



## Jeffrey Thomas Tefft

June 18, 1951 - January 9, 2019

Jeffrey Thomas Tefft, age 67, passed away unexpectedly at home. Jeff was born June 18th, 1951 to Thomas and Paula Tefft in Midland, Michigan.

He is survived by his father, Thomas; brother, Scott (Linda); son, Chris (Emily); daughter, Amy; fiancée, Deborah Kufra; Deborah's five children, Taylor (Emily), Shaye, Joe, John, and Spencer; Deborah's grandchild, Martin; grandkids, Isaiah, Charlotte, Isabelle; and many nieces, nephews, and grand-nieces and nephews.

Jeff was predeceased by his mother, Paula.

Jeff was a retiree from Howard Hughes Medical Institute where he was a faithful employee for 25 plus years. Jeff had many hobbies and passions, including spending time with family and friends, playing tennis, watching football, reading, listening to music, going to plays and shows, spending time and playing with his grandkids including the multiple kids that thought of him as a grandpa, and much more.

Jeff was a loved man who wasn't shy about expressing his feelings. His smile and laughter would light up a room. He was a good-natured person who had a silly, but wonderful sense of humor. He was always trying to make the best out of any situation. His love, passion, and kind spirit will be dearly missed. He was loved by many people and our lives will not be the same without him.

There will be a luncheon at one of Jeff's favorite restaurants following the service.

Those wishing to make memorial contributions are asked to consider the Alzheimer's Association (225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601).

# Events

---

**JAN 18 Memorial Gathering 10:00AM - 11:00AM**

---

Carpenter Road Chapel

2400 Carpenter Road, Ann Arbor, MI, US, 48108

**JAN 18 Memorial Service 11:00AM**

---

Carpenter Road Chapel

2400 Carpenter Road, Ann Arbor, MI, US, 48108

# Comments

---



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Thomas Tefft.



January 18 at 08:47 AM

---



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**John Hartman** - January 17 at 10:12 PM

---



“ Worked with Jeff @HHMI. Always a smile and a laugh to share. My condolences to his family.

**Karen Carter** - January 17 at 07:23 PM

---



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Thomas Tefft.



January 17 at 05:00 PM

---



“ Donna Gschwend lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Thomas Tefft



Donna Gschwend - January 17 at 02:32 PM



“ I worked with Jeff for 9 years at HHMI, and he was a joy to work with. Always helpful and kind and a great team player. My deepest sympathy to his family.

Donna Gschwend - January 17 at 07:55 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jeff Stiegman - January 16 at 04:50 PM



“ Every memory I have of Jeff is with a wide grin and a hardy laugh. He was truly unique, a fine man, and will be sincerely missed.

..hold a table for us buddy.

Jeff - January 16 at 06:03 PM



“ Thanks for posting this Jeff. We really enjoyed these trips, you are correct that he always had that wide grin that showed his happiness.

Chris - January 16 at 08:41 PM

---



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Thomas Tefft.



January 16 at 11:40 AM

---



“ I knew Jeff from Ypsilanti First United Methodist Church where we served together on the Church & Society Committee. Jeff was unwavering in his passion and work on social justice issues. I was shocked to hear of his passing. He was a bright light in my life. My deepest sympathies to all who loved him.

Kind regards,  
Debbie Juriga

Deborah Juriga - January 16 at 12:06 AM

---



“ Jeff and I were roommates in college for a year and even though we haven't been in touch for a few years I will never forget his laugh, his silly sense of humor and his enthusiasm and passion for life. So sorry to hear of him leaving the world at such a young age. Deepest condolences to Chris, Amy, and families.

Rick Johnston

Richard S. Johnston - January 15 at 04:51 PM

---



“ I met Jeff nearly 30 years ago when I started a new job at HHMI - U of M location. There are a few things that I'll remember about Jeff that were as true about him then as they were to his final day. Jeff's love for his family. He always had stories to share about his children and grandchildren. I'm not sure if I ever saw him without a smile on his face. He was easy to tease and took it well. Not everyone can, but Jeff could also laugh at himself. He had a contagious laugh and even hearing it from a distance would bring a smile to your face. He was easy going and even used that as his email address (easygoingjeff). It was such a shock to hear of his passing and he will be missed. My sincere condolences go out to Jeff's family and friends. - Suzann Labun

Suzann Labun - January 15 at 11:08 AM

---



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Suzann Labun - January 15 at 10:29 AM



“ Click on photos to see caption.

**Suzann Labun** - January 15 at 10:31 AM



“ Thanks for posting these Suzann. He loved HHMI.

**Chris** - January 16 at 08:52 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**David Siemienak** - January 15 at 08:04 AM

---



“ Jeff and I were assistant managers when I met him over 20 years ago at our company, HHMI in Chevy Chase, MD. We met again many times over the coming years and each time it was a sincere pleasure seeing his warm smile and hear his laugh. I looked forward to our emails, and phone calls to discuss work, especially when we were on a team project. I enjoyed seeing his FB postings and pictures. He talked about his family often and it was clear that he loved them dearly. He was a kind, thoughtful man, with such honesty and integrity. I will miss him very much. My sincere sympathy to his family and friends. Peggy Cabral

**Peggy Cabral** - January 14 at 06:32 AM



“ Jeff and I were roommates at MSU. He was a good spirit! I was saddened to hear about his passing. This planet is a smaller place without his presence.

**Bob Arcand** - January 14 at 10:59 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Bruce Houtman** - January 13 at 03:31 PM



“ My Dad actually had this photo in his office.

**Chris** - January 16 at 08:43 PM

---



“ I worked with Jeff for 20 years at HHMI he was one of the finest and most honorable men I have ever known. I would like to send my deepest and heartfelt sympathy to his family.

Rod Hargraves

**Rod Hargraves** - January 12 at 11:02 PM



“ I also had the privilege of working with Jeff at HHMI. He was a great colleague and friend. My sincere condolences to Jeff's family and friends. Kathy Hofeldt

**Kathy Hofeldt** - January 13 at 05:43 PM



“ Jeff was a wonderful colleague and friend. He was always happy and cheerful. Seeing him at our HHMI meetings always put a smile on my face. My sympathy to his family and friends.

**Chris Schuld** - January 13 at 08:30 PM



“ College Football won't be the same without him. Thoughts and prayers to the entire family.

**Steve Lancucki** - January 17 at 08:19 AM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Neil Eriksen** - January 12 at 02:04 PM