



## Roger Cates

December 6, 1960 - May 9, 2020

Roger Cates of Buford, GA passed away peacefully at his home on May 9, 2020.

He was born in Altus, Oklahoma to Richard and Diane Cates. A business owner and entrepreneur, Roger had a passion for life, people and exotic cars. He was an avid music lover, accomplished chef, race car driver, beloved son, father, brother and uncle. Known for his quick wit, direct demeanor and ability to spin a tale. Mark Twain in the height of his splendor couldn't tell a story with such meticulous narration as Roger. Even the most tragic of tales would be laced with comedic anecdotes. He was a man filled with compassion for the underdog and treated everyone he met with equal respect despite their social status.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Diane. He is survived by his father, Richard Cates of Sharpsburg, GA; brother, Rick Cates of Virginia Beach, Virginia; sisters, Denise Mercer of Sharpsburg, GA, Michelle Berry of Cleveland, GA, Lisa Quackenbush of Sharpsburg, GA. He is also survived by his two beautiful daughters, Christie McLean of Cumming, GA and Stephanie Rhinehart of Cleveland, GA and granddaughter, Reagan Rhinehart.

A private memorial will be held on Friday, May 15, 2020 followed by a graveside service on May 16, 2020. For details regarding the services, please contact the family.



# Cemetery Details

## **Broadlawn Memorial Gardens**

5979 New Bethany Rd  
Buford, GA 30518

# Previous Events

## **Graveside Service**

**MAY 16** (ET)

Broadlawn Memorial Gardens  
5979 New Bethany Rd  
Buford, GA 30518

# Tribute Wall



“ *Roger Gates*

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *Roger was the son my Father never had and loved him dearly, we all loved Roger! My father, David Lewis, passed away on May 9, 2007 and I know he was there with open arms welcoming him home. My heartfelt condolences and prayers are with those he left behind and loved so very much.*

**Kristen Lewis** - December 08, 2020 at 09:36 AM



“ *My condolences goes out to the entire family . I just found out that Roger passed away . I have known Roger for over 20 years .  
Sonja Boyd White*

**Sonja White** - May 20, 2020 at 05:40 PM



“ *Roger , a friend and neighbor for 25 years, now racing his cars in heaven. RIP to Roger. He was one of two people I answered my phone for he looked out for me!*

**Ron Mangrum** - May 16, 2020 at 02:51 PM

AH

“ Roger was like a brother to both of us . (A friend for 20 years.) He was an extraordinary man. We shared skills and created great music and memories. He was magnetic and drew people to him. He was a man who loved Love. He was imperfect in a beautiful way. Daryl and Annamarie Harris. Will miss you brother. Peace

Annamarie and Daryl Harris - May 14, 2020 at 10:47 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Roger Cates.



May 14, 2020 at 10:33 PM

SW

“ Michelle and Ashley,  
We are thinking of you and your family. May you feel the peace and love of the Father.  
Tommy & Stephanie Wood

Stephanie Wood - May 14, 2020 at 03:56 PM



“ Roger will be surely missed! He and my brother Anthony (Ace) was like 2 peas in a pods! He was a part of our family. We had so many good laughs and conversations. My one regret is that we didn't get to see him before my husband died in March and now he's gone. My heart is so broken right now. I find knowing they knew the Lord and they will all be together again. Ace, Roger and Will rest peacefully until we all meet up in the sky for the 1st resurrection!  
Love y'all! ❤️🙏🙏😊😭

Janet Williams - May 14, 2020 at 02:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roger Cates.*



May 14, 2020 at 02:34 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roger Cates.*



May 14, 2020 at 01:46 PM



“ *Tommy & Charline Mathis & Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Roger Cates.*



**Tommy & Charline Mathis & Family** - May 13, 2020 at 01:36 PM



“ *Steve & Leah (Cash) Nolan, SaraBeth & Mary purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Roger Cates.*



**Steve & Leah (Cash) Nolan, SaraBeth & Mary** - May 13, 2020 at 12:09 PM

AG

“ Aunt Ginger purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Roger Cates.



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**Aunt Ginger** - May 13, 2020 at 11:51 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Roger Cates.



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May 13, 2020 at 10:08 AM



“ Peace Eternal Wreath was purchased for the family of Roger Cates.



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May 12, 2020 at 04:35 PM



“ I wish I had a picture of Roger and I to post. I spent lots of time with Roger in the 1990s. He was always kind. Whoever wrote this obituary is spot-on. He was always so funny and could really tell a story. Roger had a truly Magnetic personality and was a rain-maker. He really did care about people and definitely supported friends and acquaintances when they needed it most regardless of what it cost him. If you Google him you will see that he provided a luncheon for a rescue team when someone sunk their boat. He did a lot of amazing things that were hard to do! Driving race cars for hours and the like.

He and I got back in touch recently and now of course it is a great regret that I did not fly down to visit with him a few months back when he was asking. He and I had a lot in common even though we lived very different lives - we knew that at the time and we knew that now. I met him when I was getting my PhD in psychology and then I married and had five children. I own and run a dairy now. We stayed friends. Roger was so stinking smart! That was my favorite thing about Roger: just listening to him and sharing ideas and relaxing. He lived with a lot of intensity and I am really missing him. Can't believe he's gone for good. Just spoke to him the other day and I told him I would fly down if he got on a list for lung surgery. I wish he were a better patient.

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**Abigail O'Keeffe** - May 12, 2020 at 02:32 PM



Thank you Abby for your kind words. I know how much you meant to Roger. He loved you dearly. He spoke of you often over the last several months and reminisced the times you two had shared. He never forgot you...he never stopped loving you.

*Denise Cates Mercer (Sister)*

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**Denise Mercer** - May 14, 2020 at 12:09 PM