



## Matthew Flowers

May 18, 1974 - April 29, 2025

The eyes, the dimpled smile, the grip of his left hand, his love of crackers and, of course, chocolate ice cream – they were Matthew Flowers' trademarks and unforgettable. For whatever reason, he did not often smile, but when he did, his eyes sparkled and his look was endearing.

Matthew, 50, autistic, non-verbal and epileptic, died April 29 in the group home where he had lived since March 2019.

Born May 18, 1974, in Pierre, S.D., to Earl and Linda Flowers, Matthew moved with his parents and older brother, Charles, to Lincoln, Neb., in 1975 before moving to West Hartford in 1981. In Connecticut, Matthew attended the CREC program at River Street in Windsor until he was 21, then transitioned to the HARC program in Hartford.

He developed aspiration pneumonia and sepsis in September 2024 and was in Hartford Hospital for three weeks, then he was moved on Oct. 16 to Riverside Health & Rehabilitation Center in East Hartford. He returned to the group home in East Hartford on Feb. 18.

From an early age, Matthew's mother insisted Matt be treated as close to normal as possible, despite his disabilities, and he was.

He was out and about in the community often, whether at school, at HARC or on weekends with his family. He attended most of his older brother's basketball, baseball, football games and spent many Friday nights in the West Hartford Public Library with his dad. He was a walker and walked with his father nearly every day at the Metropolitan District (MDC) reservoir in West Hartford and on Block Island during the family's three-week vacations.

His first trip to Block Island was a day-trip on a hot, sunny day in the early 1990s with his father, who rented a motor scooter. The two traveled the island all day, ending with ice cream on a small table overlooking the old harbor.

He is survived by his parents; his brother, Charles; nephew, Braden Flowers; and niece, Kathryn Rose Flowers, all of West Hartford.

Family and friends will be welcome to gather at Molloy Funeral Home on Sunday, June 29th from 1-3pm.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN **29**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119

# Tribute Wall

JM

“*Earl, Linda, Chuck and family,  
So very sorry to read of Matt's passing. I enjoyed many touching,  
and often funny, stories about Matt that Earl shared with me over  
the years. My thoughts are with all of you.*

*John Mayo*

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**JOHN MAYO** - May 04, 2025 at 06:38 AM

KC

*Earl and family, what a moving tribute to a life well-lived and a person  
fully loved. Thinking of you all with love and sympathy. Karen  
(Breckbill) Cohen and family*

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**Karen Cohen** - May 04, 2025 at 05:06 PM

SB

*Earl, Linda and family, Donna and I are so sorry to hear of Matt's  
passing. Through Earl's many anecdotes, I came to appreciate Matt's  
relationship with you and the depth he added to your lives. Matt taught  
all of us some meaningful lessons, without even intending to.*

*Scott and Donna Brinckerhoff*

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**Scott Brinckerhoff** - May 04, 2025 at 05:21 PM

SC

*Earl, Linda and family, Pat and I are very sorry to hear of Matt's  
passing. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Sal Cavallaro*

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**Sal Cavallaro** - May 04, 2025 at 06:09 PM

TA

*Earl, my condolences to your entire family.*

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**Tom Andrea** - May 06, 2025 at 09:48 AM

DR

*What a lovely tribute for Matt...he was so loved and cared for by you and Linda and Chuck. The many stories you've shared Earl - will always remain deeply etched and unforgettable. You are all in our thoughts and prayers!*

*Sonu, Dilip, Armaan*

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**Dilip Rangnekar** - June 09, 2025 at 12:20 PM