



## Joshua James Ruhling

October 21, 1974 - May 30, 2025

The staff of Heishman Funeral Home/Valley Funeral Service sends condolences to the family of Joshua James Ruhling.

Joshua James Ruhling

October 21, 1974 – May 30, 2025

My heart, my soul, my love.

Josh, you may have been born in Charlotte NC and raised in Roanoke, but our lives collided in the little town of Woodstock, when a cute young waiter and hostess became the best of friends. We shared many evenings of chocolate milkshakes at the local McDonalds getting to know each other. But, you decided the first day we met at the Spring House Restaurant as you stopped mid-stride with a tray of food in your hands just to check me out, that you would marry me. I wasn't convinced. So, you pursued me for quite a while until I finally gave in to your persistence, and our love story began. We shared many nights under the stars, bike riding, hiking in the mountains, surprising each other with getaways and so much more. One of my favorite memories is when I was in college and you showed up surprising me with delicious pastries you made from scratch along with a little love note. Another was the journal we shared. We took turns each week writing our daily thoughts and

feelings to each other, which made our love stronger each day. It didn't take long for the marriage proposal and on September 27, 1997, we became one.

I gained a second family that day. Your parents, Ray and Linda, accepted me as their own from the very beginning. Your brother Erik was not quite a social butterfly like you, but he eventually gave into my hugs of affection and later his wife Sarah did too. In 2000, we finished building our first home and welcomed our daughter Winter the same year. You wanted a daughter so badly and when she was born, the love and pride for her was unmatched. From day one, she had you wrapped around her little finger and that grip never loosened. If that girl asked you for anything you would move heaven and earth to make it happen. In 2002 our family was completed when Silas was born. I think you two talked sports before he could even speak. He quickly became a Boston Red Sox and Washington Redskins fan because of you. But, our family wasn't quite complete, was it? Last year you walked Winter down the aisle and gave her away to Carston, who cherishes her just as you cherished me. Next month, we'll witness our son marrying Cameron, the girl of his dreams. But, you and I will just have slightly different views. We have been so blessed through the years as we have raised our family.

Sweetheart, in our thirty years together we built a strong and beautiful marriage. Were there ugly times? Absolutely, because what marriage doesn't have them? But we chose each other every single time. You set the bar high with how a husband should treat his wife and every day you made me feel like your queen. I already miss the little notes on my pillow, the surprise coffees at work because you just had a feeling I might need one, and the dinners you made me before you went to work. Then there were the flowers for the "just because" moments, the random texts telling me you love me, and holding hands. Oh, and I can't forget the weekly sushi and movie nights on Friday. We are soulmates and you spent every day demonstrating that.

Baby, I don't know yet how I will navigate my way through this life without you because you're the half that makes me whole and I'm lost without you.

Together we built a life full of friends and family. Our little village has felt your absence more than you could have ever imagined. Joshua James, you are worthy of the title of great husband and father. You are loved, and you are missed. Please thank our heavenly father for letting us borrow you for the time that He did. My peace is knowing I'll see you again.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, June 5, 2025, at 11:00am at Faith Lutheran Church in Fort Valley. Chaplain Phil Speicher will officiate.

Online condolences may be left at [valleyfs.com](http://valleyfs.com)

Arrangements by Heishman Funeral Home Inc., Valley Funeral Service Branch, Edinburg.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Faith Lutheran Church  
4260 Fort Valley Road  
Fort Valley, VA 22652

# Tribute Wall

TW

“ *Tracie R. Wingfield purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.*



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**Tracie R. Wingfield** - June 04, 2025 at 08:00 PM

JR

“ *My heart is breaking for you, Summer. 💔  
I'll always remember first meeting you and Josh when you were just kids working at the Springhouse Restaurant. And as the years went by, our paths managed to keep crossing. Even though we are not close friends, I consider you and Josh to be very special people and your friendship means alot to me. Josh will be missed by many people. That shows you what a genuinely good guy he was. You and the kids are in my prayers. God be with you. Take care. Hugs,  
Johnny Raines*

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**Johnny Raines** - June 04, 2025 at 05:04 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.*



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June 04, 2025 at 03:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

June 04, 2025 at 03:44 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



June 04, 2025 at 03:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

June 04, 2025 at 03:26 PM



“ The Bartol Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



**The Bartol Family** - June 04, 2025 at 03:13 PM



“ Robert and Debbie Reid purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



**Robert and Debbie Reid** - June 04, 2025 at 01:07 PM

SF

“ Scott and Sue McCoy and family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



Scott and Sue McCoy and family - June 04, 2025 at 09:34 AM

TF

“ The Beekman Family purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



The Beekman Family - June 04, 2025 at 09:18 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



June 04, 2025 at 08:24 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



June 03, 2025 at 10:42 PM

AB

“ With our deepest sympathy for your unexpected loss, keeping you in our thoughts & prayers for the days you face ahead, hold your cherished memories close,  
*Phil, April & Brady Baker*



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**April A Baker** - June 03, 2025 at 09:55 PM

BS

“ *Im a very grateful for having josh in my life. if it wasn't for josh I wouldn't be where I am at today and for that I will forever be grateful and may god continue blessing your loved ones. I will never forget you.*



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**Bryan Sandoval** - June 03, 2025 at 08:25 PM

CF

“ *Cousins from the Vaughan family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.*



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**Cousins from the Vaughan family** - June 03, 2025 at 04:53 PM

CF

“ *Cousins from the Vaughan family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.*

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**Cousins from the Vaughan family** - June 03, 2025 at 04:53 PM

GR

“ Josh, Our conversations, your laughter and your guidance are always going to be treasured. You were more than words could describe. you were my friend, Thank you for always uplifting me when i needed it the most. To your Family my love and support will always be here .. God Speed to a great man

Greg - June 03, 2025 at 01:11 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



June 03, 2025 at 12:03 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



June 03, 2025 at 11:52 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

June 03, 2025 at 11:52 AM

ES

“ I am so sorry for your loss. There is nothing more difficult than losing your spouse. I will be praying for you and your family and if you need someone to talk to whose been and still going through the same thing you are just let me know.

Eddie Sherman - June 03, 2025 at 11:47 AM

TF

“ The str8outa Compton family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



The str8outa Compton family - June 02, 2025 at 10:47 PM

TF

“ The str8outa Compton family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

The str8outa Compton family - June 02, 2025 at 10:47 PM

BH

“ My sincere sympathy to you and your family . I know Cameron & Silas and how sad they must be also. I know you will miss him but thank God for all the precious memories. Take one day at a time. Thank God for his love and amazing Grace.



Barbara Miller Holler - June 02, 2025 at 09:58 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



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June 02, 2025 at 08:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

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June 02, 2025 at 08:24 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



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June 02, 2025 at 08:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

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June 02, 2025 at 08:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

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June 02, 2025 at 08:01 PM

VM

“ Victoria Mischler purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



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**Victoria Mischler** - June 02, 2025 at 05:21 PM

VM

“ Victoria Mischler planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

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**Victoria Mischler** - June 02, 2025 at 05:21 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



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June 02, 2025 at 04:59 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

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June 02, 2025 at 04:59 PM

LF

“ Laura Laing and Gina Foringer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

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**Laura Laing and Gina Foringer** - June 02, 2025 at 04:57 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

June 02, 2025 at 04:32 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



June 02, 2025 at 04:32 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joshua James Ruhling.



June 02, 2025 at 04:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joshua James Ruhling.

June 02, 2025 at 04:12 PM