



Justin Harrison

February 2, 1977 - August 20, 2013

On August 20, 2013, we lost our beloved son Justin Gideon Lee Harrison to an accidental drug overdose. His family will forever be grateful for the kind, thoughtful treatment and close personal attention he received while in the care of the fine people at St. Josephs hospital in Bellingham Washington. There will be no service as his extended family is distributed across the United States and Central America. His final cremation is scheduled for the middle of next week dependant upon the Medical Examiners completion of required documentation (there was an autopsy performed)..

Our boy had struggled for 20 years with alcohol and drug addiction making recoveries and having relapses throughout that time but somehow we never believed his battle would end in such a pointless way. His passing was not in the patriotic service of his country, for a religious belief system or even a political ideology. His passing served only heinous, evil spirits intent upon the destruction of our youth and the very fabric of America as we know it.

Justin was ever ready to go on an adventure, particularly if fishing was involved. He loved the outdoors in all of its splendor and majesty. He was never much of one to experience life as an observer but would dive into the experience returning sometimes with dirty hands and feet but always smiling from ear-to-ear. He also had an abiding love of life and recorded music and was known to informally play harmonica. At special times he applied his talent

to the polished Kudu shofar of which he was so proud.

He had also been pursuing a promotion career in the live entertainment industry booking both individual and group performance ensembles.

He had placed his faith in Christ Jesus (Yeshua) within the Messianic Judaism organization and we know we will find him waiting beside The Father for us at the gates of Heaven when our time comes.

Gideon is survived by his loving parents, two sisters, cousins and his niece and nephews. Sadly, he will not be with us at the expected birth of his newest nephew later this year. In our case we were fortunate to have maintained such a close connection with our boy throughout his entire life.

In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate contributions to an organization dealing with the harsh realities of drug and alcohol addiction he was very familiar with:

In the name of Justin Gideon Harrison

Rays of Sonshine

215 Arkansas Avenue

Monroe, LA 71201

318-699-0550

<http://raysofsonshine.org/index.php>

So many times these days we hear people say that drugs and those who

would ply society with their poison should be treated with more lenient policies because they commit supposedly victimless crimes. While naked violence may not always be the result of drug use in every case, I only point to the hundreds of thousands of fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, brothers, sisters, wives, husbands and children of those living with a drug addicted person day in and day out and ask if they feel as though they are victims.

As survivors of this tragedy, his family most assuredly can testify to the pain and suffering caused by the passage of one so dearly loved. That, in my mind, is the very essence of being made a victim.

We would ask that in the future, when the opportunity to repel the effort to legalize or decriminalize chemical use comes to the fore, you all remember the loss of our son, Gideon and fight against that ever growing wave of stupidity and death.

We will continue to struggle with our loss and also ask that our friends lift us up in renewed efforts of prayer for the sending of The Comforter in our extreme time of need.

Know that we do take solace in the fact that our son is now safely in the arms of God

Donations Information

In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate contributions to an organization dealing with the harsh realities of drug and alcohol addiction he was very familiar with.

In the name of Justin Gideon Harrison

Rays of Sunshine

215 Arkansas Avenue

Monroe, LA 71201

318-699-0550

Tribute Wall

KF

“ Justin was always over at my house when we were in high school. Although he was my brother's friend, I couldn't help but befriend him too. I will miss u, Justin, & our interesting conversations.

Karen Ferris - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Justin was a dear, sweet, passionate young man. Unfortunately, I had not had the pleasure of seeing him in person for many years; but, we reconnected via Facebook & conversed several times. Justin was wise & witty and such a loving soul. From what I've seen here & on Facebook, Justin had many friends & will be deeply missed by us all. My heart has ached for Gail, Konrad, Wendy & other family members. You all are/have been in my thoughts & prayers daily. Losing a child has to be the hardest, worst emotion to go through in this life....it's unimaginable! I am thankful that Justin had strong faith as does Gail & Konrad, so I pray that comfort & peace are forthcoming. All my Love, Lana

Lana - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ We were so very sorry to hear about your son, Justin and our hearts go out to you during this sad time. We are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. I know your heart is broken and our hearts ache for you during this sad time. We love you guys, Joy, Sandy and Norma

Joy Gillen - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

YO

“ I met Justin and befriended him. Sadly, I met him when I thought he was probably high on some type of drug. The first time we met was next to the Horseshoe Cafe. He was sitting with some of his friends and I read his Hebrew tattoo. He then knew I was Jewish and we talked for a while about Judaism. I found out he was a Sefardic Jew. I had my suspicions he was a Messianic Jew, but it mattered not to me , especially. I feel very sad for his passing and for his family’s loss. Perhaps, I feel a bit guilty, and wish I could have been more helpful to him, rather than pushing him away as a troubled drug-addict. Every Jewish soul loss is major loss for the entire Jewish community as a whole. I now feel guilt for not maybe trying to befriend him and help him. Maybe there was nothing I could have done. I hope Hashem comforts the family in the time of grieving. The next time I meet a Jewish soul in such a position I will re-think my actions, as guilt and sorrow consumes me.
Baruch Dayan HaEmet

Yonatan - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Dear Konrad and Gail,
I was very saddened, and a bit shocked to hear of Gideon’s passing. I’d been in contact with him a couple times a month since moving down here (although nothing in the past 6-8 weeks) and it seemed to me like he was finally getting his life back on track. As you know, I both befriended Gideon and worked with him a fair amount when I was the Hillel Director in Eugene. We had a lot of long talks, and I bought/brought him quite a number sandwiches and hot cups of coffee over the years as we discussed god, work, the future, and, of course, his plans to get a big fishing boat. It breaks my heart to know that he’ll never get that chance, now. I share your grief, and wish you comfort in this difficult time. My love and prayers to you and your family, and my warmest memories of Gideon/Justin.

Paul Bessemer - August 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM