



John Matthew "Matt" Collins

May 18, 1971 - May 7, 2025

John Matthew Collins ("Matt") of Winhall, VT (formerly of West Hartford, CT) died on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, surrounded by family after a long and valiant battle with cancer. Matt was born on May 18, 1971, in Bristol, CT. He attended Kingswood-Oxford High School in West Hartford, CT, and graduated from Dartmouth College with honors in 1993. He went on to earn his MBA from Harvard Business School in 2000. Matt met his best friend and the love of his life, Christine Randall Collins, in high school, and their incredible love story spanned over 36 years. Matt married Christine in 1996, and they are blessed with three amazing daughters. Matt was immensely proud of his girls: Rosemary Erin Collins, 22, a senior graduating from Cornell University this month; Annabelle Shannon Collins, 19, a sophomore at Villanova University; and Caroline Casey Collins, 18, a senior at Stratton Mountain School who will be attending Harvard University in the fall.

Matt was a man of faith who was devoted to God, family, and friends. He was a loving and extraordinary husband, father, son, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, nephew, and friend. He helped many of his beloved nieces and nephews launch their careers and was always an enthusiastic mentor. His confidence and unabated high standards inspired everyone who knew him and allowed him to accomplish everything he set his mind to. Matt was universally loved and admired. He was a positive, dependable, and maverick presence for his large extended family, colleagues, and for so many friends. Matt's charm,

integrity, and sarcastic sense of humor were unparalleled. He battled cancer with relentless positivity and was unfailingly selfless even in his darkest hours. He used his countless gifts to help others, and he left everyone he met grateful to have been in his presence.

Matt was an exceptionally brilliant man with an infectious presence, competitive spirit, and captivating gift of oratory. He was always up for a debate and would liberally share his ideas and jokes with his family and team members, most recently at Calix, Inc. where he was the Chief Commercial Operations Officer and also led the marketing team. He was immensely proud of his co-workers, his team, and the work that Calix has done to expand access to safer and better connectivity. Matt previously built and led marketing and strategy teams at Dun & Bradstreet (D&B), IBM, McKinsey, and Merck.

Despite his dedication and love of work, historical biographies, and endless podcasts, his most treasured time and greatest pride and love was his family. He loved exploring the world's ski mountains, biking, running, golfing, hiking with Storm, and spending time at Stratton Mountain and Old Lyme Shores. He also cherished watching World Cup ski races and the latest Star Wars and Avengers shows with his girls, getting to Fenway Park as often as possible, and keeping everyone on their toes at all times with a competitive wager and a twinkle in his eye.

There are no words to express the cavernous void created by Matt's passing. In addition to his wife and daughters, Matt is survived by his mom, Susan E. Geisel of Burlington, CT; his brother Timothy A. Collins and sister-in-law Dr. Siobhan Collins of Old Saybrook, CT; his sister Melinda Eberle and brother in law Daniel Eberle of Haddam, CT; his brother-in-law John Taylor of West Hartford, CT; sister-in-law, Amy Lynch of Simsbury, CT; sister-in-law, Margaret Brodeur and brother-in-law Christopher Brodeur of Glastonbury, CT; sister-in-law Dr. Mary Randall and brother-in-law Dr. Lawrence Neureither of Simsbury,

CT; and best friends, Christopher and Kjeldy McGoldrick of West Hartford, CT. Matt cared deeply for each of his 27 nieces and nephews and the McGoldrick boys.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, May 13th, from 4:00-7:00 PM, at the Church of St. Timothy, 1116 North Main Street, West Hartford. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, May 14th, at the Church of St. Timothy. Burial will follow at Mount St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Matt's honor to the Share Winter Foundation

<https://sharewinterfoundation.org/?form=donate>

LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://youtube.com/live/B2LO1DB23Ts?feature=share>

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Cemetery Details

Mount Saint Benedict

1 Cottage Grove Road
Bloomfield, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAY 13. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Church of St. Timothy
1116 North Main St
West Hartford, CT 06117
(860) 233-5131

Mass of Christian Burial

MAY 14. 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of St. Timothy
1116 North Main St
West Hartford, CT 06117
(860) 233-5131

Tribute Wall



“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of John Matthew "Matt" Collins*



Molloy Funeral Home - May 09, 2025 at 01:41 PM

BR

I am so deeply saddened by Matt's passing. My heart goes out to his beautiful family at this time of deep sorrow. I had the privilege of working for Matt at Dun & Bradstreet and proud to call him a mentor and friend. Matt was always larger than life. His leadership, brilliance, and charisma was omnipresent. Always thinking, always doing, always winning - all at once, for the greater good. That's Matt. I can't wait to see what he does in Heaven. Rest in peace, my friend.

Barbara Robinson - May 15, 2025 at 09:30 AM

ST

“ *I worked with Matt at IBM ~ 20 years ago. He was such a positive person. His energy was infectious. And boy, was he bright! He spend a lot of time helping me think through my decision to move from the start-up world to the behemoth that is IBM. I have such fond memories of working with him. May he rest-in-peace, and may he continue to encourage us to become the best version of ourselves. Condolences to his immediate family.*

Sanjay Tripathi - September 26, 2025 at 04:25 PM

CR

“ Carrie-ann R. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

Carrie-ann R. - June 13, 2025 at 12:32 PM

AK

“ What a loss, very sad to read. I remembered Matt very much during his Dun & Bradstreet years. All the best for the family.

Adriaan Kom - May 15, 2025 at 10:38 AM

BR

“ I am so deeply saddened by Matt's passing. My heart goes out to his beautiful family at this time of deep sorrow. I had the privilege of working for Matt at Dun & Bradstreet and proud to call him a mentor and friend. Matt was always larger than life. His leadership, brilliance, and charisma were omnipresent. Always thinking, always doing, always winning - all at once, for the greater good. That was Matt. I can't wait to see what he does in Heaven. Rest in peace, my friend.

Barbara Robinson - May 15, 2025 at 09:38 AM

MD

“ The world just lost an incredibly talented person. Matt was a unique individual who taught so many lessons to the people who worked with him. My condolences to the entire Collins family. Marian DeSimone

Marian DeSimone - May 15, 2025 at 08:02 AM

DA

“ *Chrisine- you have been such a vital part of Matt's journey. In the time to come, I hope you and the girls can find some strength and healing. Sending my deepest condolences. Matt will surely be missed!*

- Danielle CB2

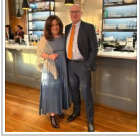
Danielle - May 13, 2025 at 11:04 AM

TF

“ *The Wildstein Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.*



The Wildstein Family - May 12, 2025 at 08:10 PM



“ I’m still coming to terms with the news....I worked under Matt during my last two companies starting in 2015. I spent the most time working closely with Matt during our time at D&B, gaining from his “meticulous” clever thinking, one I had never experienced in my 30+ years working in Corporate — but Matt provided me with deeper insight, mentorship and, ultimately, friendship and trust. He tested me, he pushed me [hard], he guided me [sometimes my family], he was even there when my mom was dying [and passed away] attending the shiva, especially when “HE” thought I needed his help the most. And that was Matt in a nutshell. Before I retired, he got super super busy so we just didn’t spend the time chatting like we used to. Perhaps he thought I was good or he needed to spend the time on others. I appreciated the years we knew each other and all those deep conversations that still stick with me.

I’m sure you’re in heaven having fun debating or perhaps planning a lot of things, with a lot of family, friends or colleagues. But—I know one thingyou’re smiling down with that big smile of yours onto your loving and beautiful wife, girls, and all the rest of us. It’s your time now to be at peace. RIP Matt! 💜💜🙏🌸 Remember “always winning.” Best, always Terry, Ken, Danielle and Hunter Starr



Terry Starr - May 12, 2025 at 06:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



May 12, 2025 at 05:15 PM



“ Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



May 12, 2025 at 03:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

May 12, 2025 at 03:49 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



May 12, 2025 at 03:30 PM

CC

“ Cindy, Victoria and Coquette Collins purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Cindy, Victoria and Coquette Collins - May 12, 2025 at 02:47 PM

DB

“ Dean & Miriam Guyer & Theresa Beegle purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Dean & Miriam Guyer & Theresa Beegle - May 12, 2025 at 02:04 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

May 12, 2025 at 01:12 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



May 12, 2025 at 01:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

May 12, 2025 at 12:35 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



May 12, 2025 at 12:35 PM



“ IESE and MIT Global CEO Program planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

IESE and MIT Global CEO Program - May 12, 2025 at 11:57 AM



“ IESE and MIT Global CEO Program purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



IESE and MIT Global CEO Program - May 12, 2025 at 11:57 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.*



May 12, 2025 at 11:17 AM



“ *I had the honor of coaching Matt in his high school years. His play on the field mirrored his life off the field - displaying grit, determination, team/family-first mentality, and passion that elevated those with whom he shared the huddle (including his coaches). Like his father and brother, he had a fiery spirit - competitive to the core - embracing any challenge that came his way. Above all, he was a great person in every respect - he made us all better having known him. My heart goes out to the Collins family and Matt's many friends - may his spirit live on in all who are blessed to have known him. My heartfelt condolences - Todd Marble*

Todd C Marble - May 12, 2025 at 08:24 AM



“ *Kathy Thomas purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.*



Kathy Thomas - May 12, 2025 at 07:11 AM

KT

“ Kathy Thomas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

Kathy Thomas - May 12, 2025 at 07:11 AM

TF

“ The Iyer Family purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



The Iyer Family - May 11, 2025 at 09:46 PM

TF

“ The Horvath Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

The Horvath Family - May 11, 2025 at 06:12 PM

TF

“ The Horvath Family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



The Horvath Family - May 11, 2025 at 06:12 PM

LC

“ Love, Delta Gamma CMT purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Love, Delta Gamma CMT - May 11, 2025 at 04:13 PM

JJ

“ Juliana, Arden, Elia and Steve Josinsky purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Juliana, Arden, Elia and Steve Josinsky - May 11, 2025 at 10:50 AM

RF

“ Rich & Paula Horvath and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Rich & Paula Horvath and Family - May 10, 2025 at 10:38 PM

LG

“ Love, GERMSSZ purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Love, GERMSSZ - May 10, 2025 at 09:43 PM

CR

“ Christopher Randall planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.

Christopher Randall - May 10, 2025 at 03:24 PM

CR

“ Christopher Randall purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Christopher Randall - May 10, 2025 at 03:24 PM

DA

“ Dawn, Kurt, Sophia and Avery Arnold purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of John Matthew "Matt" Collins.



Dawn, Kurt, Sophia and Avery Arnold - May 10, 2025 at 01:02 PM