



## Timothy Alan Spears

September 6, 1972 - August 16, 2024

Timothy Alan Spears,

51, of Indianapolis, unexpectedly passed away August 16, 2024. He was born September 6, 1972 in Indianapolis, Indiana to Ralph Spears, Jr. and Donna Spears. Timothy graduated from Warren Central High School, class of 1990. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Chemistry from Wabash College in 1994. Timothy was employed at the Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Services Agency (Crime Lab) for 24 years. He was the Forensic Scientist Supervisor for the Firearms Section. Timothy was a certified assessor with the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD/LAB) and a member of the Association of Firearm and Toolmark Examiners (AFTE). Since 2015, Timothy held an adjunct faculty position teaching firearm examination courses in IUPUI's School of Science Forensic and Investigative Sciences Program. At Wabash College he was a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity and Wabash Rugby Club. Timothy enjoyed traveling, especially to National Parks, photography, making chocolates, and attending Colts games.

Visitation will be Wednesday, August 21, 2024 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., and Thursday, from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service at 12 noon at Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel, 9606 East Washington Street.

Timothy is survived by his partner, Jennifer Griggs; mother, Donna Spears; father, Ralph Spears, Jr. (Barb); brothers, Steve Spears (Michelle) and Scott Spears; sister, Amy Spears; nephews, Samuel and Matthew Spears; and niece, Abby Spears.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to Wabash College and/or the Marion County Humane Society.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **21**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel  
9606 E. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46229  
(317) 897-9606  
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

## Visitation

AUG **22**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel  
9606 E. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46229  
(317) 897-9606  
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

## Funeral Service

AUG **22**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel  
9606 E. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46229  
(317) 897-9606  
<https://shirleybrothers.com/>

# Tribute Wall

SH

“ I met Tim when he was my student at the National Firearms Examiner Academy and stayed in touch over the years. He was a terrific person, always had that devilish smile and twinkle in his eyes as if he was up to something. I am so happy our paths crossed and so sad Tim was taken so quickly. I will keep the family in my prayers.

Sheila Hopkins - September 05, 2024 at 07:56 PM

MF

“ Michelle F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Alan Spears.

Michelle F. - August 29, 2024 at 08:29 PM



“ Our hearts are with your family  
Love, Josh & Sandy Sipes

Sandy Sipes - August 25, 2024 at 08:47 AM

AW

“ Tim and I became fast friends (and professional colleagues) when we attended the ATF National Firearms Examiner Academy as trainees. He ALWAYS made me laugh, was comforting through stressful times, and was a genuinely good person who was always there for his friends! I'll never forget his laugh and how tickled he would get at our inside jokes!

I feel incredibly thankful to have gotten to have him in my life for the past 19 years and wouldn't trade those years for anything! I will miss seeing him at AFTE, having him just reach out about something lab-related, or just to say hi! I take comfort in knowing that I have the best of memories of my time with him and will forever hold a special place in my heart for him.

My sincerest condolences go out to his family and friends during this hard time.

Kent and I made a contribution to the Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) Scholarship Endowment Fund in Tim's memory.

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**Amy Weber** - August 21, 2024 at 04:22 PM

YI

“ While working on Timothy's school documents, I was saddened to know of his passing, Although I never had the chance to meet him, his resume reflects an incredibly talented and positive individual. His loss is deeply felt. My condolences to all of Tim's family, friends and loved ones.



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**Ying** - August 21, 2024 at 04:07 PM

DC

“ I worked with Tim for 17 years at the Crime Lab, and talked to him often. He was a very skilled scientist, with keen and nuanced insights that helped me and the rest of the laboratory succeed. More importantly, he was a great human being. He brought a great energy to work each day, always put people at ease, and was great to share a laugh with. He was very kind and thoughtful.

He would periodically bring in food for the whole lab. I remember a few times when he'd bring a large amount of pancakes to the lab, along with his blueberry compote as a topping. Through this kind gesture, I think he genuinely enjoyed making other people happy.

As a mark of a good conversationalist, he was adept at asking good questions, and asking for others' opinions. In addition, he would often ask me how I was doing when he would come to my office to talk. Not in a casual "How's it going?" kind of way, but with a genuine tone that would cause me to reflect on my own state of wellness. This always caught me slightly off guard, but in a good way.

I can't say enough good things about Tim. He definitely left a significant mark on the lives of many people here at the Crime Lab. He'll be truly missed.

My deepest condolences to Tim's family and friends.

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Dustin Crawford - August 21, 2024 at 01:48 PM

KW

“ I am saddened by the loss of a long-term friend and colleague. Tim was always good for a chat, a laugh, a shared experience or a work-related consultation. Having known him since the early stages of my own career, his absence moving forward will forever prompt fond memories. My condolences to all of Tim's family, friends and loved ones.

Kent Weber - August 21, 2024 at 11:53 AM

RF

“ Ronnie, Marlina & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Alan Spears.

Ronnie, Marlina & family - August 21, 2024 at 01:11 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Timothy Alan Spears.



August 21, 2024 at 01:11 AM

SS

“ Sandra S. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Timothy Alan Spears.



Sandra S. - August 20, 2024 at 07:13 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Timothy Alan Spears.*



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August 20, 2024 at 05:25 PM



“ *I had the opportunity to meet Tim Spears, along with several of my counterparts with the Greensboro NC Police Department Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC), during a visit to the Indianapolis PD CGIC and Marion County Forensic Services Agency back in April 2024. Over the course of a day, we were introduced to a host of innovative approaches toward the investigation of gun crime. The most memorable of which in my opinion was the afternoon we spent listening to Tim speak on the work he and his colleagues had done and were continuing to do admirably in their Firearms Section. Needless to say, we left that visit with a very deep appreciation for Tim’s vast knowledge in the field and for how approachable and welcoming he made us feel while exploring the many facets of his job. His loss will undoubtedly leave a void in the lives of his family and co-workers. His professionalism was on full display during our visit and his comprehension of all things firearm-related was impressive. From all of us with the GPD CGIC, our thoughts and prayers are with our brothers/sisters at the Indianapolis PD and Marion County Forensic Services Agency. Many thanks for allowing us a glimpse into the mind and work of a true innovator in the field of forensic ballistics.*

*Sgt. Matthew Allred  
Greensboro PD (NC)*

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**Matthew Allred** - August 20, 2024 at 04:27 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Timothy Alan Spears.*



August 20, 2024 at 03:24 PM



“ *Brittney lit a candle in memory of Timothy Alan Spears*



**Brittney** - August 20, 2024 at 01:51 PM



“ *Nancy S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Alan Spears.*

**Nancy S.** - August 20, 2024 at 01:28 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Timothy Alan Spears.*



August 20, 2024 at 01:12 PM

TF

“ *The Crime Lab Family purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Timothy Alan Spears.*

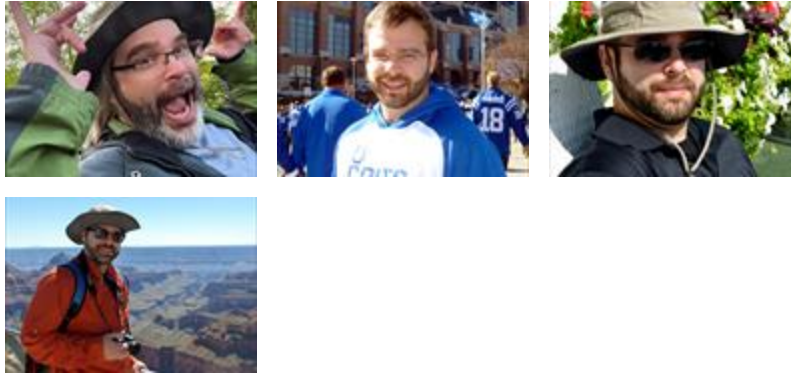


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**The Crime Lab Family** - August 20, 2024 at 11:19 AM



“ *4 files added to the album Memories Album*



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**Shirley Brothers Mortuaries & Crematory** - August 20, 2024 at 08:46 AM

LA

“ *Lee A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Alan Spears.*

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**Lee A.** - August 20, 2024 at 08:30 AM

LH

“ I'm still in disbelief that he is gone. Tim was not just a co-worker of mine, but I considered him a friend. I will miss him stopping by my office for "just a few seconds" and sharing laughs with me. My heart goes out to his family and Jennifer. Rest in peace, Tim. You will be greatly missed.

Lee Ann Harmless - August 20, 2024 at 08:30 AM

SL

We are so sorry for your loss.  
Bob, Sally and Bobby Lee

Sally Lee - August 20, 2024 at 10:22 AM

M'

“ Matthew Justin Morris (Alpha-Pi '91) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy Alan Spears.

Matthew Justin Morris (Alpha-Pi '91) - August 20, 2024 at 12:35 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Timothy Alan Spears.



August 20, 2024 at 12:35 AM