



Joseph T Gawrysiak

November 15, 1995 - May 22, 2017

Joseph T. Gawrysiak, age 21, of Merrillville, passed away May 22, 2017. He was a graduate of Merrillville High School Class of 2014, attended college at IUB and IUN; Joseph received his chords for Spanish honor society, played guitar, was a free spirit who enjoyed life and was loved by many and will be missed by all. He loved to travel and had been to Spain, Germany and all through Europe.

Joseph was preceded in death by his grandparents-Norbert and Florence Gawrysiak. He is survived by his loving mother-Michelle (Ralph Pidgeon) Gawrysiak; biological father-Rene Vasquez; sisters-Brenda Voss, Caitlin Pidgeon; loving uncle-John (Dana) Gawrysiak; cousin-Danielle Gawrysiak; soulmate-Olivia A. Garcia; "sister" –Miranda Fontecchio; "Aunt"-Jennifer Barker; "Aunt"- Bobbie Blackwell; godmother-Mary Lou Suriano; many other loving friends and family.

Funeral service for Joseph will be Friday, May 26, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at Burns Funeral Home, 701 East 7th Street, Hobart. Friends may visit with his family on Thursday from 2-8:00 p.m. at Burns. Interment at Calumet Park Cemetery. www.burnsfuneral.com.

Cemetery Details

Calumet Park Cemetery

2305 W. 73rd Ave.
Merrillville, IN 46410

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 25. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home - Hobart
701 E. 7th Street
Hobart, IN 46342
(219) 942-1117
info@burnsfuneral.com
<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

funeral

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Tribute Wall

GM

“ I had the opportunity to be one of the four instructors who traveled with Joseph to Oviedo Spain. Seeing him growing along the way was one the best experiences the four of us had. Joseph started as a shy and quiet student, although very observant. We even have funny memories of him when he walked into a church and saw a post saying that they should remain silent, since it was a sacred place. After reading that post, he looked at one of the instructors and made a joke "I think I won't have problems with that"! We all laughed. Even tough Joseph was not the most talkative student in the program, he was definitely a student who always spoke with his soul. Every word that came out of his mouth was meaningful. He was Alta's so caring with everyone, he loved his Spanish family as much they loved him. He was bright! At our final show the students decided to make a version of the Wizard of the Oz and they chose him to be our Wizard of Oz, they all could see the inner power Joseph had.

At our "fiesta de despedida" in Madrid, Joseph once more surprised us by giving the most touching speech I've ever heard during the program. Once again we could see his beautiful soul. I thank you Michelle for the opportunity you gave us to share this experience with Joseph. He was a bright person and will be always remembers as such.

Fly high my dear Joseph!

Giselle Martins (Student coordinator and Joseph instructor at Honors Program in Oviedo, Spain)

Giselle Martins - May 25, 2017 at 03:18 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph T Gawrysiak.*



May 25, 2017 at 11:09 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph T Gawrysiak.*



May 25, 2017 at 10:48 AM



“ *Mary Helen, Mark & Mia Killion, Sandy & Ron Parent purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Joseph T Gawrysiak.*



Mary Helen, Mark & Mia Killion, Sandy & Ron Parent - May 24, 2017 at 08:50 PM



“ *Michelle, we are so very sorry for your loss. Joseph was a very likable person, always very polite to us when we saw him. I know we didn't get to visit with him much however we want to let you know our thoughts and prayers are with you always. Cindy and Brent Roach*

Cindy and Brent - May 24, 2017 at 07:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph T Gawrysiak.*

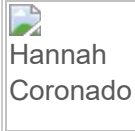


May 24, 2017 at 02:19 PM



“ *Joseph has been a great influence and friend to all who've known him! I'm so broken to hear his presence will no longer be here on this physical plane with us any longer. But truly his memory will live on as he heads out on his next journey! He touched this community in a very big way and will deeply be missed. His passing was nothing short of the day the music died in our town. He effected other countries and inspired anormous groups of people to create AMAZING music! Spreading his message to all who would listen, his testimony of how he views the world. This man's legacy will go on. Everyone he's encountered has taken a part of him with them and will hold it dear!*

Brandi McSwain - May 24, 2017 at 08:22 AM



Hannah Coronado

“ Dear Michelle,
He grew from a kind, quiet boy to a strong, silent man before our very eyes. Thank you very much for bringing him into this world so that I was able to know him. He has always been one of my very favorite students, and I have very fond memories of him. Just an outstanding individual. The world is a great deal dimmer today, but heaven is shining twice as brightly. I will always remember how hard he worked and how much you all overcame in order for him to travel to Spain. I will never forget the light in his eyes when he came back to show us how much he had grown. I'm so sorry and my heart breaks for you and everyone who knows him, but just as much for those who now will never get to.

He will always have a special place in our hearts.

Sincerely,
Hannah Coronado
MHS Spanish

Hannah Coronado - May 23, 2017 at 08:45 PM



PL

“ Youth bowling brought me to know Joseph. So shy. Such talent with music and very passionate in the arts. My heart is heavy knowing Michelle is now w/out her son, something that should never take place. I send my sincere condolences to Michelle and Ralph and the family. May you soon recall the things that made you smile with Joseph rather than the sadness that is what you are experiencing now. -Paula Larson

Paula Larson - May 23, 2017 at 12:58 PM



MG

My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.
Marcia Gawrysiak

Marcia Gawrysiak - May 23, 2017 at 01:10 PM



sorry for your lose of your loving son,my two churchs,sent prays out to you all.love will shine down on you for life,because he will be watching you from above,amen and god bless you all.

Gail Vaughn - May 23, 2017 at 10:55 PM

DE

Michelle, I'm so sorry for your loss in the few encounters I had with Joseph he was so soft spoken but very pleasant and easy to work with. We had lots of conversations about our children and the lengths that we would go for them. Just try & comfort yourself in all of those wonderful memories he gave you.

I Love YOU - Denise Moore-Babers

Denise - May 24, 2017 at 01:44 PM