



Robert "Rob" Thomas Buford

December 11, 1976 - July 19, 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Robert Thomas Buford who departed this life on July 19, 2025, at the age of 48. Robert was affectionately known as Rob. He was born on December 11, 1976, in Crown Point, Indiana. Rob graduated from Crown Point High School in 1996 and furthered his education to become a surgical technologist and an emergency medical technician.

Rob was a master griller and excellent cook. He took great pleasure in preparing food for family and friends. He was an avid video gamer forming friendships with people all over the world. Through gaming he formed a friendship with Dario, who became like a brother to him. Dario's family also became Rob's family. If you asked Rob what his favorite thing was to do it would be going to Disney. Disney was a destination to enjoy time with his wife and children. Rob also loved going to the movies. He thoroughly enjoyed going every Saturday with his movie buddy Nick. A running joke his wife and boys had was about his prized possession, his truck, AKA princess. He babied this truck so much she wouldn't come out if it was going to rain.

Rob was often viewed as loud, but he was a gentle giant for those who got to know him. He was a fighter with much determination. He fought cancer for 14 years going through multiple treatments but always pushed through. He instilled in the boys to have self-determination and always be strong. Rob

dedicated his life by pouring love, integrity, and values into his children. Nothing made him prouder than to be a father.

Rob was preceded in death by his brother, Dennis Smolek. He will be dearly missed by his loving and devoted wife of 23 years, Kim Buford; devoted children, Matthew and Luke Buford; two fur babies, Zeus and Apollo; mother, Cynthia (David) Keilman and father, William (Michelle) Buford; sister, Betsy (Michael) Morris; four nephews: Nick and Scott Morris, Justin and Denny Smolek; niece, Ashley Smolek; best friend, Dario (Karina) Rivera. He will also be remembered with love by his aunts, uncles, cousins, and close friends.

A visitation will be held to honor Rob's life at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN, on Thursday, July 24, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Thomas E. Mischler officiating. Interment immediately following at Chapel Lawn Memorial Gardens, 8178 S. Cline Avenue, Crown Point, IN. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to help the family with expenses by going to <https://gofund.me/16cf52c3>. www.burnsfuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Chapel Lawn Memorial Gardens

8178 S. Cline Avenue
Crown Point, IN 46307

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **24.** 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (cst)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point
10101 Broadway
Crown Point, IN 46307
(219) 769-0044
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

Funeral Service

JUL **24.** 10:00 AM (cst)

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Tribute Wall

RP

“ Dearest Tom and family, Rich and I are sending Our Deepest Sympathy to you and the family. I so remember Rob as a child. Tom you were always so proud of your son. May you always keep his memories close to your heart. Please know we are praying for you and care. Rich and Claudia Powell

Rich and Claudia Powell - August 13, 2025 at 11:15 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert "Rob" Thomas Buford.

July 26, 2025 at 10:46 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Robert "Rob" Thomas Buford.



July 26, 2025 at 10:46 AM

HA

“ Miss you a lot, brother (fyu)! It won't be the same without you. You put up a heck of a fight, and I am heartbroken to see you taken so young. My condolences and love to the family.

- Hamza (Denial Hamza)

Hamza - July 23, 2025 at 08:18 AM

JV

“ My youngest daughter Molly, & Rob were friends as children, and I remember babysitting, Rob for his mom until she got off work, several times. So sorry he's gone, and I told both of my girls, Molly & Joy, and they were both just devastated, as was I.

Janet Vissers - July 22, 2025 at 09:43 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Rob" Thomas Buford.



July 22, 2025 at 07:01 PM

LF

“ Love, Your Crown Point Care First Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Robert "Rob" Thomas Buford.



Love, Your Crown Point Care First Family - July 22, 2025 at 01:50 PM