



JAMES R. "BUDDY" WATSON

September 9, 1983 - May 4, 2026

WATSON, James R. "Buddy", age 42, of Middletown, Ohio, passed away Monday, May 4, 2026 at his residence. He was born September 9, 1983 in Middletown and lived in this area all his life. He graduated from Lemon-Monroe High School. He was an avid fisherman, and enjoyed dirt bike riding. Preceding him in death were his paternal grandparents, Willie P. and Theda Watson; his maternal grandparents, William and Irene Wardlow; three uncles, Richard Wardlow, Ray McClain and Daniel Wardlow; and three aunts, Helen Joliff, Linda Masters and Joyce Ratliff. He is survived by his father and step-mother, James and Nicki Watson; mother and step-father, Patricia Wardlow and Rick Newman; six children, Skylar Ferguson, Kennedy Watson Franklin, Keatyn Williams Mueller, Maddison Watson, Morgen Watson, and Baylee Watson; two grandchildren, Remi Watson and Charlotte Mueller; one step sister, Sabrina M. Sharp; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026 with visitation from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Herr-Riggs Funeral Home, 210 S. Main St., Middletown, followed by services at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor James Anderson officiating. Private interment at the convenience of the family. Arrangements by Herr-Riggs Funeral Home, 210 S. Main St., Middletown, Ohio 45044. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.herr-riggs.com