



## James Dale Brogan

May 7, 1973 - May 19, 2025

James Dale Brogan, better known to most as Jay, passed away on May 19, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of love, laughter, and a suspiciously large collection of knives. He was 52 years old and exactly as stubborn, sarcastic, and well-armed as he wanted to be.

Born on May 7, 1973, Jay was a man of many talents—chief among them: making people laugh, fixing just about anything (with just the right amount of duct tape or paracord), and pretending he didn't enjoy heartfelt moments. He had a sharp tongue, a sharper wit, and—if we're being honest—an even sharper blade tucked somewhere nearby.

Jay is survived by his loving wife, Laurie Rush, who somehow managed to keep him grounded (and somewhat polite) through the years. He was a proud and devoted father to his sons, Caine and Cody Brogan, who inherited his humor, his stubborn streak, and his ability to look like they know what they're doing, even when they don't. He was also a caring and supportive stepfather to Brandon Praeger, who shared many laughs, lessons, and side-eyes with Jay over the years.

He is also survived by his parents, Tom and Cathy Helmick; his brother, Eli Brogan; his niece and nephew, Lexi and Ethan Brogan; and his step-brother, Duane Helmick. Each of them carries a piece of Jay's spirit—whether it's the quick comebacks, the can-do attitude, or the ability to get through life with a multitool and a smirk.

Jay also leaves behind a large circle of extended family, including aunts, uncles, cousins, and in-laws, who will miss his stories, his loyalty, and the way he always managed to make family gatherings more fun, slightly louder, and a whole lot more entertaining. He was proud of his roots and always found a way to show up, crack a joke, or lend a hand when it mattered most.

A man of simple joys: a quiet morning, a sharp blade, a big fire on a cold winter night, and a predisposition for not being told what to do. He believed in being prepared—for anything from a flat tire to the end of the world. If he teased you, it was because he liked you. If he showed up to help, it was because he loved you. And if he left you speechless with a one-liner, well, that was just Jay being Jay.

He may have had an intimidating front, but he was also the kind of person who'd give you the shirt off his back—right after reminding you that you should've brought your own.

In lieu of flowers, go touch some grass. Tell your kid you love them. Make fun of someone you care about. And if you're drinking something cold, raise it high. If you can do them all at once, Jay would've been proud.

Visitation will begin at 3:00 P.M. followed by the Memorial Service at 4:00 P.M. on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at Mission Park Medical Center, 8332 Fredericksburg Road. The Celebration of Life will follow at The Urban Yard, 8222 Wurzbach Road.

To plant a tree in Jay's memory, please visit: <https://shop.alivingtribute.org>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 7. 3:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Medical Center  
8332 Fredericksburg Rd.  
San Antonio, TX 78229

## Memorial Service

JUN 7. 4:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Medical Center  
8332 Fredericksburg Rd.  
San Antonio, TX 78229

## Celebration of Life

JUN 7 (CT)

The Urban Yard  
8222 Wurzbach Road  
San Antonio, TX

*Will follow the Memorial Service*

# Tribute Wall

LR

“ 1 file added to the album *In Loving Memory*



Laurie A Rush - July 25, 2025 at 03:42 PM

RP

“ First, My condolences to the family. I remember Jay from the get togethers at Tony and Jenn's house. Jay always had a smile and always had jokes. Definitely made things enjoyable. The description given about him being rough on the outside, but someone who would go out of his way to help is definitely true.

Raymond Patterson - June 07, 2025 at 05:53 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of James Dale Brogan.



June 07, 2025 at 10:09 AM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose* was purchased for the family of James Dale Brogan.



June 05, 2025 at 04:27 PM

TR

“ Jay is the bright light of the family. At one of the many weddings we all were invited to he was so welcoming. One night everyone was invited to join the happy couple but due to my disability I decided not to go. Jay stayed with me. We had so much fun together listening to old rock music and just talking! When they all came back I tried to shoo everyone away so as not to disturb us. I will always love and now miss him



Tish Rush - June 05, 2025 at 01:44 PM

MC

“ Miss Purdy and Company. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James Dale Brogan.



Miss Purdy and Company. - June 05, 2025 at 12:26 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Dale Brogan.



June 03, 2025 at 04:43 PM