

In Memorium

Ian Thomas Kelley, 42, a long-time resident of the Grand Valley, passed away on September 23, 2026 after a brief illness. He was General Manager and Comptroller at Wine Country Inn in Palisade, CO.

A devoted husband, father, son and friend, Ian was best known for his integrity, optimism, fairness, loyalty, sense of humor, infectious laugh and joyful approach to life.

Ian was born on June 28, 1984 in Steamboat Springs, CO, where he grew up. Ian received his diploma from Hayden High School in 2002 and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting at Mesa State College (now Colorado Mesa University) in 2010.

While at Mesa State, he began a 19-year employment history with the owners of Quality Inn hotel in 2007, working part time as a night auditor, then as an accountant and front desk agent after graduation.

In June 2014, he was promoted to General Manager of Wine Country Inn, and later as Comptroller of all business operations by the owners, who credit much of the success of those properties to his management skills and professionalism.

Additionally, Ian led the WCI team hosting Edesia: A Culinary, Wine and Spirits Adventure, the annual fund-raiser to benefit Prime Health Plus' (formerly Marillac Clinic) care for uninsured and under-insured patients in Mesa County.

He also served on the Town of Palisade's Tourism Commission. Local media often turned to him as the voice of Palisade lodging.

An avid outdoorsman, Ian enjoyed exploring nature with his family and hiking, camping, fishing, dirt biking and snowmobiling with his friends in nearby mountains.

Beloved by his family, friends, work family, business and civic colleagues, Ian positively affected the lives of all who knew him. He is survived by his wife and children, his parents, sister, in-laws, extended family located across the U.S, and a large circle of mostly Colorado friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society or to Prime Health Plus (formerly Marillac Clinic), causes that were close to Ian's heart.

