



Timothy John Cotter Jr.

December 4, 1956 - October 19, 2025

Timothy John Cotter Jr., age 68, of Mattoon, Illinois, passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 19, 2025, in the Shenandoah Mountains of Virginia while hiking with his daughter — doing what he loved most, surrounded by the beauty of nature.

A funeral service in his honor will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 30, 2025, at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938. Pastor Brad Brown will officiate. Visitation will be held from 1:00 p.m. until the time of service at the funeral home.

Tim was born on December 4, 1956, in Buffalo, New York, to the late Timothy John and Rose Ann (Boc) Cotter. He was married to the love of his life, Lisa Clem, for more than thirty years. He is survived by his wife, Lisa; his son, Timothy John Cotter III; and his daughters, Cameron Rose Cotter and Tristen Sue Cotter; his stepson, Kyle Eugene Hamilton; his brothers, Patrick Cotter (Dee) and Mark Cotter (Rhonda); his sister, Kathleen Cotter; his mother-in-law, Joanna Sue Clem; and was preceded in death by his parents, Timothy John and Rose Ann Cotter, his sister, Nadine Cotter, and his father-in-law, Dr. Samuel Clem.

He is also survived by his brothers-in-law, Dr. Greg Clem (Leslie) and Scott Clem (Stephanie); his sisters-in-law, Jackie Green and Karla Coleman (Mark); his nephews, Craig Cotter (Grace), Corey Cotter, Justin “JT” Cotter (Chelsea), Patrick Green (Katy), Jordan Coleman, and McGwire Clem; his nieces, Allison Green (Chris Kazacos), Jenna Wilson (Andrew), Kaitlyn Coleman, Dr. Morgan

Clem (Dr. Amit Singh), Dr. Kiana Chirayil (Kishore), Madison Barger (Brett), and Kendall Sears (Conner); his great-nephews, Hunter, Colton, and Jackson Cotter, Charles Wilson, Samuel Wilson, and Arthur Sears; and his step-niece, Skye Rowell.

Tim was an alumnus of Purdue University, where he earned his bachelor's degree — the foundation of a long and distinguished forty-seven-year career in the printing industry. Throughout that career, he earned the respect and admiration of everyone who worked with him. His knowledge and experience ran deep, yet he carried them with humility and kindness. As a leader, he inspired confidence through his patience, fairness, and steady optimism. To his team, he was far more than a director — he was a mentor, a guide, and, to many, a father figure. Tim had a gift for seeing the best in people and helping them realize their potential. Even in challenging moments, he remained calm and solution-oriented, bringing perspective and encouragement when it was needed most. His quiet strength, steady smile, and ability to find light in any situation made him a true beacon of joy to those around him. His leadership, integrity, and compassion continue to shape the workplace he helped build and the many lives he touched along the way.

Beyond his professional life, Tim was an adventurer and lifelong learner who found deep peace in both nature and history. He loved the outdoors — the freedom of the mountains, the thrill of the slopes, and the stillness of a quiet trail. Of all the places he explored, none meant more to him than Jenny Lake, where he once stood surrounded by water and peaks and said, "I am home." His passion for history was just as vivid. He didn't just read about the past — he sought it out, visiting historic sites, walking the trails once traveled by others, and immersing himself in the stories that shaped the world. He especially admired George Washington, whom he called his hero, and lived his life with that same sense of courage, integrity, and quiet strength.

Above all, Tim was a devoted husband, father, and friend who found his greatest happiness in time spent with those he loved. He filled their lives with laughter, adventure, and a sense of belonging that will never fade. His love for

animals reflected his gentle nature, and the companionship of his dogs and “grand pups” brought him peace and joy. Selfless and unwavering, Tim gave his heart freely to others — loving without condition, giving without hesitation, and finding meaning in the simple grace of caring for those he held dearest. Though he is no longer by their side, Tim’s spirit will continue to guide his family through life’s mountains and valleys, just as he always has. His love — constant, steady, and enduring — will be their compass on every new trail and in every quiet moment of peace, reminding them that he is forever with them. Memorials in his honor may be made to National Park Service, 1849 C St. NW, Washington D.C. 20240.

Please visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com or facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with the family.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **30**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.
1200 Wabash Ave
Mattoon, IL 61938
(217) 234-8828
contact@mitchelljerdan.com
<https://www.mitchell-jerdan.com/>

Service

OCT **30**. 3:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.
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Tribute Wall



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Timothy John Cotter Jr..*



October 30, 2025 at 10:25 AM



“ *BPG-USA Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy John Cotter Jr..*

BPG-USA Family - October 30, 2025 at 10:25 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Timothy John Cotter Jr..*



October 29, 2025 at 07:35 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Timothy John Cotter Jr..*



October 29, 2025 at 07:15 PM

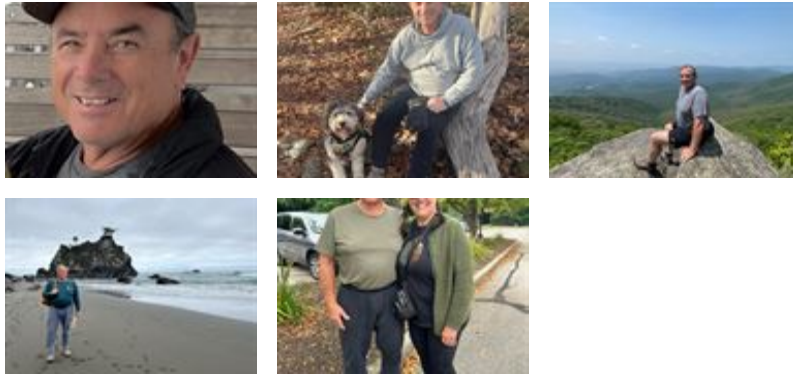
YF

“ Your BPG family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy John Cotter Jr..

Your BPG family - October 29, 2025 at 07:15 PM



“ 150 files added to the album LifeTributes



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - October 29, 2025 at 12:48 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Timothy John Cotter Jr..



October 27, 2025 at 07:01 PM

FF

“ From, the Green Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Timothy John Cotter Jr..

From, the Green Family - October 27, 2025 at 07:01 PM

MC

“ Tim was a great mentor to me over the past 3 years at BPG. Sending prayers to the family for this great loss. There is an empty feeling without him but he put together a strong team that will carry his vision forward. Always taught me to get out in front of tough issues instead of waiting for them to blow up and be unprepared. His dedication was like no other, for example I always joked with him I made it a game to try to get to work before him , that maybe only happened 2-3 times over 3 years! Working that close together he became a close friend to me as well as a colleague and I will always remember the laughs we shared as well as what we accomplished together! Rest in peace my friend. God bless!



Mike Carter - October 25, 2025 at 05:43 PM

DM

“ So very sorry Lisa. Prayers to you and your children.

Debbie Matheny - October 25, 2025 at 03:44 PM

WP

“ Wanda Pairo lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



Wanda Pairo - October 25, 2025 at 02:40 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Timothy John Cotter Jr..*



October 24, 2025 at 08:00 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Timothy John Cotter Jr..*



October 24, 2025 at 06:01 PM



“ *Chris Cave lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.*



Chris Cave - October 24, 2025 at 08:14 AM



“ *Trudy Mullendore lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.*



Trudy Mullendore - October 24, 2025 at 08:02 AM

DG

“ *Danny & Gail Grim lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.*



Danny & Gail Grim - October 24, 2025 at 04:48 AM

JC

“ *I worked with Tim for many years at Kappa Graphics and he was always kind and respectful to me. My heart is with the family.*

Jesse Cook - October 23, 2025 at 11:24 PM

NL

“ *Nicole Lamb lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.*



Nicole Lamb - October 23, 2025 at 11:22 PM

KG

“ *Katy and Patrick Green purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Timothy John Cotter Jr..*



Katy and Patrick Green - October 23, 2025 at 08:34 PM

TM

“ Tracy Meadows lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



Tracy Meadows - October 23, 2025 at 07:10 PM

AG

“ Ariadne Gonzalez lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



Ariadne Gonzalez - October 23, 2025 at 03:45 PM

CL

“ Carrie Lutz lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



Carrie Lutz - October 23, 2025 at 01:43 PM

AJ

“ Anthony Justice lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



Anthony Justice - October 23, 2025 at 01:43 PM

TS

“ Terry Smith lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



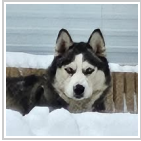
Terry Smith - October 23, 2025 at 01:41 PM

JN

“ Jeffery Newhouse lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



Jeffery Newhouse - October 23, 2025 at 12:29 PM



“ Tim, was a friend, mentor and a calming influence on me. He helped me grow as a leader at BPG and often said he was working on my sensitivity training. We are less without him, and I mourn for his family and friends. Much love

Danny Graham - October 23, 2025 at 08:37 AM

ML

“ Monte & Nicole Lamb lit a candle in memory of Timothy John Cotter Jr.



Monte & Nicole Lamb - October 23, 2025 at 07:45 AM

SM

“ So sorry to hear of Tim’s passing. Thoughts and prayers are with his family and his many friends.

Steve Matheny - October 22, 2025 at 09:56 PM