



Ryan Matthew Steward

December 19, 2013

Ryan Steward, age 21, died December 19, 2013, at his Albuquerque home following a life-long illness. He received his angel wings while in the loving arms of his mother, comforted by his father, brother, sister-in-law and his faithful companion dog, Duke, who was a gift to Ryan from the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Ryan is survived by his father and mother, Brad and Lori Steward; his brother and his brother's wife, Michael and Katelynn Steward of Albuquerque; his grandparents, Jim and Shirley Steward of Albuquerque and Donald Heise of Westminster, California; and many loving aunts, uncles and cousins. Ryan was preceded in death by his grandmother, Ila Heise of Westminster, California.

With Ryan's passing we are reminded that life is a precious and fragile gift and should be celebrated each day. Although he will be missed terribly every day, especially his bright eyes and beautiful smile, he will be forever in our hearts. For Ryan, the smallest gains were a triumph, and although Ryan never had sight and could never walk or talk, he positively impacted our family and many others who witnessed the strength and courage he exhibited as he faced exceptional challenges every day of his life. As we grieve the loss of our precious Ryan, we are comforted by our faith and the knowledge that he is now free from pain and suffering and in the loving arms of Christ.

As a family we are grateful to the many caring medical professionals who have provided care and support to Ryan throughout his life. We are especially thankful for Ryan's long-time loving home nurses, Nettie and Bonnie. We have

also been blessed by the UNMH Mariposa Pediatric Hospice Team, in particular, Cynthia, who provided compassionate care to Ryan and our family in the last part of Ryan's life.

A service to celebrate Ryan's life will be held on Friday, December 27, 2013 at 5:00 pm at Faith Lutheran Church, 10000 Spain Road NE, Albuquerque.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Ryan's memory to Joni & Friends, a Christian disability organization; joniandfriends.org; PO BOX 3333, Agoura Hills, CA and/or New Mexico Make-A-Wish Foundation; newmexico.wish.org, 144 Louisiana Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108. Please indicate "Ryan Steward - Albuquerque" in the memo section of your check or on-line donation.

newmexico.wish.org

New Mexico Make-A-Wish Foundation

144 Louisiana Blvd. NE

Albuquerque, NM 87108

joniandfriends.org

Joni and Friends

P.O. Box 3333

Agoura Hills, CA 91376-3333

FRENCH – Wyoming

7121 Wyoming Blvd. NE

(505) 823-9400

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC **27**. 5:00 PM (MT)

Faith Lutheran
10000 Spain Road NE
Albuquerque, NM

Tribute Wall

EV

“ Steward Family, we send our sincerest of condolences to your family. We are also part of the Medically Fragile program. Our daughter Kristina Cathryn Viramontes also got her angel wings on December 26, 2013 so we know the great pain and loss that you are feeling as well. The pain of losing her is great and we send hugs and blessings to you. The Viramontes Family...Emily, Ernest, and Camryn, Las Cruces, NM

emily viramontes - January 15, 2014 at 01:27 PM

MB

“ Steward Family,

We feel so fortunate to have befriended your family so many years ago. It has been amazing to witness the immense love your family has for Ryan—not only Brad and Lori, as wonderful parents, but also Michael and his new bride Kate as a terrific big brother and sister-in-law. Working in the field of Special Education in New Mexico, we will always remember the special bond we have with Ryan. When we were neighbors in Carriage Estates, we enjoyed stopping by your house and being welcomed by a HUGE smile from Ryan. Throughout the years, when visiting ABQ, it brought our family such joy to come over and watch Ryan's eyes light up! I remember when we attended Lori's mom's funeral, and there was Ryan, sitting in the motor home. We were also able to see Ryan at Michael's recent wedding—and, again, there was that great smile. We are sending our prayers to your family and will think of Ryan's smile when we look up at the stars in heaven.

--The Bakers

Mindi Baker - January 02, 2014 at 09:46 PM

CD

“Lori and Brad, so sorry to hear of your loss of Ryan. I lost my Mom on the 24th, and I know that she and Ryan on sharing something we only long for: to be worshiping at the feet of Jesus. I picture Ryan running, jumping, laughing and playing with all the other beautiful children who went before him. May you find comfort knowing he is no longer in pain. Thank you for your friendship. Wes and Cheryle Daniels parents of Joseph.

Cheryle Daniels - January 02, 2014 at 06:01 PM

AB

“My condolences to the family of Ryan. I am very sorry for your loss and wish to share a a comforting thought from God's word.

Revelation 21:3,4. With that I heard A loud voice from the throne say: "Look! The the tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his people. And God himself will be with them. And he will wipe every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will morning nor outcry nor pain be any more. The former things have passed away."

I hope this brings you some comfort and also what is said at Acts 24:15 is a wonderful promise to see Ryan again, but healthy.

adam brown - December 31, 2013 at 10:15 AM

SC

“Lori and family,
Ever since our old Hubert Humphrey days on through Academy, I always remember Lori and Ryan helping at school and attending many events through the years. We do not pretend to know how difficult it is to have a child with special needs, but from our view, your family had an edge over us all in understanding what is truly important. You showed us all such grace in how you lived your everyday lives. Even though we have not kept in touch or were very close, your family made an impact on us because of the gift you were given with Ryan. Our hearts break for your loss but I believe he left you with so much! God Bless you all.

Dennis, Sally, Shelley and Charlie Casey

Sally Casey - December 30, 2013 at 07:13 AM

KR

“Brad, Lori and family - our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of sorrow. May you be comforted by God's everlasting love and the knowledge that Ryan is at rest in the palm of His hand.

Karen and Jamey Randall

Karen Randall - December 28, 2013 at 03:55 PM

DA

“I'm very sorry to hear about Ryan! My condolences goes out to the family and friends. I to have lost a loved one and found this article very encouraging. Found at
<http://www.jw.org/en/bible-teachings/questions/when-you-die/>
I hope it will bring you comfort as it has me. Remember
1Corinthians1:3-7
"God of all comfort" will comfort those in need.

David - December 28, 2013 at 11:04 AM

BM

“ Please accept the sincere condolences for the loss of Ryan. He was always welcomed in our office and we enjoyed taking care of Ryan. Ryan will always be remembered in our hearts. We hope that you are doing well and remembering the happiness that Ryan brought into your lives. Now he is an angel and always looking after your family.

Physicians and Staff of Albuquerque Pediatric Associates, Ltd.

Becky Turney, Office Manager - December 27, 2013 at 01:01 PM

PB

“ Steward Family, I am sorry for the loss you feel, but in a little while you will be together again. In a place where there is no more sorrow and no more pain. It is a place where Ryan can walk and talk and never get tired. There is no doubt that Ryan knew how much you all loved him. Some day he will tell you himself.

*Paul Bates
La Cueva High School*

Paul Bates - December 27, 2013 at 12:38 PM

MT

“ Dear Brad and to all your family,
My heart goes out to you but rejoices that
your son is now at peace. May you have
many blessings now and in the future.
Marie Thames



Marie Thames - December 27, 2013 at 11:57 AM

NH

“ Dear Lori and Brad,
Now that Ryan is running free with Christ in Paradise, may you let Christ give you peace and joy knowing God choose you to love and care for such a precious son!

Lori, you have been more than a mom, you have demonstrated what it is to serve God with the unconditional love He has shown through His son Jesus.

I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

Michael and Katelynn,

May the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you strong through this time.

We are praying for all of you and your family!

With much Love,
Nancy and Douglas Henry

Nancy Henry - December 27, 2013 at 11:22 AM

CB

Thank you for such a wonderful message, my dear friend. You have been a part of our family for 30(plus) years and your support for Brad, Lori, Michael, Kate, and the rest of us means so much. Love you...Cyndi

Cyndi Brault - December 28, 2013 at 07:38 PM

MG

“Lori, Brad, and family,
Our deepest sympathy is with you. May you find comfort in all your
great memories of Ryan. Mona Ghattas, Jay Guthrie and Iric and
Alec

Mona Ghattas - December 27, 2013 at 10:46 AM

MD

“Ryan was a precious child of God---what a wonderful photo of him--
-you can see the joy in his eyes and smile! May God give you His
strength, peace and comfort through this sad time. Blessed be God
who is our only source of hope!
love, Marty and Jack Dallman

Marty Dallman - December 24, 2013 at 03:05 PM



“4 files added to the album Memories Album



FRENCH Funerals & Cremations - December 24, 2013 at 09:32 AM

KP

“Lori, Brad and family,
So sorry for your loss, keeping you in our thoughts and prayers
during this very difficult time.
Karen & T-Bone Peer
SCCV

Karen Peer - December 24, 2013 at 07:09 AM

DB

“Dear Brad & Lori, We grieve with you two over the passing of your
son. We pray that God will be very near and dear to you at this time
and help you heal from your tremendous loss. BLESSINGS 2 U,
Bob & Donna Benson

Donna Benson - December 24, 2013 at 06:23 AM

JM

“My deepest sympathy to you Lori and family. Your family is an
inspiration to me and many others. I picture Ryan in the loving arms
of our Savior and also his Grandmother who I knew loved it so
much. May God bless you.

Julie Marquardt - December 23, 2013 at 03:44 PM

NG

“May God bless you during this difficult time. My thoughts and
prayers are with you and that you find strength & comfort in knowing
Ryan is with our Lord.
Nicole Glasrud

Nicole Glasrud - December 23, 2013 at 09:09 AM

RD

“ *Lori & family-
You are in our thoughts and prayers as you
face this most difficult trial ever. Our children
are precious gifts and Ryan will be missed by
you to a level most will never know.
Love and prayers,
Rebekah & family*



Rebekah Deane - December 22, 2013 at 11:28 PM

MY

“ *My deepest condolences to the Steward family. Lori, you were the
best Mom to Ryan and I always admired your love & dedication to
Ryan. Love, Myra from Dr. Zuniga's office.*

myra - December 22, 2013 at 08:08 PM

TF

“ *We will always remember Ryan as one of our biggest baseball fans
at Eastdale. Love to the entire Steward family. The Shul Family*

The Shul Family - December 22, 2013 at 06:14 PM

TA

“ *Our deepest condolences to the family and dear friends of Ryan,
We too have lost a loved one in death. One thing we found to give
us true comfort was this hope please follow this link and let the
"God of all comfort give" you peace of mind 2 Corinthians 1:3 . I
hope this helps as it did for us. <http://www.jw.org/en/publications/magazines/g200809/death-is-it-the-end/>*

Taleisha - December 22, 2013 at 11:33 AM

BS

“ I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with Ryan for several years thru the APS Homebound program. I will always remember his expressions of joy. He was loved. Brenda Sylvest

Brenda Sylvest - December 22, 2013 at 09:20 AM

JC

“ On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.

Joel Chavez - December 21, 2013 at 03:50 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



FRENCH Funerals & Cremations - December 21, 2013 at 03:47 PM