



Caleb Avery Hardman

September 8, 1998 - February 1, 2021

Caleb Avery Hardman passed away in Salt Lake on 2/1/21. He was born on 9/8/98 (such memorable numbers!) and welcomed to the world by birth mother Tracy Freeman plus aunt Randa Briggs, cousin Jolie DeVries and grandma Laura Briggs — and then adoptive parents Linda and Daniel Hardman. Caleb's first years were spent in Pleasant Grove as the 4th of 7 children — a little boy full of curiosity and energy. He was a very early and clear talker. His pockets were full of string and screws. He loved animals, nerf guns, and cool cars. His collection of legos and matchbox cars was impressive. He had a mischievous sense of humor. He constantly took things apart and put them back together again. He had a remarkable talent for seeing and finding things.

Caleb's family moved to American Fork while he was still young, and he considered that his home base. He struggled mightily with anxiety, depression, and impulsivity, and this burden grew heavier as he approached teenage years. He lived in several places to seek help. He chased lizards in Hurricane, cared for goats in Cedar City, baled hay and helped foal horses in Koosharem, and spent time in Eagle Mountain, Ogden, and Erda. He learned to ride skateboards and built a half pipe with his uncle. He became a Pittsburgh Steelers fan. He read Dirk Pitt novels and his dad's science fiction. He developed an impressive talent for drawing. He ran a 50-mile relay. He was the proud owner of a fancy Ford Mustang. He graduated from high school early. He worked in construction, landscaping, and at a hardware store.

During his travels Caleb spent time with another important family: Kristine Buck, her daughter Hailey Davis, and her son Wyatt Fitzgerald-Buck. They became an additional loving support that he treasured. Caleb also built a deep bond with Dustin Keating, who he considered another brother, as well as other friends and virtual family too numerous to be named.

Caleb had a dazzling smile and a tender heart. Although he had a knack for humor that triggered lots of laughter, those who knew him best were familiar with his sadness and frustration. He sometimes lashed out. However, he also showed great kindness, sincerely

complimented people, championed the defenseless, and fought bravely to conquer his demons. He apologized and tried to make amends. He fiercely loved his families and close friends. These are the characteristics that best reflect his true nature.

Caleb met Trinity Stockholm in late 2019, and they began a life together. He often commented how grateful he was for her, and how very much he loved her. Caleb also reunited with his birth mother and aunt, and found joy in that connection.

Caleb is survived by his parents, by six siblings (Ethan, Lauren, Maia, Sean, Dylan, and Genevieve), and by a dog, Sadie, who could barely contain her enthusiasm each time she saw him. We are sure he was embraced by Grandpa Felt, Grandma Laura, Great Grandmas Wilkerson and Hyatt, Tilly, Aunt Janin, and cousins Damon and Gage on the other side.

Events

FEB **Celebration of Life** 07:00PM - 08:00PM

8

Caleb Hardman- Zoom

UT, US

Comments



“ What I am missing most about Caleb are the sweet and thoughtful texts and phone calls from him. He often left very kind and simple messages but they were sincere and mattered to me. His last two texts to me were:

"Thank you mom "

"Your the best mom "

My message to Caleb is the same:

Thank you Caleb Your the best Caleb!

I love you!

Linda Hardman - February 23 at 02:45 PM



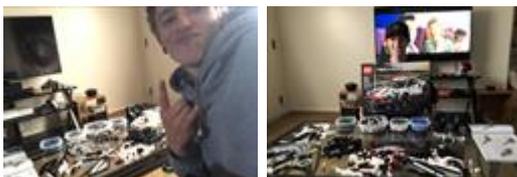
“ 72 files added to the album Memories



Uncle Stephen - February 14 at 07:40 PM



“ Caleb's lego Porsche I got him for his birthday, we both shared such a love for legos I had always been scared and nervous about telling anyone that I loved legos as an adult but Caleb and I fully embraced it together



Trinity Stockholm - February 12 at 01:52 PM



“ I will always remember two Calebs - Caleb the energetic child, leading the pack of little boy cousins in a nerf gun war; and Caleb the grown up guy, sweet, soft spoken, quick with a hug and a smile, with a beautiful young queen on his arm. I will love and miss you Caleb until I greet you in heaven and hug you so hard and tell you again that I love you so!

Susan Yorgason - February 10 at 06:29 PM



“ I met Caleb when I was still in high school. He came down to see me. We went to the park down the street and talked for hours. He had such a kind heart and hearing his hardships showed me how strong he was. I hadn't talked to him for awhile but this still absolutely breaks my heart. He will be missed.

Kelsey Clegg - February 10 at 01:09 PM



“ I haven't talked to Caleb in a long time, but when I had moved back to Utah from Texas, I was somewhere around 6 years old, I struggled to feel like I fit in with my family. All of my girl cousins were older, or younger, and I didn't exactly have the same interests as the boys. Caleb was always nice to me, without fail. I know for a fact for a while he was easily my favorite. I wish I'd spoken to him more recently, but he meant a lot to 6 year old me. Thank you for making a little girl smile. -your cousin Emily

Emily Felt - February 09 at 04:55 PM



“ The recording of "Beautiful Boy" by Caleb's uncle, Joe Felt:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/kBKx9pk21FQNnPpo7>

Daniel Hardman - February 09 at 01:41 AM



“ Here is the slide show that we shared during the memorial tonight:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/zK9CNugSqTGY1fhs9>

Daniel Hardman - February 09 at 01:39 AM



“ Thanks to Stephen Felt for putting this together.

Daniel Hardman - February 09 at 01:40 AM



“ Here is a recording of the public memorial where we shared memories:
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/dMko99qGMht4zECU6>

Daniel Hardman - February 09 at 12:32 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



jessica sweet - February 08 at 10:54 PM



“ This was beautiful! Thank you so much for sharing! (from Caleb's dad)

Daniel Hardman - February 09 at 12:37 AM



“ This is a wonderful tribute. Thanks so much.

Susan - February 10 at 06:24 PM



“ Thanks to all of Caleb's friends who made this video in his honor. I appreciate your words of support and your friendship with him.

Linda Hardman - February 23 at 02:54 PM



“ Another thing I love about the comments shared in this video is that over and over Caleb's friends call him "brother." That is very meaningful. It tells me you were close to him and knew him well. Thank you for being there for him.

Linda Hardman - February 23 at 03:05 PM



“ Caleb was always so nice to me, and always said "Hi Brother Stevenson" with a big smile. I will miss that! - Todd Stevenson

Todd Stevenson - February 08 at 10:50 PM



“ His birthday present.
-Tracy Freeman



Jolie DeVries - February 08 at 03:47 PM



“ My first Mother's Day with my son 2020
-Tracy Freeman



Jolie DeVries - February 08 at 03:46 PM



“ Beautiful Boy
-Tracy Freeman



Jolie DeVries - February 08 at 03:45 PM



“ My mini-me
-Tracy Freeman



Jolie Devries - February 08 at 03:43 PM



“ My pride and joy!!!!
-Tracy Freeman



Jolie Devries - February 08 at 03:42 PM



“ First time we saw each other again in 22 years. April 2020
-Tracy Freeman



Jolie Devries - February 08 at 03:40 PM



“ First Christmas with my son 2020
-Tracy Freeman



Jolie Devries - February 08 at 03:38 PM