



## Joseph "Joey" Molland

June 21, 1947 - March 2, 2025

### JOEY MOLLAND

Musician, songwriter, Pop/Rock icon, Joseph Charles Molland II, 77, of Hopkins MN passed peacefully away on March 1, 2025 following a valiant health battle. Preceded in death by parents, Joseph and Jane (Green) Molland; wife, Katherine (Wiggins) Molland; and brothers, Frank, Tony, Chris, and Gordon.

Survived by sons, Joseph Charles Molland III, Shaun Michael Molland; brother, Doug (Elizabeth) Molland; cherished partner, Mary Joyce and her son Will; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Thomas and Lynn Wiggins; many nieces, nephews, and so many dear friends from around the world.

Born in Liverpool, England, Joey spent his life writing and recording countless songs and touring all over the world. His last released album of all original songs entitled *Be True To Yourself* is a masterclass in great pop/rock music and was produced by Mark Hudson in New York. In a full circle moment, John Lennon's son, Julian Lennon, photographed the front and back covers, and sang on that album.

Heavily influenced by American rock and roll, Joey often told of the first time he heard Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, and Buddy Holly on British radio. He was stunned. He dreamed of coming to the USA, and during one American

Badfinger tour, the band was booked to play in Minneapolis where he met the lovely Katherine- who was to become his wife. They were wed in a private ceremony in London in 1972. The newlyweds moved to California, followed by a brief residence in the UK. The young couple ultimately decided to settle in Minnesota where they raised their two sons, but Joey never lost his British roots, or his love for a great shepherd's pie and a pint! As of late, Joey was touring the USA with Todd Rundgren, Christopher Cross, Jason Scheff, and Mickey Dolenz for the Beatles White Album Tribute, as well as touring with his own band, Original Badfinger. Joey loved performing and he was still writing, recording and collaborating. Joey, a self-taught musician, always wrote from his heart rather than goals of seeking commercial success.

Joey was in many bands throughout his prolific career. From 1967-1969 he played in Gary Walker & the Rain, touring Japan. His first real international fame came from joining the British band Badfinger on the Beatles Apple label. Badfinger had many hit records, and many of these songs are an enduring part of both American and British culture. Joey played on George Harrison's albums All Things Must Pass, and the live album The Concert For Bangladesh, which, by 1985, had raised 12 million dollars (and counting) for famine relief. There are too many accolades to list in his vast career, but a few are playing guitar on John Lennon's album Imagine, the song Day After Day, produced by George Harrison as well as Badfinger's many other hit songs in which Joey played lead guitar including Without You , No Matter What , and Baby Blue produced by Todd Rundgren. Baby Blue found a whole new audience as it was featured in the series finale of the popular tv series Breaking Bad. In 1992, Joey released The Pilgrim album. It is considered a hidden gem and was produced by Joey and recorded at the famed Paisley Park Studios with many top Twin Cities musicians, and on which his wife, Kathie, and his sons sang backing vocals and harmony. In 2013, he released his acclaimed album Return To Memphis. There were so many great songs and albums in his career with gold records and Hall of Fame awards along the

way.

Prior to becoming ill, Joey was in the middle of finishing a dream project he always wanted to do -recording an album of Chuck Berry songs in Nashville with his dear friend, producer and artist Phil Solem of the Rembrandts.

But mostly, Joey loved being a Dad and was so extremely proud of his sons. Besides performing, Joey had a real zest for life. He loved hanging out with his many musician friends, and he always said yes to any fundraiser, generously giving up his performance fee for a worthy cause. He was kind, funny, talented, and smart. Joey was also generous with his time, never turning down his patiently waiting fans. He will be so dearly missed by all who were lucky enough to know him, or create music with him. Whenever you hear his music, smile and dance with abandon. He would want it that way.

Funeral service Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 1PM at Living Word Christian Center, 9201 75th Ave N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55428 with visitation one hour prior. Friends and fans are welcome to attend. To view the service virtually, please visit <https://youtube.com/live/o9cJe1z0uyl>

Memorials in Joey's name may be made to the Diabetes Foundation, the Down Syndrome Association, the ASPCA.

[www.Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com)

Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 20. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Living Word Christian Center  
9201 75th Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55428

## Funeral Service

MAR 20. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Living Word Christian Center  
9201 75th Avenue North  
Minneapolis, MN 55428

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ On this Memorial Day of 2026, I'm looking back to my days as Guitar Technician to Joey Molland, I come across photos that should never fade. I miss Joey more than ever. I'll never forget the good times and the care and love Joey had for everyone, along with so many Tour stories. God Bless you Joey.

*Doug Swartz (Guitar Technician)  
(Photo of Joey Molland, Billy Davis and Doug Swartz playing and singing at Joey's home in Minnetonka, MN. (son Joe-Joe Molland in set to left)*



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**Doug Swartz** - May 25 at 01:26 PM

NS

“ Dear “Uncle” Joey, I feel so privileged to have known you. I’m so grateful my parents took me to your shows ever since I was a baby. You always treated me with such kindness and love. Your visits to our house, playing your music on my Dad’s guitar, are very cherished memories. I am so honored you referred to yourself as my Uncle and you’ll always mean the world to me. We miss you and love you deeply. Every time I hear a Badfinger song playing in a store or in a movie, I will smile and think of you. I’ll also never stop showing my friends your music. Rest in peace Joey and my condolences to the entire family, sending everyone love.

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**Natalie Stopyra** - April 02, 2025 at 09:44 PM

TS

“ Joseph and Shaun Molland,

*First, my condolences on your Dad's passing. He was not only a great musician, but a great and kind man. I did not know your father personally, but as a Badfinger fan, I had the privilege of meeting him after concerts on several occasions. The first time I met your Dad, it was after the Airwaves concert at the Texas Opera House in Houston Tx in 1979. He and Tom Evans shook our hands and were kind enough to meet with us on their tour bus. The second time I met your Dad was after their concert at Rockefeller's in Houston with Mike Gibbons in the 80's where he signed my No Dice album and met my wife. My wife and I eventually moved to Worcester, MA. In 1989, we saw Joey and Mike again at Sir Morgan's Cove. Once again, your Dad was kind to meet with us after the gig. Probably my biggest thrill was after a gig he did at the Pig & Whistle back on 1/17/93 in Houston Tx. I was not there, but my good friend and Badfinger fan Peter was there. After the gig, he told your Dad that I was a big Badfinger fan and that I just became a father as my daughter was born on that day. Joey signed the play bill "Tom, congrats on being a Dad". We still have that play bill today. Finally, years later, my wife and I, along with my daughter and son, saw your Dad in Badfinger at an outdoor concert at Quinsigamond Community College. After the concert, I met up with your Dad and he was gracious enough to take a picture with my daughter and son. I wanted to share these memories with you not just as a Joey Molland/Badfinger fan, but to share with you how great of a guy your Dad was! Again, my condolences to you and your families.*

*Best Regards,*

*Tom Shannon  
tshannon6667@gmail.com*

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**Tom Shannon** - March 22, 2025 at 09:48 PM

MS

“ Thank you, Joey, for your friendship of nearly 40 years. We will cherish all the good times we had, our memories, photos, and your music. We love you, miss you, but know that you are at peace. Your legacy will live on.

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**Melanie and Gary Stopyra** - March 21, 2025 at 10:40 PM

KT

“ Had the pleasure of watching Joey perform at Medina Entertainment center in Medina MN and also talking with him and his family there numerous times when he was there watching other artists perform. He would remain on-site long after the artist was done performing and talk music or whatever. RIP.

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**Kyle D Tutsch** - March 20, 2025 at 11:00 AM

PN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Paul Nyman** - March 20, 2025 at 09:52 AM

PN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Paul Nyman** - March 20, 2025 at 09:50 AM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Paul Nyman** - March 20, 2025 at 09:47 AM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Paul Nyman** - March 20, 2025 at 09:34 AM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Paul Nyman** - March 20, 2025 at 09:33 AM

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PN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Paul Nyman** - March 20, 2025 at 09:30 AM

PN

“ Our condolences to The Molland families, Mary Joyce, her family.

*Thank you Joey Molland for being the soundtrack of our lives throughout the 1980's, and up till 2024. We cherish all the great times seeing you perform your music with Badfinger, and much of your solo music. We are so grateful and thankful for relationships with people we met at your concerts from 1987 onward some across several states following your tours and getting the opportunity to meet you backstage with Mike Gibbins on many occasions, and of course the rest of awesome musicians who backed you up young and old. God bless your memory, and God speed to Joey Molland's Legacy.*

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**Paul Nyman** - March 20, 2025 at 09:24 AM

MS

“ *Melanie, Gary, and Natalie Stopyra purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joseph "Joey" Molland.*



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**Melanie, Gary, and Natalie Stopyra** - March 19, 2025 at 08:25 PM

LC

“ I was never able to see Joey or Badfinger play. But I have followed he and his band(s) since the release of “Straight Up” in late 1971. I was a senior in high school at the time, and the album has been a “desert-island-disk” for me ever since. The songs that were played on US radio (Day After Day & Baby Blue by Pete Hamm) are of course brilliant, but it is Joey’s songs, especially Sweet Tuesday Morning, I’d Die Babe, and Sometimes that really make the album work as a whole. I’ve purchased his music all the way up to his most recent album Be True to Yourself, which is full of timeless, melodic music. The Badfinger story is so depressing, but it’s the joy that Joey’s music brought to so many people for decades that will stick with me for the rest of my life. He’ll be singing and playing in Heaven by now. Rest in Peace.

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**Lang Craighill** - March 17, 2025 at 02:20 PM

TL

“ Treasured memories of the Masterminds at the Cavern in August, 1965. RIP, Joey.

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**Thom Lambertson** - March 16, 2025 at 10:09 AM

BE

“ 1 file added to the album Trip to Deadwood



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**Becky** - March 15, 2025 at 05:21 PM

AA

“ 2 files added to the album Willie's 09-09-1999



aamuuzme - March 15, 2025 at 05:12 PM

AA

“ 3 files added to the album At the Dakota



aamuuzme - March 15, 2025 at 05:08 PM

BM

“ 3 files added to the album Trip to Deadwood



Becky and Mike - March 14, 2025 at 02:24 PM

TF

“ The Hopper Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joseph "Joey" Molland.



The Hopper Family - March 11, 2025 at 11:23 PM

VG

“RIP, Badfinger. Joey signed this album for me after a concert, I think it says "The band of Times, Joey Molland, BDF". If I am misreading it, please correct me.



Vladimir Golyakhovsky - March 11, 2025 at 04:09 PM

BA

*BEST of Times*

Barb Atkinson - March 12, 2025 at 12:49 AM

VG

*Thanks*

Vladimir Golyakhovsky - March 12, 2025 at 09:30 AM

MC

*Words cannot express my sorrow you for all of Joey's family, myself, and the world at this time. Joey meant so much to us all, and I want you to know how much he meant to me. I am sending out as much love as I can to all of Joey's family. God speed to Joey – may he rest in peace. Love and prayers, Michael.*

Michael Cimino - March 13, 2025 at 05:03 PM

K(

*R.I.P. Joey Molland of one great band.*

Katherine M. Robertson (Pumjami) - March 20, 2025 at 03:49 PM

CS

*Truly kind, witty, and talented. Godspeed, Joey. You will not be forgotten.*

Char Smith - March 21, 2025 at 08:59 AM

SU

“ I was always a fan of Joey since I was a teenager in high school and it followed him in the band through all my ears. I was devastated to find out the other day that he had passed away. I saw him in concert last year and I was hoping to meet him after the concert and I gave someone a necklace to make sure they gave it to him whether or not he got it I don't know but I hope he did. God bless you, Joey. I do love you.

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**suebennett56@icloud.com** - March 11, 2025 at 03:33 PM

BA

“ 5 files added to the album Better Days



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**Barb Atkinson** - March 11, 2025 at 12:56 AM

LN

“ Lang Craighill, Wilmington NC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joseph “Joey” Molland.

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**Lang Craighill, Wilmington NC** - March 10, 2025 at 05:30 PM

LN

“ *Lang Craighill, Wilmington NC purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joseph "Joey" Molland.*



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**Lang Craighill, Wilmington NC** - March 10, 2025 at 05:30 PM

JB

“ *Jeff, Laura and Christian Baenen purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Joseph "Joey" Molland.*



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**Jeff, Laura and Christian Baenen** - March 10, 2025 at 03:10 PM



“ I became a fan of Joey, through Badfinger in the early 1970s. I first saw him perform in 1979, when Joe and Tommy played in my home town of Tulsa, OK. By 1986, Joe was touring regularly and I would go see him whenever he played in the area and visit with him after the show. He would always make you feel like an old friend coming to visit. I soon found myself traveling to shows around the country and socializing with Joe more and more. At some point, I also thought of Joe as a friend. I made life long friends with dozens of others across the country, who had a similar bond. Joe was a special guy that made this happen, without even trying. It wasn't just all about the music. Joe had a magic about him that brought people together. He was gregarious, sociable, and funny. People naturally loved him. His passing will leave an unfillable void in my life, just as it will to all others who knew him. My deepest condolences to Joe's sons, Joey and Shaun, his girl Mary and her son Will, and all the others who far are too numerous to name who are grieving over this loss.

*Barb Alan Atkinson*

*Herkv ofv, fekvpkv emeyoksvt seko.*



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**Barb Atkinson** - March 08, 2025 at 07:24 PM