



David S. Kulju

January 15, 1970 - December 10, 2013

Rochester, NH — David S. Kulju, 43, of Rochester, died suddenly on December 10, 2013 at Frisbee Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Portsmouth January 15, 1970, a son of Seppo and Linda (Babineau) Kulju of Hampton.

David graduated from Winnacunnet High School in Hampton in 1988 and the University of North Carolina at Asheville in 1993 with a degree in Audio Engineering. While in Asheville, he met the love of his life, Mary, and together they celebrated their 19th wedding anniversary on September 25th, 2013.

David was a talented software engineer at IBM and possessed a good head for politics. He was an avid photographer, cook and coffee drinker who loved to take daily walks and cheer on the Bruins. His true passion was music. David was adept with many instruments, but guitar was his first love. He was gifted at composing, mixing and recording and had released several group and solo albums, including a Christmas album he recorded with his wife, who is an accomplished flutist. His sharp intellect, fast humor and kind heart will be missed by all who loved and knew him.

In addition to his parents and his devoted wife Mary DiModica-Kulju of Rochester, David is survived by his sister Kristen (Kulju) Byron and her

husband Shawn of Loudon, NH; his Uncle and Aunt Jouko and Judy Kulju of Sarasota, FL; his mother-in-law Dorothy DiModica of Largo, FL; his brother-in-law Charles DiModica of Largo, FL, along with his much loved nephew and nieces, Noah, Sadie, Charlissa and Charae, as well as many cousins and friends.

Visiting hours will be from 3 to 5 PM on Saturday, December 14, 2013 in the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home – Crematory, 811 Lafayette Rd., Hampton. Services will be held at 2 PM on Sunday, December 15, 2013 at the First Congregational Church, 127 Winnacunnet Rd., Hampton. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Burial will be Private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his name to Gerry's Food Pantry of Rochester, 150 Wakefield Street, Suite 3, Rochester, NH 03867 or the Food Pantry of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **14.** 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
(603) 926-6500
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Memorial Service

DEC **15.** 2:00 PM (ET)

First Congregational Church
127 Winnacunnet Road
Hampton, NH 03842

Tribute Wall



“ *Remick & Gendron Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of David S. Kulju*



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - December 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *David S. Kulju*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *Another thought that has been rattling around me head...*

Back in the days of high school and just after Dave, Douug and I worked on quite a few different projects together (usually with Phil as well), such as different bands and the movies I previously mentioned. I used to have a silly title for our little troupe, Dave Squared and Douug too (or Dave² & Douug 2) and now I've realized we're no longer squared...

I also had the idea that if the 3 of us started a company or something the obvious name would be 3D. Well, we've lost a dimension and now our perceptions are a bit askew.

Dave Mills - December 23, 2013 at 09:43 AM

DO

“ 1 file added to the album *afterglow*



Douug - December 21, 2013 at 09:36 AM

 Dave
Mills

Afterglow by Genesis
Like the dust that settles all around me,
I must find a new home.
The ways and holes that used to give me shelter,
Are all as one to me now.
But i, I would search everywhere
Just to hear your call,
And walk upon stranger roads than this one
In a world I used to know before.
I miss you more.

Than the sun reflecting off my pillow,
Bringing the warmth of new life.
And the sounds that echoed all around me,
I caught a glimpse of in the night.
But now, now Ive lost everything,
I give to you my soul.
The meaning of all that I believed before
Escapes me in this world of none, no thing, no one.

And I would search everywhere
Just to hear your call,
And walk upon stranger roads than this one
In a world I used to know before.
For now Ive lost everything,
I give to you my soul.
The meaning of all that I believed before
Escapes me in this world of none,
I miss you more.

Dave Mills - December 23, 2013 at 09:33 AM



“ I, of course, have been listening to nothing but Rush this week and once I came across one song they one section of the lyrics seemed appropriate. Considering he was the reason we got back into playing music together, the main driving force of trying to write new material and did most of the actual work in regards to our weekly practice and the recording of the 2 songs we did finish this is only fitting:

*"You can be the captain
I will draw the chart
Sailing into destiny
Closer to the heart"*

from Closer to the Heart by Rush

Dave Mills - December 14, 2013 at 08:42 PM



Dave and I and Chip Brindamour did that song in HS for a lip sync contest and Im pretty sure we got 2nd place to the Blues Brothers. Do you remember that Dave M? I wanna get that video. I was Neil and Dave Alex and Chip Geddy.

John Fowler - December 30, 2013 at 04:07 PM



I do have a vague memory of that John. I want to say that was '86 or '87... Maybe '85. I think the year after you guys did it I joined Douug Upton and others in the contest doing Wasted Years by Iron Maiden. I would love to get a peek at all those old "performances" at the very least!

Dave Mills - April 08, 2014 at 07:16 PM



<https://youtu.be/ZY4OFi2qv0s?si=CoyD5G-EGBsvD6cN>

Rosie Dickey - May 15 at 09:55 AM

MT

“*Dave was a man of integrity; I only knew Dave during Carol Shea Porter’s first race for the House, but I would say that he was one of the people who made a real difference in her ability to win that first race. His computer expertise was invaluable. Dave cared passionately about his country and state and wanted to see it in good hands. He was a man of no wasted words, so when he gave his opinion, I listened and appreciated what he had to say. Too young to be called away, he’ll be missed. I feel fortunate to have known him, even for a short time.*

Mayme Trumble



Mayme Trumble - December 14, 2013 at 08:25 PM

MT

Dave just laying back after a day of politics!

Mayme Trumble - December 14, 2013 at 08:28 PM

DO

“*1 file added to the album tribute in flight*



Douug - December 14, 2013 at 04:37 PM



That is awesome. I can't get this off my mind. Fly By Night Mr Dave Kulju

John Fowler - December 14, 2013 at 06:13 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David S. Kulju.*



December 13, 2013 at 10:04 PM



“ *I first met Dave in the early nineties when I was in a band with his good friends Dave Mills and Phil Clute. Right away I was struck by his intelligence, his goofy sense of humor, his intimidating musical knowledge and ability, and his big heart. He was the kind of person who instantly put people at ease. I'll never forget hanging out with him at Dave M.'s house all those late, late nights with pot after pot of coffee and meandering but captivating conversation. Or the time I went to his and Mary's apartment and was basically indoctrinated in the ways and wonders of Mystery Science Theater. Oh, and Rush. Lots and lots of Rush. We drifted apart for a number of years but were able to get together again and make some music several months ago. My time with him was regrettably short but I am truly grateful for all of it. I will miss him.*

My deepest sympathies to all of his friends and family. Love and peace to all.

*Sincerely,
Jon Glassett*

Jon Glassett - December 13, 2013 at 08:35 PM



“ How could I leave out cruising the strip down at Hampton Beach in the Cutlass?!

Worse, how could I not mention our catching Rush in Providence?!!! It was my first time seeing them in concert and we went down early to make it more of an event or whatever. Well, we were walking around the arena hoping to get a glimpse of the guys before the show and we notice this guy that worked there poking his head out the door. Long story short for some cash from us he let us in. We quickly climbed down the bleachers behind the stage to the main floor area and were almost immediately spotted by security! This lead to a mad dash under the bleachers along the sides while Geddy Lee was playing a section of Tom Sawyer on the keyboards over and over trying to get the right sound. We had our very own chase theme! It was amazing and we had a blast. I rarely hear that song without that scene coming to mind.

Dave Mills - December 13, 2013 at 07:53 PM



“ I am so sad to hear that we lost Dave. We were friends since 1980 when we lived at Presidential Circle. He was a great man and had a huge passion for music. My fondest memories were working playing street hockey after school, working at Lomazzos and listening to Rush. I am so happy that he was able to be so successful in the music industry. He will be missed by everyone whos lives he touched and paths he crossed. My condolences go out to everyone, especially his family. John Fowler

John Fowler - December 13, 2013 at 12:38 PM

LM

“ I had the pleasure of working with Dave when he reported to me for over 8 years at IBM. His automation skills were impeccable! I keep thinking of all the good times with my 1-on-1's with Dave and how his wittiness (with that smile on his face) always kept my feet planted on the ground with all those crazy releases we had... AND that's how I will continue to remember him.

My condolences go out to his wife Mary who I also know from IBM and his family.

Rock-on Dave!

Linda Martineau - December 13, 2013 at 12:07 PM

JO

“ I grew up across the street from Dave. When I think of Dave, his love of Rush and the Bruins come to mind. Rest in peace my friend.

Joe - December 13, 2013 at 10:43 AM



“ So many memories to share... so hard to say anything.

I had known Dave for.... wow, almost 30 years! I have to remember to thank our mutual friend Phil for becoming friends with him our freshmen year of high school and introducing him to me, because otherwise I would have missed out on so much. All the bands he introduced me to... All the movies and weird humor... All the hours playing in so many different versions of bands together, mostly along with Douug and Phil. The countless HOURS at Friendlys drinking coffee and talking with an ever rotating cast of friends - the simple pleasures of those nights being some of the best of times. Trips to Canada! His humor and wit and intelligence. Making our two movies, GSR Unearthed and GSR Video Pieces! (Again, Douug and Phil right there with us.) All the time spent playing with video cameras and VCR's and going from one house to another to another for whatever we needed to do to put it together was not wasted. Still will never understand why he recorded over the tape that had all our "music videos" that we used for short clips in the first movie. I want those silly music videos so much!

But it always comes back to music. To me, it is who and what he was. Even with all the other stuff that he was so talented at it still comes back to music. I'm am so glad he called me a couple years ago to see if I would be interested in trying to play together again. I am so glad to have been able to play with him and Phil again especially since I hadn't even seen my own drum set let alone play in over 10 years. (Thank you for re-sparking my love for playing!!!) I am glad we got to sit around most Monday nights to practice cover songs and work on our own material. So glad we got a couple of songs recorded, even if they aren't quite done in our eyes (or ears as the case is) because there is always some little bit of tweaking to make it better...

But I am so sad and angry that there will be no more. No more laughs from him. No more long talks. No more music...

I will miss you my friend

Dave Mills - December 13, 2013 at 09:46 AM

 Beth
Folland

“ *I'm still in shock....Dave will be greatly missed! One of my favourite proggy friends! He always knew if I would like something NSW & alerted me to it. Far too young to go. Life is so unfair. My thoughts & prayers are with Dave's family. So sorry about this. We spoke of hanging out next time I got home to NH. Ugh. I will miss you my prog bud! Sail on bud, make music where you are! <3*

Beth Folland - December 13, 2013 at 08:17 AM

 Beth
Folland

*NSW = new**

Beth Folland - December 13, 2013 at 08:17 AM

 Kevin
Mason

“ *Dave entertained us all with his music, playing in the barn with the band. We all have great times with Dave, to remember I'll be praying for him and those close too him*
Kevin Mason

Kevin Mason - December 13, 2013 at 07:46 AM

 Dave
Mills

Barn jams were a huge part of our life in those days. I don't think we could ever thank your family enough for allowing us to make all that noise!

Dave Mills - December 13, 2013 at 07:31 PM

CM

I have many fond memories of the barn and all those who jammed there. Dave was such an exceptional musician, I can remember hanging out and watching Dave "noodling" around with his guitar trying to figure out different riffs. My heart goes out to all his friends and family.-Chris Mills

Chris Mills - December 20, 2013 at 01:40 PM

CS

“ *How do you say goodbye to somebody as wonderful as Dave? We've been friends since the day I was lucky enough to meet him in 2006, and we spent many hours over the years drinking coffee, analyzing data, and discussing the news of the day. Dave had a very sharp wit, especially about political stuff, and he always made us laugh. Dave was brilliant and talented, he was kind, he was thoughtful, and he was a loyal friend. My family and I loved him. Our prayers are with Mary and the family. Carol Shea-Porter*

Carol Shea-Porter - December 13, 2013 at 07:08 AM

JM

“ *Not long after arriving at UNCA 24 years ago, I was walking through the courtyard of the student center and spotted a long haired chap sporting a Rush t shirt and having a smoke. "What luck!" I thought. "A fellow Rush freak." I immediately went over and introduced myself. Turned out we were both in the same major but just hadn't met yet. Dave became the first true friend I made in college. A smart, funny, level-headed, talented guy. We didn't get to see each other much after college (Tennessee/New Hampshire) but we always kept in touch and exchanged tunes. I was just getting a new batch ready to send to him. I'll play them for him anyway.*

Joel Mahathy - December 12, 2013 at 06:37 PM



I know you were an important part of his time in college Joel and I'm glad you guys got to know each other and work together on musical projects, etc.

I owe my love of Rush (as well as other bands) to him and remember the radio interview that he called into when he was at UNC to talk to Geddy. I will never forget that he "wanted to say 'Hi'" to us when he was on the air which, if I remember correctly, prompted Geddy to do so as well. We were pretty stoked to say the least.

Dave Mills - December 13, 2013 at 07:44 PM

DH

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Dave on the Irish Show in Dover. He was brilliant, dedicated, professional, and just a great guy to be around. He'll be missed.*

Deirdre Hebert - December 12, 2013 at 05:41 PM

FM

“ *I had the pleasure of working with both Dave and Mary at our IBM Portsmouth Lab. Dave was one of the few people on this planet who was as much, if not more, of a Rush fan than I am. It was a treat to be able to talk about the band with him. Dave will be missed by many.*

-Felicia

Felicia Menten - December 12, 2013 at 02:31 PM

GF

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Gino Foti - December 12, 2013 at 12:51 PM

LM

Beautiful music from a good man...thank you for this gift.

Laurie McCray - December 12, 2013 at 04:10 PM

MA

“ *Dear Family,*

I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your dear loved one and send you my sincere condolences. The passing of a loved one can leave us feeling lost and heartbroken. But I've found very comforting words in God's word, the Bible. At Psalms 55:22, God promises to sustain those who throw their burden upon Him. God will also do away with death all together as brought out at Revelation 21:4. The bible also holds out the hope of a resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in death at Acts 24:15. May Jehovah, the God of all comfort who comforts us in all our trials (2 Corinthians 1:3,4), comfort you in your time of need. Heartfelt prayers are with your family.

maddox - December 12, 2013 at 12:40 PM

DO

“ *One Summer night, Dave, Millsy and myself, were sitting on the wall at the north beach.*

The moon was out and lighting up the waves. The question came up of what was causing the waves. Millsy suggested a gigantic paddle under the water (almost a Dr. Seuss feel to it.) I said it was the ghosts of old pirates returning to land (absolute gibberish really.) Dave just mentioned how the gravitational pull from the moon would raise the level of the tide, the waves came just from the motion of the water. (Right on the money.) Maybe a silly story, yet Dave always had the ability to level things out, say it as it was. That's something I'll really miss.

Douug

Douug - December 12, 2013 at 12:23 PM

SS

Perfect. Love that story.

Susan Shaye - December 13, 2013 at 05:42 AM

 Dave
Mills

The middle to our extremes you might say.

Dave Mills - December 13, 2013 at 08:32 AM

AN

“ *I had the opportunity to work with Dave at IBM and always appreciated his help and insight, on many levels, during the time we spent "composing" our automation scripts. I loved his wise and thoughtful approach to the issues we worked on but also his kind and gentle manner when discussing these.*

I was very stunned and saddened when I learned of Dave's passing, and my heart goes out to his loved ones during such a difficult moment. I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends and hope that the love and support you receive will bring some solace, and help to lift the burden and heal you.

Dave will always be remembered.

Anita L. Paci

Anita - December 12, 2013 at 12:16 PM

DO

“ *1 file added to the album tribute*



Douug - December 12, 2013 at 12:15 PM



Fly by Night my friend

Dave Mills - December 13, 2013 at 08:31 AM

JM

“ *I'm still in shock.*

I had the pleasure of being in the band Electrum with Dave. We went through personal ups and downs as we developed those recordings; the intensity drew us together quickly and strongly. We spent much of our time comparing notes on music, coffee, and Mystery Science Theater. I'll dearly miss my "brother".

My sincere condolences to Mary.

Joseph Musmanno - December 12, 2013 at 11:55 AM

JC

Joe, I own the two Electrum CDs, still listen to them, and have always tried to fully appreciate the hard work that you, David, and Gino put into them. My condolences to you, and to David's family and friends.

John H. Christopher

John H. Christopher - December 13, 2013 at 09:43 AM



“ *Dave was a friend in high school. Although college and careers took us on different paths and we lost touch, I recognized his face and smile instantly. How sad I was to learn this news. My heart goes out to Kristen and all of his loved ones.*

Jen (Adams) Lemire

Jennifer Adams - December 12, 2013 at 11:36 AM

KB

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Dave at NI, and again with Dave and Mary at IBM. I'm shocked by the news of his passing. My thoughts are with Mary, his friends, and his family.*

Kristen Buchanan - December 12, 2013 at 11:24 AM

GF

“Seventeen years ago, I met Dave online through a Rush message board (the Canadian rock band, not the outspoken pundit) when we were both looking for kindred spirits to play music with.

We met in person on his 26th birthday, when he drove to my house to see if we would be a good musical fit. Within a few hours, we had co-founded a band, Electrum, and I had found my musical soulmate.

Over the years, we scrapped, edited, and argued about much more material than we published together, but I have no regrets, and I do not think he would either. Those precious few hours of recorded music, and all the laughter that went in to producing them, will keep him alive within me.

Many longstanding inside jokes between us often revolved around the band that brought us together, so it is appropriate that I publicly say goodbye to him with the lyrics from one of their songs, *Afterimage*:

"Suddenly -
You were gone
From all the lives
You left your mark upon

I remember -
How we talked and drank
Into the misty dawn
- I hear the voices

We ran by the water
On the wet summer lawn
- I see the footprints
I remember -

- I feel the way you would

- I feel the way you would

*Tried to believe
But you know it's no good
This is something
That just can't be understood*

*I remember -
The shouts of joy
Skiing fast through the woods
- I hear the echoes*

*I learned your love for life
I feel the way that you would
- I feel your presence
I remember -*

*I feel the way you would
This just can't be understood..."*

Lepää rauhassa, my brother.

Gino Foti - December 12, 2013 at 11:20 AM



Very appropriate Gino. Thank you

Dave Mills - December 13, 2013 at 08:30 AM



I thought of this song recently too. Thanks.

Phil Clute - December 13, 2013 at 10:24 AM

SL

“ I first started working with Dave and Mary in our IBM Portsmouth, NH lab around 2000. Dave was a wonderful colleague. If you needed help, he'd was there to offer assistance. In addition to work, we'd chat about dogs and music.

It's hard to picture him without a smile - unless it was an incredulous raised eyebrow or two in reaction to a not-so-good idea. And even then, he would still sneak in a smile and a firm, but kind, correction.

I will miss his humor, his kindness, his intelligence and his tremendous musical talent. The world has lost one of the good ones. My thoughts are with Mary and their family.

Sarah Lachance - December 12, 2013 at 10:15 AM

DO

“ I will miss Dave so much. I pray for the best for His parents Seppo and Linda, sister Kristen, and His loving wife Mary. And for all of us who knew Him. This was such a sudden event. Words are very tough to convey all the emotions that are going through all of us right now. I hope in time these tributes will be good for all who are hurting at this loss. Later on, I'll add some stories of the fun and funny times with Dave.

Please remember all these stories of Dave, and pray for those who knew him

Love.

Douug

Douug - December 12, 2013 at 10:14 AM

DO

“ *Douug lit a candle in memory of David S. Kulju*



Douug - December 12, 2013 at 09:59 AM

DO

“ *Douug purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of David S. Kulju.*



Douug - December 12, 2013 at 09:57 AM

SS

“ I have known and worked with Dave at Lotus/IBM since 2002. He was a senior and talented member of our automation team. I was proud to know him and have him on our team. He mentored so many people over the years and was well-respected. He gave me a copy of his CD Abstract Expression that I have and will always treasure. My husband and I were in awe of his recent video. He was just such an amazing talent. He was a nice person, kind and had a gentle way about him. I was always so happy to see him when he ventured down from NH to the office in MA.

Back in the day when Guitar Hero was popular, he came to my house for a team party. He watched us play, probably humored by it all and how terrible we were. We egged him on as the musician to try it. Of course he was able to play it. The funniest thing, after about 5 minutes he picked it up and played it over and behind his head, Hendrix-style. We all about fell on the floor laughing.

I will miss him so much. This is a tremendous loss. My sincerest and deepest sympathies to his wife Mary, his parents, his sister Kristen and his entire family. I am lucky to have known him. Peace to you all.

*Sincerely,
Susan Shaye*

Susan Shaye - December 12, 2013 at 09:21 AM

LM

“ I worked with Dave for a bunch of years, and have tremendous respect for him, both professionally and personally. A lot of what I know about automation, I learned from Dave -- and Dave was a great teacher. Recently, I'm part of a different team, and I often think about how glad I am to have gotten my early training from Dave -- and how much further along I'd be if I were still working with him. And on the personal side, you couldn't ask for a nicer guy.

The world is a sadder place without Dave in it. Dave, I'll miss you. Go in peace, and my condolences to those you've left behind.

Lisa Mallahan - December 12, 2013 at 06:24 AM

PK

“ David was a man of great character and talent, a dry wit and the warmest heart, but for me, his (slightly) older cousin, he will always be the blond haired boy with the smile as wide as his face perpetually running down the hill of our grandparent's yard laughing in the sun. That kind of joy is eternal.

Patty Kulju - December 12, 2013 at 06:23 AM

GC

“ Dave was a year older than me and a big guitar influence on me throughout high school. Always fun to jam with, just a really great guy and had an open seat for you at friendlys back in the day. I'll miss him.

Gus Carlson - December 12, 2013 at 05:20 AM



I met Dave while working on Carol Shea-Porters 2006 campaign. He worked long into every night back then setting up vital communications systems. It wasn't long after we met face to face that I figured out that he (like me) was a dedicated guitar player. So Dave and I had two common interests. After the last election Dave told me that he was going to "re-dedicate" his time to guitar and writing. I knew just what he meant. If you are seriously committed there is never enough time to develop your skills. It pulls at your soul and eventually you decide to "carve out" the time come what may. Dave's latest work reflects that-- and the last video he made also highlights his kind heart. He dedicated it to the music teachers who touched his life. How generous! That was Dave.

Chaz Proulx - December 12, 2013 at 10:01 AM