



## Ryan T. Johnson

June 2, 1976 - August 20, 2025

Ryan Thomas Johnson, 49, passed away on August 20, 2025, in Chili, New York. Born on June 2, 1976, in Wellsville, New York, Ryan lived a life marked by deep connections, unwavering loyalty, and an infectious sense of humor that left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him.

A proud graduate of Gates Chili High School, Ryan began his working life pushing carts at Wegmans. From those early days, he carried with him a strong work ethic and a drive to build meaningful relationships wherever he went. He later worked at Chase Pickens, where he formed many lifelong friendships that remained close to his heart.

Ryan found his calling behind the wheel as a Class A CDL driver for several companies before joining Klein Steel. His career took a pivotal turn when he joined DeCarolis Truck Rental and Leasing. There, through dedication and perseverance, he rose to become Director of Operations. More than just a job, DeCarolis became a second family to Ryan—a place where camaraderie and mutual respect thrived. When the company was sold, Ryan transitioned to Palmer Food Services as Transportation Manager. Much like his experience at DeCarolis, Palmer became another home away from home where he built strong bonds and continued to lead with integrity and heart.

Ryan's personal life was deeply enriched by his soulmate and wife, Melody Johnson. Together they shared countless adventures—many of them behind the wheel of his beloved Corvette "Velma," which he proudly traded his motorcycle for. They spent hours on the road blaring old country music from

legends like Merle Haggard, Hank Williams Jr., Jamey Johnson, Willie Nelson, and George Strait. These road trips were more than just travel—they were expressions of freedom and joy that defined their love story.

Family was central to Ryan's world. He is survived by his devoted wife Melody; daughter Lia Johnson; stepsons Tyler Dodge and Eric Dodge; and seven cherished grandchildren. He also leaves behind his loving parents Dennis and Yvonne Johnson; brother Kyle Johnson; nephew Henry Johnson; and his closest confidants Uncle Ted and Aunt Jolene. Ryan had a large extended family including several more aunts, uncles, and cousins on both sides who were all part of the fabric of his life. He also leaves behind many cherished friends who he often referred to as extended family as well. He was predeceased by his grandparents, Marion and Judith Henry, Arthur Johnson, and Edna Pease; his daughter, Kelsey; and his uncle, Joseph Valone.

Ryan had a deep love for baseball—especially the New York Mets—and idolized catcher Gary Carter. He was known for being funny and outspoken with a larger-than-life personality that could light up any room. A true jokester at heart, Ryan often pushed boundaries with humor that made some squirm but always came from a place of authenticity. If you were someone he cared about, you felt it deeply—his loyalty was fierce and unwavering.

He overcame many challenges throughout his life but never lost sight of joy or the pursuit of laughter. His love for cooking—especially smoking brisket and pulled pork—was legendary among friends and family. His passion extended to animals as well; over the years he rescued numerous dogs who found not just shelter but unconditional love in Ryan's home. At the time of his passing, he leaves behind three rescue dogs who were constant companions in his daily life.

Travel was another great joy for Ryan. He loved taking cruises and exploring new places with Melody by his side. Of all the cities they visited together, Nashville held a special place in his heart—a city whose soul echoed the twang of old country music that so deeply moved him.

Ryan often worried that he had disappointed those closest to him but knew in his heart that he was loved for exactly who he was: genuine, passionate, loyal, and full of life. His spirit was one that could never be dimmed—a beacon of humor, resilience, and love.

May Ryan's memory bring comfort to those who knew him and continue to inspire laughter, kindness, and strength in the face of life's challenges. Family and friends are invited to call on Saturday, August 30, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 01:00 PM at Leo M. Bean and Sons Funeral Home 2771 Chili Avenue. His Funeral Service will follow immediately at 1:00PM at the funeral home. An informal gathering will take place after the service at the Chili Fire Department Station 3 located at 2856 Chili Avenue, Rochester NY 14624.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to your favorite animal shelter or rescue in Ryan's name.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

AUG 30. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Leo M Bean and Sons Funeral Home  
2771 Chili Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14624  
(585) 426-7830  
beanfuneralhome@rochester.rr.com  
<http://www.beanandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

## Celebration of Life

AUG 30. 1:00 PM (ET)

Leo M Bean and Sons Funeral Home  
2771 Chili Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14624  
(585) 426-7830  
beanfuneralhome@rochester.rr.com  
<http://www.beanandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

JV

“ Jolene V. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ryan T. Johnson.

Jolene V. - August 30, 2025 at 07:34 PM

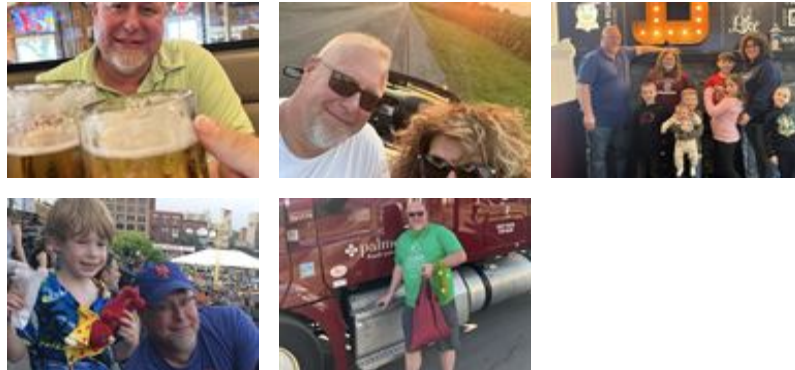
BF

“ Always a great guy, tremendous help to all and huge part of the Palmer Family . Forever in my prayers my friend . RIP Ryan and God Bless you . Brian Foley

Brian Foley - August 30, 2025 at 10:43 AM



“ 68 files added to the album Life Tributes



Leo M. Bean and Sons Funeral Home - August 29, 2025 at 09:32 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ryan T. Johnson.



August 27, 2025 at 07:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ryan T. Johnson.

August 27, 2025 at 07:48 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ryan T. Johnson.



August 27, 2025 at 08:49 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ryan T. Johnson.

August 27, 2025 at 08:49 AM



“ Our heartfelt condolences to the entire Johnson family. We have such fabulous memories of Ryan and the guys all the way back to high school days at GC. Cherish the memories, as all else is just so difficult. Patti Amico and Jim

Patricia Amico - August 26, 2025 at 12:39 PM



“ Melody..Our hearts go out to you and your family. We have all lost a good one. Ryan was such an outgoing personality and the two of you generated such energy together. You were made for each other. Stay strong and smile when you think of all the good times you had . Love,Uncle Gene & Aunt Milli

Uncle Gene & Aunt Milli - August 25, 2025 at 07:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ryan T. Johnson.*



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August 25, 2025 at 03:33 PM



“ *Timothy E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ryan T. Johnson.*

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**Timothy E.** - August 25, 2025 at 02:52 PM



“ *For the short time i got to know him with Decarolis, he was a great guy. Genuinely lit up the room. Great sense of humor. Yet gentle when and where it was needed. Best memory i have with him is going to the career fair at my college (Alfred) in wellsville when i just got hired. I pray for peace for the family. Love you Mel.*



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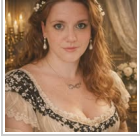
**Ashley** - August 25, 2025 at 10:33 AM



“ *I don't remember ever being with Ryan when he didn't make me smile and laugh... , you will always be the "belly flop champion" to me...*

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**John** - August 25, 2025 at 09:29 AM



“ *Uncle Ryan was of the best guys I have ever known. When I was going through one of the worst times in my life, Ryan and aunt Mel were there to help me through it. I am so glad you were a part of my life and I will never forget you. Thank you Ryan!*

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**Danielle Bess** - August 25, 2025 at 09:11 AM

RD

*I worked with Ryan and he was a very good person and boss. He wasn't afraid to say what he wanted to say. But otherwise he was a funny guy.*

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**Robert Dusch** - August 25, 2025 at 10:32 AM

P.

*Precious in the Lord is the death of his saints. Psalms 116:15 Gates Chili High School!*

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**p.m** - August 26, 2025 at 12:26 PM

JC

*Oh Melody, we're sorry for your loss. May your wonderful memories sustain you during this very sad time. Jane and Phil*

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**Jane Spurr Clement** - August 26, 2025 at 09:12 PM

AP

✝ *R.I.P. Ryan~ May the mercy of God guide your soul into the loving arms of Jesus the Son. Amen*

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**Ann Pellman** - September 08, 2025 at 01:43 AM