



Aaron Tyler Engle

June 29, 1993 - December 13, 2014

In Loving Memory Aaron Tyler Engle Aaron Tyler Engle passed away on December 12, 2014. He was born on June 29, 1993, to Frank and Patsy Engle in Newberg. He attended Veritas School during his elementary years, followed by homeschooling during middle school. He attended high school at C.S. Lewis Academy, graduating in 2012. Over the past two years, he took classes at George Fox University. Music was Aaron's passion. He was gifted on piano, guitar, bass, and banjo and known for his extensive knowledge about musicians and musical instruments. Cinematography and art inspired him, and he often shared ideas or discussed film concepts with fellow students. He enjoyed visiting art museums with his family, especially where works of his favorite artist, Mark Rothko, were displayed. All who knew Aaron will remember his compassion and integrity. He chose to sit at lunch with students who needed a friend and often understood the moods of his friends, giving heartfelt words of encouragement and support. After his mother died in 2010, he cared deeply for his father and brother, composing music and play lists for them as well as often asking, with deep sincerity, how they were doing. In 2013, Aaron was diagnosed with bi-polar disorder and patiently worked with professionals and his family to alleviate his severe depression. His family will always cherish the love they shared during this difficult journey. Aaron is survived by his father and step-mother, Frank and Janelle; brother, Tim; maternal grandparents, Glen and Aloma Whittenberg of Marion, IN; and paternal grandparents, Frank and Frances Engle, Sr., of Newberg; as well as aunts, uncles, and cousins. He also leaves behind his beloved dog, Gidget. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 10, 10 a.m., at Newberg Friends Church (307 S College St). An Aaron Engle Memorial Fund has been established at C.S. Lewis Academy for students in need of professional counseling or other mental health resources. The school's staff lovingly directed Aaron's family to helpful support while Aaron was a student, and this fund will help other students in the future. The school's address is: P.O. Box 3250, Newberg, OR 97132. The family is grateful for the generous outpouring of love and support from their friends, C.S. Lewis Academy, George Fox University and the Newberg community. Arrangements are in the care of Attrell's Newberg Funeral Chapel, a Golden Rule funeral home. Online condolences may be made at <http://www.attrells.com>.

Comments



“ 6 years later, and I still frequently think of Aaron and I still feel that my words can never do him justice. I've never met anyone like him before or since and I don't know if I related to almost anyone more than him. I still proudly own one of the bowls he made out of old vinyl records. I remember his favorite cigarettes were Newports, his favorite beer was Hefe by Widmer brothers, and one of his favorite musicians, if not his favorite, was Nick Drake. One time he came over and we split a six pack and smoked while we watched a documentary on Nick Drake's life. Afterwards we listened to one of Aaron's many playlists and just talked about life. He was always so thoughtful and genuine and knowledgeable about so many topics. I don't smoke anymore, but that afternoon is still among my favorite memories.

We were so young when he died. How I wish he could have lived longer. So many times I've wished I could call him up and get his perspective on what's going on in the world. I wish I could still ask him to play me a song on his guitar. I wish I could have seen him grow old enough to find someone he loved, regardless of their gender. I wish he could have seen gay marriage legalized. I sometimes wonder if that would have provided at least a little bit of the hope he was looking for. I wish I could have seen him learn how to conquer his bipolar disorder. There are so many things I wish I could have done and seen with him. One of the most simple is that I wish I could see another movie with him.

The last time he came over, we watched the Nightmare Before Christmas. I hadn't seen it before at that point and he'd insisted I needed to. It was only a few weeks before he passed. We usually spent a lot of our time talking, but this time was different. I could tell something was on his mind, but it seemed like he just wanted to relax so that's what we did. It was a slow, enjoyable evening but I worried I hadn't said enough. However, as he was leaving he told me what ended up being the last words he'd ever speak to me: "Thanks Bob, I really needed this."

I wish I could have helped him more. I know I did what I could, and I know others tried helping him too. I told him I was there if he ever wanted to talk or just hang out and we often did until it was no longer possible. But I wish as much as anyone else that something could have been done to stop what happened. Because at that time of my life, I needed him just as much as he needed me.

Accepting that he's gone and moving through life without him was a challenge and some days it still is. After all, it's not often you make a friend like him. But I've learned to cherish the memories I shared with him, and I am thankful for the time with him that I got. It's cliché but I truly believe it is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all.

I don't know if anyone will read this, but I was too broken up to attend Aaron's memorial service so I never had a chance to share my thoughts and feelings about him and I've always regretted it. If anyone else out there thinks about him on a near daily basis still, please know you are not alone. He may be gone, but he'll never be forgotten.



“ I did not know Aaron, but my heart and prayers go out to his family. What a nice looking young man. May God be very close to each of you during this difficult time.

Myrna - January 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Engle family, Thoughts and prayers for the family in this time of loss! God bless! Frank & Peggy(Puckett) Morse

Peggy (Puckett) Morse - January 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Frank, Janelle and Tim, What a beautiful celebration of Aaron today. We are all struggling with the loss of such an amazing young man. You are in my thoughts and prayers daily as you walk this painful road. I knew Aaron best when he was a young child and I was then the children's pastor at Newberg Friends Church. Aaron's smile was contagious. He had verve. He lived the beauty of life. I rarely left an interaction with him without my spirit being uplifted. Even then he felt and understood the world at a deep level. He was generous and kind in his interactions with fellow classmates and teachers. He is and will continue to be deeply missed by the many he touched during his life. I carry with me his charming, genuine smile. Love, Irene Rice Dunlop

Irene Rice Dunlop - January 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Remembering you with sincere sympathy and love. We remember your time at Boise Friends when our first child was "testing the waters" of teenage years. Thank you for the care you gave our family. We wish we could say or do something to help ease you and your families' pain. Please know that you are loved and appreciated! Sincerely, Dave and Bev Davenport

Dave and Bev Davenport - January 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ What a beautiful tribute to Aaron. We can only begin to understand the pain of his journey and your loss. Hugs and prayers, dear friends.

Lon and Raelene Fendall - January 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Engle Family, I am so terribly sorry for your loss, and no doubt grieve with you. It makes me so sad that I am unable to attend Aaron's memorial service tomorrow in Newberg, since I am back in Nampa now getting ready for school. Aaron was a wonderful and genuine guy, and I have many fond memories from high school with him. He was my first new friend when I moved to Oregon in 2009, and immediately made me feel welcome in our class at CSLA. I will never forget our first real conversation at CSLA camp sophomore year, when we talked about deceitful/inappropriate images in Disney movies and how kids miss a lot of the jokes. We had lots of good times hanging out together with Evan, Andrew, and sometimes Kenzy Hagen during lunch breaks sophomore and junior year, and I felt privileged that he trusted me enough to ask for my advice during the first year I met him. Aaron was a thoughtful, funny, and extremely talented young man that I always admired. I remember high school at CSLA fondly, and cannot imagine our class without him. Aaron first introduced me to some different music artists than I was used to, such as Coldplay and The Killers. Coldplay is still my favorite band and I can't help but think of Aaron when I hear particular albums, and thank him for that :-). It makes me sad to know that the last time I saw Aaron was a year ago at Christmas time, before I left the country for 4 months. During the last couple of years we were not close anymore, but that does not take away any pain due to the loss of his life. I am so sorry that your family has been through another painful tragedy of loss. But, hopefully as all of you can as well, I find comfort knowing that Aaron is with Jesus and is finally able to find consistent and sustaining peace. May God be strongly present with your family as you grieve, and always. Nikki (Bontrager) Dunbar

Nikki (Bontrager) Dunbar - January 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ We will be thinking of you tomorrow and praying that Aaron's service can be a special and perfect tribute to his life. Love you all so much!! Dave, Carol, and family

Carol and Dave Schmidt - January 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ My dear friend Harriet and your extended family, I am so very, very sorry to hear of this tragic loss of your nephew Aaron. (To Aaron's family), I am a childhood friend of the Whittenberg family from their days living in Kalama . . . Harriet and I graduated together and I also knew Glenda and Patsy well. My dad Ken worked with Grandpa Glenn at the Kalama grain elevator. Bi-polar disorder is so scary . . . I have another friend whose son has been diagnosed with it, as has my niece. My heart goes out to your family grieving the loss of what sounds like a very special young man. He's at peace with his mom now and I hope that brings you some comfort along with your memories of his short but beautiful life. With most sincere sympathy, Gloria

Gloria (Dickey) Schroeter - January 03, 2015 at 12:00 AM