



## David James Helman

October 24, 1969 - January 10, 2025

David James Helman, 55, of Constantine, Michigan passed away at home on Friday, January 10, 2025. David was born October 24, 1969 in Elkhart, Indiana to Frank David and Barbara Jean (Russo) Helman, both of whom preceded him in death. David is survived by his siblings, Jeffrey Helman (Jamie), of Scottsdale, Arizona, Cindy Boise (Tod), of Westfield, Indiana, and Amy Wiltfong (Ryan), of Bristol, Indiana. David was loved and admired by his many nieces and nephews. A lover of animals, he will be missed by his surviving Yorkshire Terrier “Frankie”.

David grew up attending St. Thomas the Apostle Church and grade school in Elkhart, Indiana. He was a proud “Blazer” having graduated from Elkhart Central High School in 1988. He went on to attend Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, where he always fondly said he studied “rock and roll”. Music was a major influence in David’s world. While at IU, he founded and was the lead singer for the local band “Wallflower”. He went on to Los Angeles, California where he was lead singer in the heavy metal band “The Few” and was involved in recording several albums with them. He most recently helped establish and was the lead singer for the local band “Barfly”. David’s passions and pursuits took him from Elkhart to such places as Chicago, Costa Rica, the Virgin Islands, Colorado, Florida and California before moving back to Michigan. He was an expert snowboarder and surfer and loved the outdoors in every capacity, always longing to be on the

mountain or in the waves. One of his most memorable professional positions was the Burton Snowboards, where he traveled widely and became personal friends with Jake Burton. His current professional position at the time of his passing was with High Profile of Constantine, where he was a beloved leader in the community. He served as vice-chair of the Downtown Development Authority and helping to coordinate the Music in the Park Concert Series. David will most certainly be remembered for being one of the coolest guys around, but more importantly for being a great person, loved by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

David's care has been entrusted to Shirley Brothers Mortuaries & Crematory, Indianapolis, Indiana. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, February 22, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at IARA, 401 Harrison Street, Elkhart, Indiana 46516. Memorial donations may be made to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention online at [www.AFSP.org](http://www.AFSP.org) or Animal Rescue Fund of St. Joseph County [www.ARFund.org](http://www.ARFund.org)

# Tribute Wall

BS

“ I am saddened to hear of David’s passing. He was my bandmate in The Few. I’m so proud of the music we created together and I will hold those memories close to me for the rest of my life. Rest in peace David



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**Billy Sablan** - February 14, 2025 at 03:18 PM

BD

“ I played in a band (The Few) with Dave for many years while he was living in CA and he and I became pretty close. I have fond memories of band practices, shows, hanging out at our local dive bar, and 4th of July’s on the roof of his West Hills house overlooking the San Fernando Valley fireworks. I also remember him teaching me to surf in Malibu one summer, despite me being terrible at it, I remember the great time we had just being out on the water where he really seemed like he was at home. I only just learned of his passing more than a month after and am heartbroken by the loss. He was a kind and beautiful soul, a lover of animals, music, family, and friends. I will truly miss him and will be listening to all of our music for the coming days.

*This was always one of my favorite photos of us. It was a candid shot that really showed our lighter side and love for each other.*



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**Bret Dubin** - February 14, 2025 at 01:50 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David James Helman.*



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January 28, 2025 at 04:45 PM



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

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January 28, 2025 at 04:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Jeff Derringer** - January 23, 2025 at 09:10 AM



*I can remember the day we took this.*

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**Hugh** - February 06, 2025 at 07:34 PM

JD

“ David and I were in a band together in college called Wallflower. We had such a good time and traveled together throughout the Midwest. We shared an intense love of music and performing. All those shows we played were a highlight of my college years. He was such a good friend and bandmate. We stayed in modest touch throughout our lives through social media and email. I think I last spoke to him six months ago or so. I was stunned and saddened to learn of his passing. I can't stop thinking of him. I'm so, so sorry for your loss, and I send my deepest regrets. Dave will be missed.

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**Jeff Derringer** - January 23, 2025 at 09:08 AM

CC

“ Cassandra C. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David James Helman.

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**Cassandra C.** - January 20, 2025 at 10:08 PM