



Russell James Findlay

April 30, 1953 - August 27, 2020

Russell James Findlay, 67, of Barrington, Illinois.

** Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, everyone is asked to be patient and abide by the number of visitors allowed inside the funeral home. Everyone is welcomed, but we ask that you keep your visit short so that all who wish to pay their respects will be able to do so. Please note that all visitors are required to wear face masks to enter the funeral home. **

Loving husband of Sheila Findlay, nee Churchill; devoted father of of Russell (Kim) Findlay Jr., James (Jaime) Findlay II, Sherell (Brian Lantz) Findlay, Adam (Gina) Findlay, Amanda (Scott) Unter and the late Joel Findlay; cherished grandfather of Brendon, Landon, Lindsey, Taylor, Jimmy, Ella, Kayla, Rhianna, Jaxon, Evelyn, Scott Jr., Colton, Wyatt and the late Timothy.

Born in Harvey, IL to James & Gladys Findlay, Russ was raised in Louisville, KY. Throughout his life he always kept his Southern roots close to his heart. Russ graduated Moody Bible Institute in 1981 and quickly found his calling as a Shepard of the Lord when he and his wife, Sheila founded Celebration Fellowship in Naperville, IL out of their own home. Raising six beautiful children Russ often found himself playing the strong disciplinarian but at the end of the day he was just a big teddy bear as we have all come to know and love about him.

Staying true to his southern roots, Russ had a passion for BBQ. That passion turned into a profession when he started Rusty's Ribs On The Run in Naperville during the mid-80's. Relocating his family to Barrington, IL in 1990 he expanded his restaurant empire to include Brother's Ribs and multiple other ventures all thought out the country including the famous Hickory House in Aspen, CO. His passion for quality BBQ brought him to spark his competitive fire finding himself in competitions from London Ontario to Florida and almost every state in between. Taking home the coveted Pit Master awards numerous times.

All thought out his life, Russ held one desire above all others, to bring people closer to his lord and savior Jesus Christ. Passing on his knowledge and having others grow closer to the lord and finding the salvation that he brought was his most admirable trait. Russ' strong faith has shown throughout his life most recently in spending the past 15 years as an active parishioner of The Chapel in Lake Zurich.

In lieu of flowers donation for the family are being accepted through their Go Fund Me Page (https://www.gofundme.com/f/sheila-findlay?utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all)

Visitation will be Thursday, September 3rd from 3:00 P.M. till time of service at 7:00 P.M. at Morizzo Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner of Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, IL. 60169. Interment will be private at Evergreen Cemetery in Barrington.

For further information please contact the Morizzo Funeral Home and Cremation Services at 847.752.6444.

The family has created a Life Tributes page; at MorizzoFuneralHome.com to

share memories, photos and videos.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery in Barrington

600 South Dundee Avenue
Barrington, IL 60010
(847) 713-2368
<http://www.barringtonarealibrary.org/cemeteries/302-evergreen>

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 3. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services, and Cemetery Memorials
2550 Hassell Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(847) 752-6444
ross@morizzofuneralhome.com
<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

SEP 3. 7:00 PM (CT)

Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services, and Cemetery Memorials
2550 Hassell Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(847) 752-6444
ross@morizzofuneralhome.com
<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Russell James Findlay*

November 04, 2022 at 06:54 PM



“ *RIP my good friend from Westport High School - my condolences to the family.*

David E Clutts - May 29, 2021 at 02:18 PM



“ *I've had the privilege to be a part of a prayer circle with both Russ and Sheila at our Lake Zurich Chapel campus. Both have a sincere and deep faith and are such prayer warriors for the Body of Christ. If we could ever ask for a prayer advocate, that would be Russ! While it's a cliché to say "only the good die young" it is so true of this wonderful Man of God. May he truly rest in peace in the presence of his maker!*

Russ will definitely be missed in this earthly life! My sincerest condolences to Sheila and all the Findlay family.

Bonnie S

Bonnie Stoelinga - September 03, 2020 at 04:45 PM

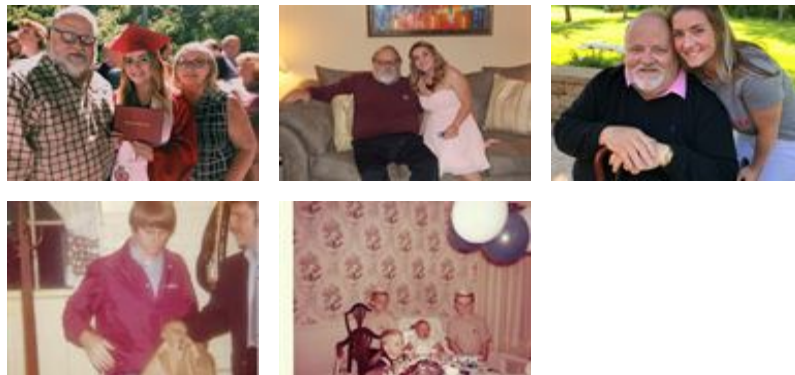
CR

“ I have known Russ for a few short years . He had a heart the size of Texas . If you told him you had a problem you wouldn't have to ask him to help he'd be on your driveway before you could do that . I know that because he did that for me more than once . Russ wanted everyone that he knew to know the Lord as he did . That's what he told me he was here for . I would say mission accomplished Russ no you're home with the Lord that you wanted all of us to know . I know our heavenly father did not take your life because he gives life he is life. I do know that you are with him now .

craig - September 02, 2020 at 02:10 PM



“ 253 files added to the album LifeTributes



Morizzo Funeral Home & Cremation Services - September 02, 2020 at 01:59 PM

LD

I got to know and love him in Alsip. I was a trustee at the time. Also I frequented his Demon Daug Restaurant. I tried to stay in touch. Last time we talked he seemed ok. Then life got in the way. He would pray with us. I am so sorry for your loss. I will miss him. He was a Jesus Warrior. I'm sure he was welcomed with open loving arms from our Lord.

lynn dwyer - January 17, 2021 at 02:56 PM

CF

“ I met Russ and Sheila when I was 19 at Celebration Fellowship. I had been raised in the Protestant church, but came to Celebration knowing nothing.

Russ was loud, big and, though I tried hard to slip around him in those first few weeks, he always managed to be at the door blocking my exit! He hugged me tight enough that I was sure I was being crushed (I later enjoyed them as “Bear” hugs!) and he Terrified me!!

Over the next several years, he invited me into his family (Wow, what an experience the first time I had dinner at their house with all six kids still being young was! I can almost still feel the whirlwind!) and taught me So many things. When I have ever been asked to share my testimony, I begin by talking about Russ and how he, literally, Loved me into Christianity. I felt more love from the family than I had ever known and loved all of them (and still do) more than I ever knew I could.

I have always thought I knew what God’s laugh will sound like when I get to heaven. Surely, it will be similar to Russ’ loud belly laughs and giggles—I cant wait to hear the two of them together!!

cathy (wagner) franklin - September 01, 2020 at 10:21 PM

JS

“ He never refused Any request,I made to him,for anything,if it was in his power to help me.As of late,we spoke on the phone,often times at 2 or 3 a.m.He would text me,and when I called,he would always giggle when he answered the phone!!I will miss him there the most.I have not had alot of friends,that were real friends,and now I the best one I ever had is gone.I'll leave you all with thus;one Friday,nite he and I were cooking ribs,what else,on the grill.So while we were eating the first batch,he remarked,"Brother,I can't help it,I just cook great ribs",and as he expressed his gift of humility to me,I couldn't help but notice flames leaking out of the grill as his ribs burst into even greater flames.He ran outside,quickly,put out the fire,and as he returned to the table,with,the saddest look I ever saw,I said,"Brother,you can really cook great ribs"!!He roared with laughter,after he gave me the look!!!! That was just the best moment!!!

James seabolt - August 31, 2020 at 04:25 AM

WB

“ Russ was always a smiling face and dedicated disciple at church. His faith was bold and so was his love for his family. I know he is with his savior but he will be greatly missed. Prayers and love to his family & friends.



Whitney Broska - August 30, 2020 at 11:52 PM