



James Wells

August 11, 1974 - March 21, 2020

James Wells, tragically and suddenly passed away on March 21, 2020 at home. He was born on August 11, 1974 in Camden, New Jersey to James (Nancy) Wells and Agnes Gallagher and was raised in Pennsauken, New Jersey. James attended Pennsauken High School and graduated from Delran High School, Class of '92. After school he pursued his musical career as a Drum and Bass DJ under the name "AKER". Cooking was also a love of his and he worked as head chef at the Iron Hill Brewery in Chestnut Hill. Prior to this position he worked in different restaurants in Philadelphia. One of the most memorable places that he enjoyed working was White Dog Café where he met the love of his life, Niki. For those that knew James he will be remembered and a sensitive, caring, dedicated, and witty man who would always give of his time and talent, whether it was cooking for first responders after hurricane Katrina to entertaining those around him with sick beats and silly jokes, he enjoyed it all. One of the best things that happened to him was the birth of his son, James P, who was his world, and loved to teach him about music, cooking and how to be a merry prankster. James was also an avid Philadelphia sports fan. He will be sadly missed by his beloved wife, Niki Gollatz and son James P. Wells. Brother of Diane Gallagher (Donnacha Nyhan), Anthony Strosser, Ryan (Jenna) Wells, Robert (Jess Selby) Wells and the late John "Jay" Wells. Dearest grandson of Daniel "Pop" Gallagher and the late Joan Wells and Agnes Gallagher. He is also survived by aunts and uncles, nephews, brother-in-law Jonathan (Erin) Gollatz, son-in-law to Jon (Carol) Gollatz, cousins and good friends. Funeral services will be announced at a later date. In keeping with his generous spirit, memorial donations in his memory can be made to Philabundance, 3616 S. Galloway Street Phila., PA 19148.

Comments



“ A long, long time ago, another lifetime, in fact, we ruled the world and all who danced on it. From pulpits of vinyl churches, sermons of love, joy, and passion staccatoed driving beats into beautiful minds of bliss blazing into dawn. A bass-bumping writhing mass of ecstatic young heads; now old; now elsewhere; now changed, now broken, but not forgotten. Never forgotten. It was our time, and it was the best time.

James, I love you man. Warm the floor for me, I'll be up in a little bit.

Andrew Moore - March 27, 2020 at 01:53 PM



“ I have so many great memories with James and the crew on 9th St. We did a lot of growing up there, among many other things... James took me to my first bar in the city. With my fake ID in tow, JayWells and I walked our way thru the subway path (it's was pouring rain) over to McGlinchey's... I might have been 17. Sneaking Nala on the 409 (the bus) and bring her to James as a surprise... Dancing all night long until the sun had been up for hours... Stretching our ears with chopsticks... Those memories are just a few. I loved those days. James I loved watching you be an awesome husband and father, as I knew one day you would always do so. Much Love and my sincerest condolences to your Family, Niki and LJ My only comfort in you leaving this Earth is knowing you and JayWells are reunited Rest Easy My Friend xo Jesi

jesi - March 26, 2020 at 02:23 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of James passing. Although we haven't spoken much over the years, I will always remember James as a sensitive, sweet soul always willing to be there for anyone who needed him. I know you and Jay are up there listening to Sinatra having a blast!

Love,
Renee

Renee Terzi - March 26, 2020 at 01:08 PM



“ I am deeply sorry to hear of your passing. I knew you as Jim and your brother as John way back in the late 80's as teenagers. You were and will probably be the kindest, most loyal person that I will ever know. Even though I haven't physically seen you since the early 90's I was happy to catch up with you on Facebook and to know that you were happily married with a family. So to all that feel the pain of your loss, I offer these words:

- ~ May time heal your sorrow
- ~ May friends ease your pain
- ~ May peace replace heartache
- ~ May warm memories remain

Love,
Melissa Gray (Wells)

Melissa Wells Gray - March 26, 2020 at 11:44 AM



“ Niki and I had already had many years of friendship when she introduced me to James. She and I had always looked out for each other and spent an enormous amount of time together, growing up in all sorts of ways. I could not have invented a better partner for her...nor could I imagine a better dad for James P. I'll never forget James' comedic expression. Nobody has ever made me laugh out loud like he did....with his ridiculous impressions, quick wit, and relentlessness...he was on point. And he definitely made me laugh so hard that I've cried and almost peed myself (no shame there). It was so easy to trust James because he was so open-hearted, honest, and incredibly kind. He was also direct and real. He had thoughtful, intelligent opinions and was not afraid to share them. I really admired him for all of these traits. He made the room light up with his presence and I know that the memories he left behind will never be forgotten by all of us who loved him. My heart and thoughts are with Niki and James P and to all of you who are impacted by the loss of this truly great man. It was an honor to know him.



Jamie Zane - March 25, 2020 at 07:53 PM



“ When I first started working at the White Dog, I wasn't really clear about my duties as floor manager. I learned as I went. One thing I found was that even after dinner service, I was expected to manage the bar area until closing. I didn't think there would be much to do and I took a relaxed attitude towards the late night bar patrons. One night the bartender said that there was a bar customer who had too much to drink and had to leave. I quickly realized that this was my job. I approached the young man and said that it was time to go. He locked his hands around his mug of beer and told me that he wasn't going. I told him he could have his money back and would have to give up what he was drinking. He got angrier. I knew this wasn't going to end well and felt like I was going to have to do what I had to do.

Out of nowhere James came up on the other side of this guy and said, 'let's take him out side, Tommy.' I didn't even really know James all that well yet but was really glad to have the support. We didn't have too much problem getting the guy out. Once we did, I looked at James and said, you have no idea how much I appreciated you stepping up. He said that I didn't have to feel like I was here alone. We're right downstairs, just send someone down to get us. We got your back.

As I got to know this man more, I knew that I found someone that was fiercely loyal to his friends and family. I loved James. He was straight up, no bull shit kind of guy. I will definitely miss him. All my love to Niki and James P.

Tom DelColle - March 25, 2020 at 02:15 PM



“ What a beautiful depiction and description of the guy James was. Always worried about his family and friends as well as those in need.

Tom Loomis - March 25, 2020 at 04:00 PM