

Poem for Steven

“I’ll make eggs for you,” you said to my sister, Christie when we were in town.
You must’ve been about 8 years old.
Did you even know how to cook breakfast?
Yes, you did. You even knew how to fry up peppers and onions to add to Christie’s
other meal.
Just one of the facets of your amazing, giving nature.

Generous, considerate, loving
Radical love that defied any hate
Bold, brave, brother
Caring, quietly courageous, cousin
Beautiful and handsome being, inside and out
Floated away too soon.
How you made us feel when we were with you
Will be in our hearts forever.
Thank you for sharing your boundless love
With all of us.

My sisters and I have fond memories of playing as kids...
Horse rides with Steven and Bradford in Aunt Carol’s (your Grandma’s) living room.
Our family vacations in Ocean City, Maryland were the best!
Stacking in human pyramids for photos in those telescope keychain things...
You helped make a strong base, holding us all up.

Michelle recalls just the two of you on a secret mission one year in Ocean City:
You both didn’t want to go where everyone else went,
But once everyone left, you both wanted ice cream.
Neither of you had a key to the place, so you team-made a booby trap
Out of an air mattress against the front door, knowing as you left
That if it was out of place, you’d know if someone had come in.
You both got back and happily ate your ice cream.
No one ever knew!
(Well now they do!)

Thank you for sharing your talents, too.

You were an athlete: running, playing softball, flag football, dodgeball, and a fisherman extraordinaire. (What, you caught a shark?!?!)

Then several years ago, inviting me to play frisbee with you and your friends in the yard. I was relieved I could keep up! I think you guys were being nice. :)

You held Brayden, your cousin Christie's son, at Michelle's wedding while she danced. Brayden didn't get fussy; usually B didn't allow anyone else to hold him.

You had this power of peace about you,
Infusing joy and calm into whomever you met.

Steven, thank you for showing us how to treat one another.

To love unconditionally and not take ourselves too seriously.

You wrote on facebook:

"Your life is your message to the world. Make it inspiring."

I believe you have inspired all of us with your love and your light.

I hope to shine my light at least half as bright as you shone yours.

I love you, cousin.

I miss you already.

Peace and hugs.

Love,
Alaina