



Blake Austin Vaughn

April 12, 1996 - February 28, 2024

Blake passed away tragically due to a medical emergency on 2/28. Our lives will never be the same.

If you knew Blake and were going to spend any time with him, you knew it was going to be an experience. He was not a hurry up, rush through the drive-thru type of person. It would be a go-into the establishment – eat, drink (or both), visit, and linger for-a-period-of-time event.

HE MADE EVERY MOMENT MATTER.

Blake was passionate about travel, new experiences, and meeting people. He particularly enjoyed Japan – their traditions, culture and food.

He was talented at everything he enjoyed and was a great photographer of nature, a wonderfully creative baker, cook, and maker of concoctions. Blake was highly intelligent, very computer literate, dabbled in stocks, was interested in ancestry, and really loved gaming into the wee hours of the morning.

If a plane flew over, he could tell you where it was coming from, where it was going, and what type of aircraft it was. He could do the same for plants, birds, animals, and music.

Blake was a good-looking guy with a great smile and the longest eyelashes ever. He was shy and reserved, but from a young age, loved Halloween and dressing up in costume. He won many contests with his imaginative ideas. Holidays were a special time, and tradition and routine were his norm. He loved whimsical things and was a collector of many treasures. Christmas Eve

Christmas jammies from Mom, specialty drinks at Starbucks on Halloween, working at Gingerbread Factory. He loved to visit and try new beers at Blewett, Doghaus, Bushel & Bee, and ate many yummy breakfasts with Dad at the Big Y Café and Take a Break Café.

Blake liked walking down by the river and taking pictures of the wildlife. He would pick up garbage along the way and believed everyone should do their part to keep the world beautiful. When the weather was nice, he could be seen riding his electric bike through town.

He was a calm, thoughtful, sensitive soul, with a good heart and sarcastic sense of humor. He loved his family, his friends, good coffee, good conversation, good beer, good food, music, movies, a good fire pit, and fun experiences. He was constantly learning and had an insatiable curiosity. He was the best Son, Brother, Cousin, and Friend, anyone could ask for. He was loving and funny and always up for an adventure. There was a light that surrounded him, and he made the world a better place just by being in it. He came into this world three weeks early and left it many, many, years too soon. If you had the opportunity to be a part of Blake's life in some manner, you were Lucky indeed. He would tell you to take time for every little thing because it matters.

Rest easy Blakester ~ We love you ~ You are in our hearts Forevermore ❤️

Tribute Wall

Janeta
Jane

“ I am heart-broken to hear that Blake has passed Shaun...words cannot convey the depth of my compassion for you & yours. :(Dear God, hold you all in this painful time. All my love, Jane McNeil <3



Janeta Jane - April 13, 2024 at 03:31 PM

SL

Jane - thank you for your kind words and prayer.

shaun lacour - May 05, 2024 at 08:47 PM

SC

“ I first met Blake in the fall of 2016. We pretty much instantly clicked, bonding over weirdly specific classic rock songs and video games. Over these last few years, I came to know him as one of the kindest, funniest, most loving people I have ever met, and he was truly someone I could depend on, and he could depend on me. We would both help each other out with problems we were having, which I feel deepened our friendship. I can at least take some solace in that there was nothing left unsaid between us, he knew just how much I treasured our friendship and the time we spent together. He was one of the best friends I have ever had, and I will miss him for as long as I live.

Scott - March 09, 2024 at 11:05 PM

SC

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Scott - March 08, 2024 at 08:08 PM

JO

“Cousin. Travel buddy. I have so many memories of you over the years through both hard and joyous times. It has been amazing to watch you grow into adulthood and learn about yourself and the world. Ever since you were 6 years old and could name (and spell!) the countries on the globe I knew you were a genius. As you came into your own, you showed such a unique mix of sensibility and adventurousness, craving your routine but always up for a new experience. We had a running joke when I asked you what you wanted to do when exploring a new place. “Whatever’s fun!” you would always say.

That willingness to try new things led to so many trips together. Japan...Vancouver...New York City. Your mind captured the detail of our trips with as much clarity as the incredible nature photos you took on Blackbird Island. Each trip I saw how much more confident and independent you became.

I will never forget our 2016 trip to Tokyo and pursuing the fun and unique destinations you researched, like the 7 floor stationary store where you added to your collection of fancy fountain pens, and the neighborhood where they make plastic food that looks just like real food—realistic replicas of ramen noodles, sushi, and gyoza. The last night of our trip you set up a taste test of all these wildly flavored sodas for our crew to try, like pork, octopus, and chili pepper. And on the plane home you remarked, “this was a once-in-a-lifetime trip,” excited to bring home your collection of 20+ flavors of Kit Kats to show your dad.

We ate our way through Vancouver, where you got to experience your first Hot Pot, and all of the amazing food at the Richmond Night Market. Your research payed off too. After walking through the Downtown East Side to what looked like just another of the abandoned buildings, you surprised us by opening up a secret side

entrance door which led to an amazing speakeasy.

In New York, you led us on the quest for the best Babka in New York City, and to Greenwich village to absorb the history of all your favorite folk artists. Off Bleaker street, we recreated Bob Dylan's Freewheelin' album cover in the exact spot it was taken (per my insistence. You were just happy to buy one of his albums in the record store there).

There were so many more places we would have seen together. So many more "firsts" I wanted to experience with you. It is heartbreaking to have to let those imagined futures go. To let you go. I will miss you incredibly, Itoko. But no matter how much my heart aches, I know a part of you will always be in me, looking through my eyes and helping me remember to slow down, see the beauty in nature, and keep a sense of adventure doing "whatever's fun!"



Josie - March 08, 2024 at 12:23 AM

SL

Awww Josie.... Love these memories. Thanks for sharing!

Shaun LaCour - March 08, 2024 at 06:43 PM

CH

“ Blake was such an amazing, adventurous, kind hearted person. He always knew what to say to make a person feel better. Always wanting to go do something (whether it was from going on a long car ride to somewhere to try some food or simply walking in downtown Leavenworth. We quickly became friends after our first introduction over our bond of video games and nature. Not much longer, we took a trip out to Bellingham to see his family for 4th of July. The entire ride over, he was constantly talking about the various wildlife and plants he was seeing on the roadside. Smiling and laughing when I got the wrong birds he asked me about. During the visit he was so lively and happy to be around all his family and smiled hugely as the fireworks went off later that evening. Even on the way back to town, he Life is simply going to be duller without his amazing, room brightening, heart of gold personality. I love and miss you Blake.
Rest Easy My Eternal Heartbeat



Connor Hane - March 07, 2024 at 07:30 PM

SL

Thanks Connor! 4th if July was amazing!

Shaun LaCour - March 08, 2024 at 06:46 PM

DS

“ Blake would visit the office for Halloween and I would always remember his fabulous costumes. He was handsome, shy and had the sweetest smile. He loved his family and life in Leavenworth. He left us far too soon.

Deborah Suchoski - March 07, 2024 at 11:34 AM

SL

Thanks for sharing Deb! He really loved coming into the office!

Shaun LaCour - March 07, 2024 at 08:42 PM

SH

“ I knew Blake by his screen name Shrimp since 2016, and even though he would never talk using a microphone and he was a hemisphere away he was still one of my closet friends. I travelled to Leavenworth to meet Blake in person in august of 2017 and we just spent the whole day in the blazing hot sun talking on a bench. He would later say that I just had to come see him on the hottest day they had had in years just to inconvenience him. That day I gave him a terrible cheap bead bracelet that matched mine and we both insisted we would never take them off. Even though we drifted apart in 2022 I will always remember him as one of the most important people to me in the hardest part of my life. I will remember him for his love for red pandas, his hatred for gingerbread men, the photos he would send of nature and animals he saw, the minecraft servers he would build just for his friends, and the colour red which he always insisted on choosing in any game. I can honestly say the world will not be the same without you, I'll miss you bud. Arohanui, ma te wa.



Shayla - March 06, 2024 at 04:06 AM

SL

I love this Shayla. Thank you so much for sharing your memories.

Shaun LaCour - March 07, 2024 at 08:41 PM

SL

Thank you Shayla for sharing your memory. Red was always his favorite!

Shaun LaCour - March 07, 2024 at 08:46 PM

HC

“ *From all of us at Heritage Memorial Chapel, we send our condolences to you and your family, and everyone who knew Blake. It is our honor to have Blake entrusted to our care.* ”



Heritage Memorial Chapel - March 05, 2024 at 09:16 PM

HE

“ *1 file added to the album Blake* ”



Heritage - March 04, 2024 at 02:16 PM

HC

“ *1 file added to the album Blake* ”



Heritage Memeorial Chapel - March 04, 2024 at 01:05 PM