



*Celebrating the life of*  
**Mathew Stephen Pruss**



**February 12, 1985 ~ April 8, 2024**

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Mathew Stephen Pruss, a beloved father, son, grandson, nephew, and uncle, he was Deputy Director at NAMI Arkansas (National Alliance on Mental Illness), a dedicated music minister at Mountain Side Methodist Church in Hot Springs Village, and a former entertainment director and musician at Willie D's, left this world on April 8, 2024. His passing has created a void that can never be filled, but his memory will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

Born on February 12, 1985, in North Little Rock, Arkansas, Mathew was a shining light from the very beginning. He touched the lives of many with his exceptional talents and warm personality. Graduating from Oak Grove High School in 2003, Mathew went on to pursue his passion for helping others by obtaining a bachelor's degree in psychology from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. Always striving for personal growth, he was also working towards his master's degree at Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri.

Mathew's vibrant spirit and zest for life were evident in everything he did. Whether he was crafting beautiful melodies as a musician, spreading laughter and joy with his hilarious antics, or showcasing his woodworking skills, Mathew always brought positivity wherever he went. He had a special talent for connecting with people and making everyone feel welcomed with his infectious smile and comforting hugs.

Outside of work and his many hobbies and interests such as deer hunting, golfing, riding motorcycles, woodwork, writing and playing music; Mathew's greatest joy came from being a loving father to Brayden and Gracelynn Pruss. His children meant the world to him, and he cherished every moment spent with them.

Mathew is now reunited with his grandparents Albert and Jessie Pruss in the afterlife. He leaves behind a legacy of love and kindness that will continue to inspire all who knew him. Mathew is survived by his children Brayden and Gracelynn; his parents Greg and Karen Pruss; his sister Amy Harms (Chris) and nephew Evan Harms; as well as his grandparents Jerry and Wilda Lamberson; aunts Martha Phillips and Angie Ward (Jay); uncles Stanley Pruss (Dana) and Timmy Pruss along with a host of family and friends. He is also survived by Brianna Moore who he loved dearly and who held a very special place in his heart.

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A visitation to honor Mathew's memory will be held at Smith Family Funeral Home in North Little Rock on Sunday, April 14th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. A Celebration of Life service will take place on April 15th at Cedar Heights Baptist Church in North Little Rock starting at 11:00 AM.

As we mourn the loss of such an exceptional individual, we find solace in knowing that Mathew is with his Heavenly Father and his spirit will forever live on through the countless lives he touched. May his memory be a blessing that brings comfort to all who grieve his departure.

## *Afterglow*

I'd like the memory of me  
To be a happy one.  
I'd like to leave an afterglow  
Of smiles when life is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo  
Whispering softly down the ways,  
Of happy times and laughing times  
And bright and sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,  
To dry before the sun  
Of happy memories that I leave  
When life is done.