

It's been a year since I last saw him smile at me. It's been a year since we've shared a laugh together. It's been a year since he's wrapped his arms around me and gave me one of his world-famous hugs. One year ago today Aaron took the hand of an angel and left us here on earth. Tonight is such a special night and I want to thank everyone who is here who loved Aaron and is here to honor such an amazing life. The most incredible memory of Aaron that I have is myself - who I was and who I am as a result of his influence in my life. After Aaron's death, I felt empty inside. My future plans and goals that I had set for myself suddenly seemed incredibly trivial and tremendously unimportant. The motivation I once had was nowhere to be found. Nothing else really mattered to me any longer, the only wish or desire I felt was to get him back. I know that even though it hurts so much to not have Aaron with us anymore, ultimately it is going to be for an amazing purpose in my life and for the lives of those who loved Aaron and who Aaron loved. The things I once held to be so important in life, like getting into the right college and having a successful career are meaningless without your loved ones. Friends and family is what makes our lives rich, not possessions, accomplishments, or achievements. All of those things become so pointless and futile without the ones we love by our side. Being where you want to be, with who you want to be with creates the only true happiness there is. Please hold on to the ones you love so very tight, and enjoy your time together, because it is so very special and so priceless. I would do absolutely anything to have just one more moment with Aaron.

"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

~Romans 8:28~

"Though tragedy, heartache, and sorrow abound, and many a hardship in life will be found, I'll put all my trust in the Savior of Light, for he can bring hope in the darkest of night."

Don't go for looks, they can deceive,
Don't go for wealth, even that fades away,
Go for someone who makes your heart smile,
because it only takes a smile to make a dark day seem bright.
Find the one who makes your heart smile.

Aaron had such a special way of making everyone's day brighter and making everyone's heart smile.

God made Aaron for a reason and his life had such a profound meaning. He lived out God's purpose for him in sixteen years, and has changed so many lives just by being who he was. That is something so incredibly special. Aaron's life will always be celebrated, throughout all of our actions in life, and most importantly in our hearts, living and loving everyone just as Aaron did. Always remember

DREAM BIG!

WRITTEN BY
A FRIEND OF
AARON'S 1 YR AFTER
HE WAS GONE.