



## Randy Dawson

April 16, 1950 - February 17, 2014

It is with great sadness that I, Morgan Elliot Dawson, have to announce that my son, Randy, passed away peacefully on Monday. He was a loving son to his Mother, Jean Marie O'Sullivan Dawson and me. He spent the last years of his life caring with great joy for his Mother who predeceased him in 2011. Since then he has lived with me while he fought his courageous battle with cancer. Randy was a happy person with a love of life and he lived it to its fullest. With his ready smile and sense of humor he brought the best out of everyone he knew usually making them laugh.

He leaves behind his sisters: Diane Dawson-Brown and Donna (Dawson) Venoutsos and her husband James. His nieces and nephews: Philip Morgan and Erika Brown, Graeme Kingsland and Lauren Brown, Kaliopi (Venoutsos) and Jamie Lefflbine and Nikitas and Amber Venoutsos. And their children. His cousins: Dale (Dawson) and Joe Petrolito, Drew Kingsland and Kathy Dawson, and the Driscoll and O'Sullivan families. He also leaves his many loyal friends with whom he shared his fortunate life.

Professionally he was very successful in the hospitality industry. His passion and infectious personality along with his inherent talent for getting things done made working with him a pleasure. Many will remember his time spent as owner of the Stage Coach Tavern in Newburyport, Massachusetts; however, he also worked in Connecticut, St. Croix, California, Virginia, Pennsylvania,

Illinois, New Jersey and New York in management positions receiving prestigious awards for service. During these years he was President of the Ramada Hotel Association of California and the President of the Rockford, Illinois Motel and Hotel Association. He retired after his last project working on the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California and returned home to be with his parents, family and friends.

Randy graduated from Manchester Community College where he excelled in communications and enjoyed writing poetry and short stories. He was an avid reader, loved music, movies and art. His sunny disposition and generous nature will be missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.

The funeral will be Saturday, March 1, beginning with visitation from 11:00am-12:30 pm at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford, followed by a celebration of his life at 12:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please donate a favorite book to the West Hartford Public Library in Randy's name.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAR 1. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Ave  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

## Celebration of Life

MAR 1. 12:30 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Ave  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

# Tribute Wall

PR

“ My name is Pamela Reece. I live in Bakersfield, Ca. I first met Morgan when I was working at the Rio Bravo resort in the foothills of Bakersfield. He was the new general manager of the resort and we clicked right away. He was hilarious with a keen sense of the hospitality industry. Everything Morgan did was always top notch! It was Morgan who reinvented the garden and landscape quarters into the Rio Bravo resort day spa. Of which I was the spa director and aesthetician. Of course an exceptional sound system was installed inside and out with a beautiful jacuzzi to accompany the services offered at the spa. Most evenings after his busy day, he would hop in his shiny red truck and come to the spa where we would talk for hours and would listen to all the music he and I both loved, as it would resound from the outlying foothills. We had a lot in common. I understood him and he understood me. We were confidants of sorts. You could tell that Morgan was from a family of class and love. He would often refer to his mother and father and was proud of the large loving family he had. I am sorry to learn of your loss. He was a beautiful man and I shall never forget him. Rest in peace, my friend. I love you.

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**Pamela Reece** - September 22, 2025 at 01:05 AM

DM

“ Happy 75th Birthday  
Morgan R Dawson !!

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**Donna Marie** - April 16, 2025 at 06:07 PM

DM

“ Hi there Morgan Dawson,

*Ten years! I'm sorry but there are still days when it does not feel as long and others when it feels like forever to me. My thoughts are with you and your family today.*

*Most days, I hear your voice, your laugh, and your words of wisdom, in my mind. I recall moments of our countless times together through the decades, and may even share a few with friends. I know everyone dies, but in all the years spent with you, I never thought about you being gone one day, let alone so young. I pictured us having endless great times forever (especially after we were done being caregivers for our parents and had more time for each other). So I cannot believe you are not here to share each other's life moments, and in ones together. I truly hope there is a Heaven, and we get to have more wonderful times someday.*

*Love Always,  
Donna Marie*

*(P.S. After your service, my plan was always to visit the cemetery at the five year anniversary, but I was still caregiver and couldn't make the trip. Since my Mom is deceased now also, I've been planning on the trip at ten years. However, you had to pass away in winter and live in CT where there is lots of snow, didn't you. Although I had some snow in PA this week as well. So I cancelled my trip, for now. I'm sure you would say why drive four hours to the cemetery when it's covered in snow. Even though past trips to hang out with you during the season always had beautiful winter wonderland scenery that I loved. I remember we would drive around and sightsee after going out to eat in the area. So, my next attempt at the trip will be on your birthday. Sorry I haven't been able to get there. The universe and Mother Nature had other plans my friend)*



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Donna Marie - February 17, 2024 at 02:45 PM



Hi Donna,

*I don't believe we ever met. I used to date your brother. I met him through a friend of mine's cousin in 1973. We dated off and on for a few years. I even traveled to Newburyport several times, but distance wasn't our friend to sustain our relationship. I looked him up a few months back. My husband and I were talking about our single years and hanging out at Mad Murphy's and I asked if he knew Randy. He said yes and that's when I looked him up. I was so sad to see he had passed away. I'm so sorry for your loss. He and I had some wonderful times together...lots of partying. His infectious smile and laugh always made me laugh right along with him. He loved his 240Z and we had some great rides in it. He loved his family and spoke of all of you a lot. I was disappointed he never introduced me to any of you. I am sorry I never got to see him prior to his passing, but marriage and children take precedence. Take care.*

*Wendy Olmstead Worley*

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**Wendy J Worley** - November 03, 2024 at 07:13 PM



“ Happy Heavenly Birthday Morgan!

*Love Always  
Donna Marie*

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**Donna Marie** - April 16, 2023 at 11:17 AM



“ Love Always



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**Donna Marie** - February 17, 2023 at 01:21 PM

DM

“ *HAPPY BIRTHDAY MORGAN !!*

*I hope you are having a nice day 'on the other side'. Of course I wish you were here celebrating with me, friends, and family.*

*Love Always  
Donna Marie*

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**Donna Marie** - April 16, 2021 at 05:07 PM

DM

“ *Thinking of Morgan today.*

*Seven years.*

*I have a candle lit, as I've done the past 6 years. I'm playing Greg Guidry songs, and having cocktails.*



*The other day a saying of ours, which always made us giggle, came to mind - 'I know that you know that I know you know'. So, I hope you still know, lol.*

*I wish the Dawson family well, and hope they are finding comfort in good times shared with Morgan/Randy.*

*Love Always,  
Donna Marie  
Blue Bell, PA*

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**Donna Marie** - February 17, 2021 at 05:51 PM

DM

“ Happy 70th Birthday Morgan R Dawson!

*You always said you never envisioned making it past 50 years old; saying any time beyond it was a gift. In my mind I never pictured you gone ever, let alone so soon. I am forever grateful for the many years you were part of my life.*

*(There were a few snow flurries today. I'd like to think it was a sign from you. You and the crazy weather always seemed to have some kind of connection).*

*I hope Heaven is for real, and we meet again my friend.*

*Love Always,  
Donna Marie*

*(Sorry this is so late in the day; life is out of whack since my Mom died, my Uncle's accident, and the pandemic going on currently. I did not forget about you. I've had a candle lit for you all day. I usually do it on the anniversary of your death, but was at the hospital with my Uncle this year).*

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**Donna Marie** - April 16, 2020 at 09:19 PM

DM

“ Hello my friend

*Six years without you. I think of you every day, and wish I could talk with you again (even though I still think there are signs, and we do "talk". I get them from my Mom now too).*

*I know life must go on, and it does, but it doesn't mean I will ever stop thinking about you. You were an enormous part of my life, you are not just going to fade away. I will always remember the decades of fun, your laugh, and everything else.*

*(sidenote - I have not forgotten about you today either, that could never happen! I am just dealing with my Uncle who had a bad fall this week and is in the hospital in the critical care unit; so if you and my Mom could work some magic from Heaven and make him better, that would be helpful, Thanks!).*

*I hope your family is coping well, being without you and your parents. I think of them a lot also. I would still like to visit your graveside one day. I'm just not sure when that may be (since life keeps on going, and faster all the time).*

*Love Always, Donna Marie*

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**Donna Marie** - February 17, 2020 at 11:24 PM

DM

“ Hi there my friend,

*You may already know, but I've been busy and haven't had a chance...*

*My Mom is now with you in Heaven  
(she passed on June 30, 2019, and her Mass was July 11, 2019;  
long story about the delay, but you may already know about that  
also).*

*So PLEASE be sure to take care of her for me, till I can see you  
both again one day.*

*THANK YOU very much my friend. I love you and miss you.*

*Love Always,*

*Donna Marie*

*(P.S. I know it seems crazy to communicate with you here.  
However, with all the wild Morgan moments...and now Mom  
moments too...that keep occurring, especially through electronics  
and technology, I thought it was the best way. My apologies to your  
family).*

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**Donna Marie** - July 12, 2019 at 12:20 PM

DM

“ Happy Birthday Morgan Dawson!!

*I hope the Angels are singing happy birthday to you and that you are having a great day.*

*I could never forget you or your birthday. I would probably be driving to CT, or already there, to celebrate your day with you. I can just imagine how we would spend it, and I'm reminiscing about all the birthdays in years past (I smile and laugh all the time at how we spent my 30th birthday, priceless!).*

*I have to tell you something...you were right (I know, I'm just as shocked as you, lol). One day, you were having trouble reading something, and kept moving the paper closer/farther, and put it under a lamp, so you could read it. I was laughing at you. You said to me 'just wait till it happens to you'. Well, guess what, it's happening, ROFL.!. I wish you could tell me what else is going to happen, and I wish that I could laugh with you again. I miss your laugh. I miss you.*

*Love Always,*

*Donna Marie*

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**Donna Marie** - April 16, 2019 at 01:11 PM

DZ

“ Year FIVE.



*My mind is still having trouble wrapping itself around the fact that you are gone.*

*My plan, since day one, was to make a trip to CT today, the five year anniversary (also back on your 65th birthday, sorry). However, since I still believe you are with me in some universal way, you know what is going on in my world, and there was no possible way for me to visit. I know it must sound crazy, but I don't care. I really believe you are around me a lot, especially because of my Mom. Please don't ever go away. You owe me (lol – 'owesies' - my friend).*

*Memories of random fun times together still creep into my days and nights. How could they not, there were so many day to day events together through the years, whether by phone or in person. Hearing your name in any way, songs, sounds, scents, things I do, and thoughts of you, stop me in my tracks daily. It's wild, and I love it (but it would be better if you were actually with me).*

*My heart and soul are with you always. My thoughts and prayers are with Diane, Donna, and the extended Dawson family. I hope Heaven is for real, and I will see you again my friend.*

*Love Always,*

*Donna Marie*

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**Donna M Zummo** - February 17, 2019 at 04:17 PM

DM

“ Happy Birthday !! I wish you were here so we could celebrate.

*Although, as I say, I think you are with me. I believe it even more lately because you have been 'in touch' more than usual over the last few weeks.*

*(And even though it is your Birthday, Thank You for my gifts. I love everything that is happening, keep it coming please!!).*

*As always, I miss you, every day, in every way. Enjoy your day!*

*Love Always,*

*Donna Marie*

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**Donna Marie** - April 16, 2018 at 01:11 PM

DZ

“ Year four. Really?

*Morgan will always be part of my heart, my soul, and my every day, in one way or another. There are still (a lot of) quirky occurrences happening that make me believe he is still around me. I feel very comforted by it on one hand, yet on the other hand I'm just a little freaked out (lol).*

*Could it be possible/true? I like to believe so. I hope Morgan is in Heaven, looking out for me, guiding me, and communicating with me in some way. I hope he has reconnected with friends and loved ones who are also in Heaven, and that it is a wonderful experience.*

*Love Always*

*Donna Marie Zummo*

*Blue Bell PA*

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**Donna Marie Zummo** - February 17, 2018 at 04:09 PM

DM

“ Happy 67th birthday, and happy Easter, my friend. I did not like when Easter and your birthday were on the same day because I couldn't make the drive North and spend it with you. So, maybe I should not miss you much today, because I wouldn't have been able to see you anyway. Yet, I do miss you, with all my heart and soul.



*I hope you are ok, and enjoying your day.*

*Love Always,  
Donna Marie*

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**Donna Marie** - April 16, 2017 at 12:35 PM

DZ

“ At the 3 year mark already, it cannot be possible. There still is not a day that goes by when you are not on my mind and in my heart. So many times I want to pick up the phone and call you, and it hurts that I can't do so. Knowing you for 23 years sure gives me a lot of memories to reminisce over. I wish you were here to laugh and recall them with me. And it maybe it's crazy, but even now, 3 years later, there are moments in my days that make me wonder... somehow, some way, you are with me. I miss you very much my friend.

*Love Always,  
Donna Marie*

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**Donna Zummo** - February 17, 2017 at 03:28 PM

DM

“ I tried to post this on April 16, 2016, but it did not seem to post...



*April 16, 2016, and you would be 66 years old.  
Happy Birthday my friend!*

*I really thought you would have fought the battle with cancer longer than you did, and at least make it this far, if not be cancer free. I still can't believe it did not happen, and you are really gone.*

*Hope you're having a good birthday. The heavens sure seem to have taken lots of musicians this year. So I bet you have plenty of music to party.*

*I love you and miss you, every day.*

*Love Always,  
Donna Marie  
(Blue Bell, PA)*

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**Donna Marie** - April 24, 2016 at 09:50 PM

DM

“ Two years. Say it isn't so.



*You are still in my thoughts, and I miss you just as much, every day.*

*Whether through a song – which, on my way home from work (at 12:07 am today, 2-17-16), “Spirit In The Sky”/Norman Greenbaum, came on the radio. How fitting! And there are so many other songs that were fitting for you/me/us, that I hear randomly in my days.*

*Whether through a memory that comes to mind – and, in two plus decades, there are countless numbers of them.*

*Whether at work – in the files I am handling, there will be ‘Morgan’ either in the name, address, or company.*

*Even through TV – here in PA there is a new commercial on daily, for a law firm....Morgan & Morgan.*

*Somehow, some way, each day, you come to mind.*

*So never think that you will ever be forgotten. You will forever be in my heart. (I hope that all the random things that bring you to my mind, are really signs that you are “still with me” somehow).*

*Love Always,  
Donna Marie*

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**Donna Marie** - February 17, 2016 at 02:29 PM

DZ

“ Happy 65th birthday my friend (official Senior Citizen status; lol. I wonder what you would be thinking/saying about it). I am very sad (and still cannot believe) that you are not here to celebrate with friends and family. I hope you are enjoying your day in heaven. I love you and miss you bunches!



Love Always,  
Donna Marie

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Donna Marie Zummo - April 16, 2015 at 03:43 PM

DZ

“ A year has passed, but I still find it so surreal that Morgan is gone. I miss him tremendously. Many times I stop in the middle of whatever I'm doing and think Morgan would laugh, have a point of view, would not like it, etc. There are days and nights I want to call him, and have to stop myself and realize it is not an option. Every day there is something that brings him to mind. Random stuff happens that makes me truly have no doubt that he is somehow 'still here'.



I hope Morgan is resting in peace (yet having lots of fun, as always). My thoughts are with Mr. Dawson and the rest of the family, most days, but especially today as we've come upon the one year anniversary of Morgan's passing.

Donna Marie Zummo - Blue Bell, PA

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Donna Marie Zummo - February 17, 2015 at 03:34 PM

DZ

“Wow. I cannot believe Morgan has been gone six months already. I never thought it would be cancer that would have taken him away. I wonder how, and what, he is doing in heaven. If he was here with us, I know he would be at the pool enjoying the beautiful summer we are having this year.



*I miss him more than words could ever say. I think of him in most everything I do each day. I miss hearing his voice, his laugh, and seeing him smile. I miss talking and giggling with him for endless hours. I'm sad to know that we will never get to witness him mature into 'Morgan R Dawson, Senior Citizen'. I'm sure it would have been a great pleasure to experience.*

*Morgan will forever have a place in my heart and memories.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Dawson, Diane, Donna, and the rest of the Dawson family.*

*Donna Marie Zummo  
Blue Bell, PA*

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Donna Marie Zummo - August 17, 2014 at 08:33 PM

DB

“ Although it has been (too) many years since we last saw each other I will always remember Randy as a dear and cherished friend. From MA to RI, CT, PA and CA we shared conversation, "mix tapes", books and friendship. Whether it had been five weeks, five months or five years we always picked up where we left off. I will always remember Randy as a dear and cherished friend. My thoughts are with his family. May you draw comfort from your memories and warmth from Randy's infectious smile.

*Debbye Houlden Barrett*

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**Debbye Barrett** - April 16, 2014 at 11:18 AM

DZ

“ I am honored, and it was my pleasure, to know and love Morgan, and be part of the ride for over two decades. May he rest in peace. (I hope he is having fun in the afterlife: knowing him I'm sure of it). I will miss him very much.



*Donna Marie Zummo, Blue Bell, PA*

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**Donna Marie Zummo** - March 08, 2014 at 11:58 AM

PK

“ It was a great ride "Ran" and you lived it well. By gosh I guess I did too, with you in my life for all those years. Bravo Son, Bravo ! I can wait to see you again, and I will, but to ever forget you would be impossible.

*Ride on... from "Felipe", "What the, What The", " Ziti Pa Pa", but mostly your friend.*

*Phil*

*Carbondale, Colorado*

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**Phil Kashnig** - February 26, 2014 at 10:21 PM

JW

*beautiful smile, warm soul, and a friend who lived life to the fullest ! gone, but never forgotten.....*

*Janice Strouch Whitney*

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**Janice Strouch Whitney** - February 28, 2014 at 06:50 PM

RW

*We never stopped laughing, Randy will be truly missed.*

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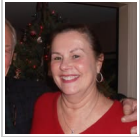
**Robert Warner** - May 09, 2014 at 02:56 PM

KB

“ *HEAVEN'S FILLED WITH LAUGHTER.. THANKS TO YOU.  
BE SAFE FOREVER... LOVE, KATHLEEN*

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**KATHLEEN BROWN** - February 25, 2014 at 03:48 PM



“ *I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their love. Leo Buscaglia  
Randy and I shared many good times, good friends and good food. West Hartford, Newburyport, Bakersfield, Simsbury, Granby and Windsor to name a few. A good friend is hard to find but harder to lose.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with the Dawson family.*

*With love, Chris Dunbar*

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**Chris Dunbar** - February 24, 2014 at 02:03 PM