AM

TF

“ Tons of love, Rhonda, Mark and family purchased the In Heaven's Arms Bouquet for the family of Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner.



Tons of love, Rhonda, Mark and family - April 01 at 11:26 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner.



April 01 at 08:10 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner.

April 01 at 08:10 AM



“ Dear Marina and Family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Sincerely, Kathy and Allan Foote

Allan Foote - March 28 at 10:12 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner.



March 27 at 08:23 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Christopher James "Chris" Kistner.



March 25 at 05:31 PM