



Chad C. Franklin

July 1, 1973 - December 5, 2025

Chad Christopher H Franklin, 52, of Macomb, Michigan, passed away on December 5, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of laughter, love, and inspiration.

Born on July 1, 1973, in Omaha, Nebraska, Chad graduated from Kickapoo High School and earned a bachelor's degree in Social Science from Evangel University in 1995.

Chad married Tonya on August 13, 1994, and together they shared a life full of love, laughter, and family adventures, often centering around their mutual love of board games and camping. He was a devoted father who cherished every moment with his children, Nicky and Chandler and treasured his relationships with their spouses, Travis and Aleya.

Known for his wit and warmth, Chad approached life with humor and grace and had a desire to leave people better than he found them. Those who knew him recall a man whose joy was infectious, whose insight was thoughtful, and whose laughter was unmistakable. He had a unique ability to combine deep reflection with playful humor, leaving lasting impressions on friends, family, and colleagues alike.

Chad is survived by his wife, Tonya Franklin; his children and their spouses, Nicky Terrien and her husband, Travis Terrien, and Chandler Franklin and his wife, Aleya Franklin. He was preceded in death by his parents, Marlene Franklin and Daniel Franklin, and his brother, Jason Franklin.

Chad's family will honor him with a memorial service on Saturday, December 13 to be held at Rochester Church of Christ/Alumni Center, 250 W Avon Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

Service Time: Family and Friends Gathering, in the fellowship hall from (10AM -10:45AM) followed by the Memorial Service, in the sanctuary (11AM - 12 PM)

For those unable to attend, we will be streaming the service online, later this week we will have the link for that.

In lieu of flowers, cards are appreciated.

Previous Events

Family and Friends Gathering

DEC 13. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

Rochester Church of Christ/Alumni Center
250 W. Avon Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Memorial Service

DEC 13. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Rochester Church of Christ/Alumni Center
250 W. Avon Road
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Tribute Wall

JD

“ Tonya, keeping you & kids in my heart, thoughts & prayers. Im so sorry, I have been thru similar situations, just know im always here if you want to talk or need that shoulder to cry on. ☐💔☐



Jessica Dryer - January 07 at 11:12 PM

SS

“Although we didn’t work together every day, we always made time to connect—and I truly valued those moments. I always enjoyed collaborating with you, your sense of humor, and your constant willingness to help. You will always be remembered.”

Stephanie Schulman - January 07 at 12:44 PM

RD

“ I recently told someone that what God didn't give me in brothers, He made up for in brothers in law. I remember the first time I met Chad. He brought a couple Christian cassettes to give to me. They were Guardian tapes. He said Tonya told them they were my favorite. The funny thing was, they weren't. I didn't tell him. I said thank you. I thought it was nice that he'd bring me anything at all not knowing me. What's interesting is that Whiteheart was my favorite. And I soon found out his too. Then the conversations started rolling. We'd be talking about our favorite songs and albums. Which musicians played on which albums. Me and Chad both loved Christian rock and were drummers. I remember when me and my wife went to Springfield to visit them. He took me to a drum shop. He showed me a snare drum that would "make your set". A beautiful Pearl maple shell piccolo snare with a distinct sound. I really didn't have the money for it at the time but I bought it anyways. That was nearly 29 years ago. And to this day I still have that snare drum. I played it in church and I play it every time I sit down at my set. And I often think of Chad and that day when he told me I had to buy that snare. Lol. To say Chad was quick witted was an understatement. I'll always remember the late nights staying up and playing euchre with him and Tonya. His remarks were sharp, laced with sarcasm and delivered with a somewhat dry tone. He made me laugh. He made everyone laugh. I'll not forget the past because I know you're in our future.

Rusty Deckard - December 15, 2025 at 08:19 PM

JD

“ My memories with Tonya and Chad go back to our college years, where we were all counselors at summer Music camp. Seeing them get married, raise their family, and spending many weekends visiting, playing table games, laughing, sharing (all flavors) of a Diet Coke and a Smile are among my choicest memories!! We all love and miss you, Dashboard Drummer! Hugs and prayers to your precious family!

Joy DeBoard - December 12, 2025 at 03:56 PM

KC

“ I worked with Chad at Comcast and he was an absolutely wonderful human. Smart, kind, and fun. I'm heartbroken about his passing and I'll cherish my happy memories as his coworker. He was the best.



Kristin Crockett - December 09, 2025 at 10:50 PM

LW

“ Chad was so witty and so funny. Back a few years ago, Chad and his family were at a fireworks display. His birthday is the 1st of July and this may have been held on his birthday or around but no matter. He exclaimed on-line, " Look at all these people who showed up for my party! " He was scanning all the people." How nice of them." Every year around his birthday, we had a conversation going on like " Oh, they don't have to go to all this trouble for me. " They are doing it again. Fireworks again!" Still makes me smile!

Lynne White - December 09, 2025 at 04:20 AM