



## James C. "Chris" Duty

April 25, 2023

It is with much sadness to announce the passing of James Christopher Duty, (Chris) at 59 years of age. Chris passed away surrounded by his lovely daughter, Leah Ann Duty, and his doting sister, Marybeth D. Young on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at the Compass Regional Hospice Center after a short battle, less than 30 days, of being diagnosed with esophageal cancer.

Chris Duty was born October 3, 1963, in Olney, MD, to the late William H. Duty, Jr., and Betty Sue Duty. He was the second youngest of seven children. Two preceded his death, older brother, Michael Hayes Duty, and younger brother, J. Scott Duty. He is survived by his daughter, Leah Ann Duty, and grandson, Daxton Navy Jones. Chris is also survived by his siblings, Marybeth D. Young and her husband Donald L. Young, William H. Duty III (Butch) and his wife Janice LaBrie Duty, John Duty Sr., and his wife Jeannie Tull Duty, and Carol Duty McGraw; and his nephews and nieces, Cory Kaufman, William "BJ" Duty, Jessica Duty Engle, John Duty, Jr., Amber Duty, Jordan McGraw, and MacKenzie McGraw.

Chris graduated with the Class 1981 from Queen Anne's County High School. He was an auto mechanic by trade and had the passion for becoming an author and illustrator of many children's books. Books by Duty's Head are known for warm and humorous stories about Chris, as a kid growing up on Kent Island. Most of the stories always ended with the last page featuring a

little boy and the main character walking into the sunset. On Tuesday April 25th, Chris walked towards his final sunset.

Chris was ecstatic to become a grandfather, couldn't wait to show his grandson the ropes of the mechanic trade, and to watch him grow. Like many of Chris's siblings, he was not the kind of man to sit still. He cared and showed his love in an often-witty manner. His favorite saying was no matter what, don't forget to laugh. Chris was full of kindness, generosity, and a sense of humor and will always be remembered.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at American Legion Post 278, located at 800 Romancoke Road in Stevensville, MD, on Sunday, May 21, from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

In Lieu of flowers, please send memorial donations to Kent Island Federation of Art, 405 Main Street, Maryland 21666. Chris lived in this house as a child, and then had the opportunity for him to display his books by Duty's Head and do a book-signing which meant so much to him.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY **21**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

American Legion Post 278  
800 Romancoke Road  
Stevensville, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ James C. "Chris" Duty

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ My sincere condolences to The Duty Family.  
So sorry for your loss.



Laura Baker - May 29, 2023 at 07:41 PM



“ Eva lit a candle in memory of James C.  
"Chris" Duty



Eva - May 16, 2023 at 01:43 PM



“ So sorry to hear about the loss of Chris. My  
deepest sympathies to the entire family. I  
remember as a young kid visiting the body  
shop on Kent Island and seeing Chris working  
along with John and my Dad.



Raymond Bender - May 09, 2023 at 07:41 PM

SA

“ Samantha lit a candle in memory of James C.  
"Chris" Duty



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**Samantha** - May 08, 2023 at 02:24 PM

SA

“ Fly high my friend rest easy you will be greatly missed, prayers for  
ur family through these hard times... im so glad we got to watch the  
fight Saturday night together ❤️ ya sammie n Joe white

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**Samantha** - May 08, 2023 at 02:21 PM

BW

“ So sorry for your losses... we love you 🐱 🥺  
🥺 🥺 🥺



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**Bethany Warren** - May 06, 2023 at 07:13 PM

JH

“ Criss and me were good friends even though we did not see each  
other a lot he use to stop in the crab house and we would shoot the  
bull a lot of bull good friend

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**jerry hunter** - May 04, 2023 at 04:35 PM

CC

“ Chris Clough lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



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**Chris Clough** - May 04, 2023 at 02:18 PM

DW

“ I'm so sorry for your loss.



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**Dani Woodhurst** - May 03, 2023 at 03:30 PM

PD

“ My Prayers and Condolences are with the family.



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**Phil Davidson** - May 03, 2023 at 08:21 AM

TK

“ Tammy Marshall Kendall lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



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**Tammy Marshall Kendall** - May 03, 2023 at 12:34 AM

JK

“ Jeff & Debbie Kiel lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Jeff & Debbie Kiel - May 02, 2023 at 09:33 PM

DH

“ Diane Hoxtet lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Diane Hoxtet - May 02, 2023 at 07:14 PM

AM

“ Asleep in Jesus - until we meet again. Fly high sweet friend! Sending love to the family.



Ann Lee Martin - May 02, 2023 at 07:06 PM

WH

“ I'm so sorry to hear this. May you rest in peace Chris. Sending love & prayers to the Duty family & all who knew & loved him. 🕊️



Wendy Hampton - May 02, 2023 at 06:43 PM

BT

“ Bryan Thomas lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Bryan Thomas - May 02, 2023 at 05:29 PM

RM

“ With much sympathy to the Duty family. Iris Mowbray and Robin Mowbray MacGillivray



Robin Mowbray MacGillivray - May 02, 2023 at 03:39 PM

HF

“ My deepest sympathy to all of you. May love and caring thoughts give you some comfort during this most difficult of times.

Heidi (Griebau) Fischer - May 02, 2023 at 01:30 PM

DG

My deepest sympathies to the Duty family. Chris was a generous soul- a good friend to my late father. May he rest in peace and May his memory be a blessing. Debra Grollman

Debra Grollman - May 02, 2023 at 08:28 PM

DH

“ Dave Hartman lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Dave Hartman - May 02, 2023 at 01:24 PM

LH

“ Lisa Collins Hubbard lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Lisa Collins Hubbard - May 02, 2023 at 01:20 PM

SH

“ Sheila sent a virtual gift in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Sheila - May 02, 2023 at 01:10 PM

SH

“ Sheila lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Sheila - May 02, 2023 at 01:09 PM

LP

“ Sincere condolences to all the Duty family.



Lisa Plummer - May 02, 2023 at 10:42 AM

BM

“ *Brenda Morris-Dadds lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



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**Brenda Morris-Dadds** - May 02, 2023 at 08:41 AM

BM

*Deepest sympathy to the entire Duty family. Thoughts and prayers go out to everyone.*

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**Brenda Morris-Dadds** - May 02, 2023 at 08:42 AM

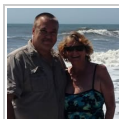


“ *Nina White lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



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**Nina White** - May 01, 2023 at 08:46 AM



*So sorry for your loss. You are in my prayers.*

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**Nina White** - May 01, 2023 at 08:49 AM

DM

“ *Out condolences to the Duty family !  
Sincerely sorry for your loss he will be missed  
. RIP Chris*



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**Donna and David Murphy** - May 01, 2023 at 05:14 AM

TS

“ *Tia M. Spadaro-Eichhorn lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



Tia M. Spadaro-Eichhorn - April 30, 2023 at 08:04 PM

TS

*prayers for the Duty family*

Tia M. Spadaro-Eichhorn - April 30, 2023 at 08:05 PM

SK

“ *My sincere condolences to The Duty Family. RIP Chris.*

Sandy Kendall - April 29, 2023 at 06:51 PM

TS

“ *Tracy Schulz lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



Tracy Schulz - April 29, 2023 at 04:18 PM

NA

“ *Prayers to the Duty family...*



Nan - April 29, 2023 at 12:06 PM

BT

“ *Our deepest condolences to the Duty Family!*

*Love & Prayers  
Bruce and Patti*

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**Bruce and Patti Tarr** - April 29, 2023 at 08:47 AM

 Jackie  
Benton

“ *Deepest condolences to the family.*



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**Jackie Benton** - April 28, 2023 at 09:12 PM

EF

“ *Our deepest condolences to the Duty family.  
We are so sorry for your loss.*



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**Ed and Penny Finkner** - April 28, 2023 at 08:19 PM

KS

“ *KAREN STANAVICH lit a candle in memory of  
James C. "Chris" Duty*



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**KAREN STANAVICH** - April 28, 2023 at 03:04 PM

KS

*My thoughts & prayers are with the Duty family. I am so sorry for your loss!*

**KAREN STANAVICH** - April 28, 2023 at 03:06 PM

CN

“ *Cecelia Nation lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



**Cecelia Nation** - April 28, 2023 at 01:22 PM

WC

“ *Walter & Beanie Clough lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



**Walter & Beanie Clough** - April 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM

WA

*Duty Family,  
So sorry for your loss! Chris was always good to us  
he will be missed!  
Jr & Beanie Clough*

**Walter** - April 28, 2023 at 09:05 AM

MF

“ *Marilyn Ford lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



**Marilyn Ford** - April 28, 2023 at 12:40 AM

GC

“ Gene Cullison lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Gene Cullison - April 27, 2023 at 09:10 PM

DE

“ Dawn Eber lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Dawn Eber - April 27, 2023 at 08:09 PM

ED

“ My deepest condolences to John, Jeannie, and the Duty family. Prayers for peace, comfort, and much love

Elaine Shorts Dell - April 27, 2023 at 07:07 PM

LR

“ Lauren Roys lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Lauren Roys - April 27, 2023 at 06:01 PM

JS

“ Jane Sparks lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Jane Sparks - April 27, 2023 at 03:04 PM

VW

“ Valerie Williams lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Valerie Williams - April 27, 2023 at 01:55 PM

AH

“ Angel & Mike Huffman lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Angel & Mike Huffman - April 27, 2023 at 01:35 PM

JE

“ James F Ewing lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



James F Ewing - April 27, 2023 at 12:52 PM

AR

“ April Rieken lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



April Rieken - April 27, 2023 at 11:21 AM

MR

“ Mark & Melissa Rousseau lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



Mark & Melissa Rousseau - April 27, 2023 at 09:58 AM

BO

“ Very saddened to hear of the passing of Chris.. So tragic he couldn't have had this time in his life to be happy .. he deserved so much more in his life.. till we meet again my friend..



Bonnie - April 27, 2023 at 09:33 AM

SH

“ Deepest Condolences to the Duty Family. Thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Chris was full of energy and full of life, a friend to all~

Sharon - April 27, 2023 at 08:38 AM

DH

“ *Diane Hoxter lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty*



Diane Hoxter - April 27, 2023 at 08:26 AM

DH

*So sorry to see this I have known Chris since he was a young boy rest easy*

Diane Hoxter - April 27, 2023 at 08:29 AM

MB

“ *We wish to extend our deepest condolences to the Duty family. There is not enough room here to write all of our memories but let it be said, Chris was friend that was reliable, funny and very talented. Rest in piece my friend, we will meet again. Martin, Michelle, Brandon and Blake*



Martin and Michelle Beville - April 27, 2023 at 07:38 AM

LA

“ *Rest in peace Chris my dear friend!*



Iu AnneSmith - April 27, 2023 at 06:33 AM



“ Shirley Thomas lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



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**Shirley Thomas** - April 27, 2023 at 06:00 AM



“ David And Annie Gardner lit a candle in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



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**David and Annie Gardner** - April 26, 2023 at 10:39 PM



“ Larry And Lynne Wilkins sent a virtual gift in memory of James C. "Chris" Duty



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**Larry and Lynne Wilkins** - April 26, 2023 at 08:42 PM