



Christopher Recla

March 13, 1971 - September 20, 2025

On Saturday, September 20, 2025 the world changed forever when we lost Chris Recla doing what he loved, riding his motorcycle. Everyone who knew Chris can speak to his bright light, his ability to make you laugh, and his infectious smile. He was loved by many and will be deeply missed forever.

Chris was born in Norway, Michigan on March 13, 1971. He grew up in Norway, Ann Arbor, and Augsburg, Germany. He graduated from Norway High School in 1989 and attended Washtenaw Community College where he studied autobody collision and repair. Chris returned to Norway and opened his own business, Kustom Kolor, which he operated for many years.

During the summer, you could find Chris at the cottage on Hamilton Lakes with friends and family, on the boat pulling kids around the lake on a tube or riding his motorcycle. Chris had a heart of gold and would do anything for family and friends. His loyalty was unmatched. No matter the time of day you called, he would pick up the phone and be there when you needed him the most. He was strong and sturdy as an oak tree yet tender and loving. He lived an authentic life and never compromised his values.

Chris leaves behind a family that loves him unconditionally. His father, Harry Recla (Patti Faull), mother Jody Lori (Todd Ray), brother Ryan Recla (Elizabeth), sister Meghan Rossato (Chris), son Riley Recla (Chelsea Lusardi)

and daughter Abigale Recla. Chris also leaves behind a grandson, Benjamin, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Peter and Catherine Recla and Joseph and Geraldine Lori.

Family will greet friends on Saturday, October 25th from 1:00-4:00 at Ortman Funeral Home in Norway, with a celebration of life to follow at Mister Mom's, 1009 Main St, Norway.

To honor Christopher's legacy, please direct any donations to the family for daughter Abigale's future needs. The family is deeply grateful for your love and support.

Cemetery Details

Norway Township Cemetery

Norway Township, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **25**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Ortman Funeral Home
618 Norway Street
P.O. Box 155
Norway, MI 49870
(906) 563-5700
ortmanfh@gmail.com
<https://www.ortmanfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

SG

“ Dear Jody and Todd,

My thoughts and prayers to you and to your entire family at the loss of your beloved son Christopher. May your special memories together give you comfort and strength in the days ahead.

Hugs to you

Sara Garceau

SARA GARCEAU - October 27, 2025 at 10:46 AM

DL

“ *I have nothing but great things to say about Chris. I've had so much fun with him in our sons over the years. When Riley and my son Zachary were young we used to get rooms at tundra Lodge and they would have a ball. That made Chris feel good. Too many great memories. I will miss him dearly. My condolences to the family. If there's anything I can do, please let me know? One more thing when we were out at the cottage on the old wooden boat he looked just like Captain Ron! So I kind of tagged him with that name captain Ron*

Dean Van Laanen - October 24, 2025 at 12:19 PM

SR

“ *Scott, Saylor and Reed A., valerio road purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Christopher Recla.*



Scott, Saylor and Reed A., valerio road - October 24, 2025 at 11:01 AM

SR

“ *Scott, Saylor and Reed A., valerio road planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Recla.*

Scott, Saylor and Reed A., valerio road - October 24, 2025 at 11:01 AM

DL

“ *Dean Lombardini lit a candle in memory of Christopher Recla*



Dean Lombardini - October 24, 2025 at 09:51 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Christopher Recla.*



October 23, 2025 at 09:29 AM

TT

“ *Dear Jody, Todd and family,*

Thinking of you and wishing the best as you gather to honor the life of Christopher.

Barb and Terry Thatcher

Terry Thatcher - October 22, 2025 at 11:09 AM

TT

“ Terry T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Recla.

Terry T. - October 22, 2025 at 10:56 AM

KS

“ Kate Saavedra purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of Christopher Recla.



Kate Saavedra - October 21, 2025 at 04:55 PM

KS

“ Kate Saavedra planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Recla.

Kate Saavedra - October 21, 2025 at 04:55 PM

DO

“ Chris loved and lived to laugh...Im grateful and thankful to have known him for so long, and to have shared so many good times and millions of laughs with him. The best kind of friend you could ever want.

Dobber - October 16, 2025 at 05:57 PM

UO

“ Jody,

On behalf of the Provost Office and School of Nursing dean search committee- our thoughts and continuous prayers are with you.

UM Provost Office - October 15, 2025 at 09:52 AM

HA

“ Heather A. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Recla.

Heather A. - October 15, 2025 at 09:49 AM

BA

“ We are sorry to hear of Christopher’s passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this time.

Brian Adams - October 12, 2025 at 10:22 PM

BE

“ Jody, Todd and all of Chris's loved ones, I'm thinking of you everyday and hoping that you are finding some peace and comfort through these difficult times.

Beste - October 12, 2025 at 04:00 PM

RG

“ We are so sorry to hear about Chris. Our sincere sympathy to the entire family.

Rod and Cynthia Gordon - October 06, 2025 at 07:01 PM

MJ

“ Our deepest sympathies Harry and Meghan. We will never forget Chris’s sweet smile and his friendly demeanor. Our hearts are breaking for you.
Michele, Brett and Kylie.

Michele Johnston - October 05, 2025 at 06:10 PM

TV

“ Jody and Todd...are hearts are heavy over your loss. Sending you much love. Toni & Chris

Toni Villarruel - October 02, 2025 at 09:13 PM

BF

“ I will always remember Recker with love and fondness. So many great memories from high school on...Everytime I ran into Recker, we'd smile and laugh. He was a great guy! My deepest heartfelt condolences to Recker's family.

Barbie Frechette - October 02, 2025 at 09:46 AM

HA

“ Oh Jody and Todd, we are so devastated and have not the words to comfort you ... as if words could. We have been thinking about you every single day and wishing there were something we could do. It's as if Chris left at the end of his “Summer,” before his “Autumn” and “Winter” could take things away in tiny increments. I will never forget, after knowing him as a boy, the moment I looked up and saw a man in my living room! His easy bright smile lingered after him, like a shadow of Grace and Kindness. We are holding you in our hearts. Love, from Heather Phillips and Steve Adams.

Heather Phillips & Steve Adams - October 01, 2025 at 04:38 PM

HL

“ Jody, my deepest and sincerest condolences.

HaEun Lee - October 01, 2025 at 03:47 PM



“ Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Christopher Recla.



October 01, 2025 at 03:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Christopher Recla.

October 01, 2025 at 03:32 PM



“ Jody and Todd, We are so very sorry. I have no words. Bruce and I send our deepest sympathies and condolences. You are in our thoughts.

Lisa Kane Low - September 30, 2025 at 10:09 PM



“ Lisa K. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Recla.

Lisa K. - September 30, 2025 at 09:59 PM



“ Harry
So sorry for your loss. My sympathy and prayers and condolences for you and your family.
Jimmy Fornetti

Jim Fornetti - September 30, 2025 at 09:35 PM

JS

“ Dear Jody and Todd, please accept my deepest condolences. You are in my thoughts.

Julia Seng - September 30, 2025 at 06:18 PM

JS

“ Hi Jody, Please accept my deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of your family

Joseph Sieka - September 30, 2025 at 01:45 PM

NO

“ Hello Dr. Lori, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Wishing you comfort and strength as you navigate through this.



Norpli - September 30, 2025 at 12:13 PM

MA

“ Jody, sending my love and deepest sympathy to you and your family. Prayers and hugs to you all!

Mary - September 30, 2025 at 08:14 AM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Christopher Recla.

September 29, 2025 at 11:13 AM

JL

“ Jodi and family, I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you as you absorb this heavy burden.

Jan Larson - September 29, 2025 at 08:58 AM

KK

“ Dear Jodi my heart goes out to you all for this unimaginable loss. My words could not begin to describe how sad we all are to hear of this terrible loss. Hugs and prayers to you and your family.

Karen K - September 29, 2025 at 08:11 AM

ME

“ Jody and family- I am so sorry, my thoughts have been with you all, and holding you close in my heart-Megan



Megan Eagle - September 29, 2025 at 07:47 AM

JB

“ Jade Burns sent a virtual gift in memory of Christopher Recla



Jade Burns - September 28, 2025 at 11:01 PM

JB

I am so sorry Jodi. Sending love, strength, comfort and a big virtual hug to you. Prayers go up to you and your family.

Jade Burns - September 28, 2025 at 11:02 PM

CP

“ Crystal P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Recla.

Crystal P. - September 28, 2025 at 09:13 PM

GJ

“ Grace J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Recla.

Grace J. - September 28, 2025 at 08:43 PM

JE

“ Jeanne-Marie lit a candle in memory of Christopher Recla



Jeanne-Marie - September 28, 2025 at 08:01 PM

JE

“ Jody- my heartfelt condolences during this unimaginable time. There are no words that can truly comfort. Sending love. Jeanne-Marie

Jeanne-Marie - September 28, 2025 at 08:01 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Recla.



September 28, 2025 at 07:41 PM

CF

“ *Sending my deepest condolences to Chris' family.
Christopher Friese
University of Michigan*

Christopher Frisee - September 28, 2025 at 07:08 PM

KP

“ *Kathleen Potempa lit a candle in memory of
Christopher Recla*



Kathleen Potempa - September 28, 2025 at 07:00 PM

KP

Thinking of you Jody and your family.

Kathleen Potempa - September 28, 2025 at 07:02 PM

KS

“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to all.*

Kris Spranger - September 28, 2025 at 05:16 PM

JB

“ *So many memories,all good great,funny, quick wit comments,will be missed makes me really sad he's gone,but I smile thinking about the times we had.He was a great friend and Club Brother he was family..Gone but not forgotten
R.I.P. RFFR*

Joe Bro - September 28, 2025 at 01:35 PM

BD

“ I will always remember Recker as my life long friend. From watching The Benny Hill Show at his Grandparents house as kids, to seeing Mötley Crüe at Joe Lewis Arena as teenagers, to watching our kids play at the Tundra Lodge as adults.

He will be greatly missed.

Brian DeBernardi - September 26, 2025 at 05:15 PM

NL

“ Nancy LaFreniere lit a candle in memory of Christopher Recla



Nancy LaFreniere - September 25, 2025 at 09:53 PM

CW

“ Cheryl Wilcox lit a candle in memory of Christopher Recla



Cheryl Wilcox - September 25, 2025 at 07:28 PM

PM

“ Patty And Rick Mariacher lit a candle in memory of Christopher Recla



Patty and Rick Mariacher - September 25, 2025 at 06:42 PM

JK

“ *Judy Kraemer lit a candle in memory of
Christopher Recla*



Judy Kraemer - September 25, 2025 at 11:56 AM