



David Graham Ray

April 26, 2025

David Graham Ray was born in Nantwich England, on May 30, 1966, to Colin and Barbara Ray. He died peacefully, at the age of 58, on April 26, 2025, in Toronto, Ontario. Throughout the past few years, Dave faced several serious health challenges, which eventually led to cardiac arrest. Our sorrow is tempered by the knowledge that Dave is pain free and at peace.

Dave grew up in Blackpool England, a seaside town and popular tourist destination. In his teens, Dave became a legendary drummer of several punk rock bands: The Condemned, The Rabid Dogs and Dog Food. Many of Dave's happiest times involved punk rock and his cherished bandmates.

Much of Dave's career was spent in the world of printing, and he shared many stories about his time working for Alan Cass as a printer where he enjoyed working with his friends Steve and Tony and was well-treated by Alan.

In 2015, Dave met his future wife, Rachel, after a Coronation Street tour in Manchester. Like many beloved "Corrie" characters, they soon became inseparable, and Dave supported Rachel as she found her place in a new country. A year later, Dave made the difficult decision to leave his family and friends in England for Canada, where Rachel and Dave married in 2016.

After settling in Toronto, Dave and Rachel enjoyed going to gigs together,

checking out new restaurants and pubs, and cheering on Blackpool FC . Thanks to his father Colin's influence, Dave was a dedicated Seaside, and a visit "home" included a game when possible.

Dave was also profoundly concerned about the environment as well as the creatures who share our world, and Rachel and Dave loved exploring vegetarian and pescatarian recipes and menus. An avid reader, Dave enjoyed playing on his pub quiz team "The Damned," where his sense of humour was much appreciated.

Dave was predeceased by his father, Colin in 2013. He will be remembered lovingly by his wife Rachel, mother Barbara, brother Steve, stepsons Chris (Sarah) and Ollie (Gemma) as well as his beautiful granddaughters, Maia, Luna and Willow. Dave will also be missed by his cousins in Crewe and Blackpool and his uncle Geoff and aunt Christine. In Ontario, Dave was loved by his many in laws, especially Maureen, Ron, Rebecca, Christian and Archer. Across the Atlantic in Blackpool and Manchester, and in Toronto, Dave's many friends will also miss him dearly.

A cremation has taken place and a celebration of life will be held in the future.

Tribute Wall



“ Thank you Dave for being a huge part of our lives growing up - the motor bike rides, beers, and curry trips to York, Manchester and London. It was great to see you happy when we visited Canada, and I'm sorry we won't get to have another pint together.
Chris & Oli

Chris Maughan - May 14, 2025 at 04:49 PM

DL

“ I've known Dave since the mid 80s when we was young punks, we also shared a love for Blackpool FC & hockey. He will be sadly missed, thoughts & condolences to his family, specially Rachel, & friends.
The photo is from holidays in the sun punk festival 1996 Dave with me & Mark.



Dave Ludlow - May 05, 2025 at 02:52 PM

RH

Thanks Dave. Love this picture.

Rachel Hines - May 05, 2025 at 04:48 PM

TP

“ Dave was one of my favourite humans, full of fun, hilarious to be around. My favourite memory of Dave was a Sex Pistols gig in Manchester not being a Punk myself but liking them I was planning on standing at the back with our other friends out of the mayhem of the pit.

But Dave was having none of that he grabbed my hand and said “If we stand this far back we might as well watch them on TV” as he dragged me to the middle of the pit.

I was terrified but Dave’s joy was contagious and I spent the gig being thrown around by some gnarly humans while Dave watched out for me. Sleep well Dave you were and always will be loved and missed.

Tracey Zivnustka (nee Pierce) - May 04, 2025 at 04:11 AM

RH

Thank you Tracey! Definitely his fav memories being at gigs.

Rachel Hines - May 05, 2025 at 04:47 PM

RH

“ I am very saddened about the death of my brother in law who passed away too soon. I will remember Dave for going to my first punk rock concert, for his sharp sense of humour and his calm demeanor. I also thank Dave for distracting the mosquitos on our camping trip who would usually come after me. I am also thankful to him for the happiness and companionship he brought to my sister for many years. Rest in Peace Dave. Love Rebecca

Rebecca Hines - May 02, 2025 at 04:57 PM

RH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Rachel Hines - May 02, 2025 at 01:49 PM