



James Bryan McKathan

March 3, 1965 - February 3, 2019

James Bryan JBMcKathan, Jr, 53, of Ocala, FL, passed away on February 3, 2019 in Ocala, FL.

JB was born in St. Cloud, FL to Norma and Luke McKathan on March 3, 1965. He went to high school at McArthur High School, participated on the cross country, track, and wrestling teams until he graduated in 1983. He attended some college classes at the University of Florida while assisting his father in training thoroughbred race horses. After earning some college credit, JB decided his career path would follow the thoroughbreds to the racetrack. JB and his brother, Kevin, started McKathan Brothers LLC, the business consisted of selecting, buying, training, and selling thoroughbreds based off of their farm in Citra, FL. The brothers found early success with Storm Tower and November Snow; the two purchased and trained champion horses including Silver Charm, Real Quiet, Captain Steve, and Silverbulletday; and had an integral part in the success of, Pioneer of the Nile; Eclipse Award winner, Forever Unbridled; and Triple Crown winner, American Pharoah.

JB enjoyed skateboarding, riding, roping, wake boarding, and playing guitar, but preferred spending time with the race horses, family, friends and his Great Danes most. He and his brother won the Bruce Cambell Award in 2015 for training Triple Crown Grand Slam winner, American Pharoah. JB was involved in repeated donations to the Ocala Farm Ministry and Old Friends Thoroughbred Retirement Farm.

JB will be forever remembered by his wife, Leigh; brothers, Kevin, Gary, and

Jeff; sister, Brenda Conyers; parents, Norma, Luke (Jocelyn); nieces, Brianna and Savannah; and nephews, Russell Conyers, Rowan and Conrad McDavitt, and Morgan Curtin. JB was preceded in death by his sister, Denise Schwacke.

The family will be receiving friends at the Visitation on Saturday February 9th from 1pm-4pm at Roberts of Ocala Downtown Chapel located at 606 SW 2nd AVE Ocala, FL 34471. Pastor Bob Miller of Ocala Farm Ministry will be officiating the Funeral Service which will begin at 4pm immediately following the Visitation. JB will be laid to rest the following Saturday, February 16th at Pleasant Home Cemetery in Andalusia, Alabama. Services in Florida were under the care of Roberts of Ocala Downtown Chapel, and Keahey Funeral Home in Alabama. Memorial donations may be made to the Ocala Farm Ministry: 489 NW 110th AVE Ocala, FL 34482; or Old Friends Farm 1841 Paynes Depot Road Georgetown, KY 40324. For those that are not able to attend the service in Ocala, the funeral service is going to be streamed live on www.Robertsfunerals.com The family wishes to extend gratitude to all of our employees, clients and partners at McKathan Brothers Training Center for their support during the difficult time.

Tribute Wall

ES

“ *A MOUNTAIN MEADOW PEDESTAL ARRANGEMENT was ordered on February 9, 2019*

Expression of Sympathy - February 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *Dear Kevin and Family, Our hearts and prayers are with all of you as you morn for the loss of JB. Matthew 5:4 "Blessed are those who morn, for they shall be comforted."*

Jim and Brenda Ward and Family - February 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ *Sincere sympathy to the entire McKathan family, and Kevin who I've met last year on the sales circuit.*

Louis Trudel (Sequel Bloodstock) - February 09, 2019 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ *All the photos make me smile...even through the tears. You were one in a million.*

Kathy - February 08, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *To JB's family: JB was loved by so many people. I know that makes you feel good knowing that. Knowing that you will see him again in the resurrection in perfect health is wonderful to look forward too. Lift your head up and enjoy your family reunion when you will get with JB again in the resurrection. John 5:28,29*

Mary - February 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A MOUNTAIN MEADOW PEDESTAL ARRANGEMENT was sent on February 7, 2019 To Leigh and all of J.Bs family. May God give you peace and comfort at this difficult time. Our most sincere condolences and prayers go out to you as you mourn.

Matthew 5:4

Ocala, Marion Co. Chamber and Economic Partnership

Expression of Sympathy - February 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A BALANCE EASEL SPRAY was sent on February 7, 2019 He was one of a kind! We are going to miss him so.

Scott & Evan

Expression of Sympathy - February 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A SENTIMENTAL THOUGHTS was ordered on February 6, 2019

Expression of Sympathy - February 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Dear Leigh, Norma, Luke and Kevin, We were so very blessed to have J.B. in our lives. Sending my angels to help you through this difficult time and ease your pain. Prayers for your entire family.

Patti Hawkesworth - February 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Dear McKathan Family, Our hearts and prayers are with you. Losing JB at such an early age is a tremendous loss to all. We will all miss him. Our deepest condolences~Dottie and John Shirreffs

Dottie and John Shirreffs - February 06, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Missing you, our dear friend Tab & Susan*

Tab and Susan - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ *You and Danny can talk about the horses and RIP.*

Sue Penuel-Jenkins - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *A SENTIMENTAL THOUGHTS was sent on February 5, 2019 We are so sorry for your loss our thoughts and prayers are with you And your family. May our condolences bring you comfort and may our prayers ease your pain of this loss . Clearbrook Farm and the Andersons*

Expression of Sympathy - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *A DISH GARDEN WITH FRESH FLOWERS was sent on February 5, 2019 Our thoughts and prayers are with you today. May your memories of happy times together fill your mind, warm your heart, and lead you through. With deepest sympathy and all our love, The Ginley and Cramton Families*

Expression of Sympathy - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *So sorry for your loss. Bonnie Hansen and I used to braid all your 2 yr olds in Ocala and Calder for many years. You will be in our thoughts and prayers Chris Reilly*

Chris Reilly - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ An A GARDEN PATH was sent on February 5, 2019Our Sincerest condolences to the McKathan Family

*James Crupi
Crupi's New Castle Farm*

Expression of Sympathy - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A MOUNTAIN MEADOW PEDESTAL ARRANGEMENT was sent on February 5, 2019Our condolences, our prayers are with the family and friends. Romans Farm and Team

Expression of Sympathy - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Blessed are they who mourn for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4
JB we will miss you greatly.

Steve & Shirley Terrell, risinghawkfarm - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A DIGNITY IN WHITE PEDESTAL ARRANGEMENT was sent by Anthony Cecil Insurance on February 5, 2019

Expression of Sympathy - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ The Harrington'sRIP J.B. you will be missed by many

The Harrington's - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ Sheila Tallant

Sheila Tallant - February 04, 2019 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Love, thoughts and prayers to the entire McKathan family. JB was a special man who will forever be remembered for his wit, fabulous ability to tell a story, and tremendous eye for a thoroughbred athlete. Love you JB!

Renee Dailey - February 04, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ A BALANCE EASEL SPRAY was ordered on February 4, 2019

Expression of Sympathy - February 04, 2019 at 12:00 AM

VM

“ "A horse is the projection of peoples' dreams about themselves strong, powerful, beautiful and it has the capability of giving us escape from our mundane existence.~PB

Virginia Miley - February 04, 2019 at 12:00 AM