



## Mark N. Gillfillan

July 1, 2009

Mark N. Gillfillan, age 20 of Forest, OH died at 7:35 a.m. Wed. July 1, 2009 in an automobile accident.

He was born Dec. 24, 1988 in Findlay to Rick D. & Christa J. (Shultis) Gillfillan and they survive in Forest. He is survived by 2 sisters, Andrea (Andi) (Steve) Libby, Stratford, NJ and Sarah (Nathan) Deringer, Forest, a niece, Ainslee Deringer, a nephew, Keaton Libby, maternal grandparents, Nelson (Jennie) Shultis, Forest, paternal grandparents, Bertha Gillfillan, Forest and the late Herb Gillfillan.

He was a member of Blanchard River Church of Christ.

Mark graduated from Riverdale High School in 2007. He attended Bowling Green State University majoring in English Education. Mr. Gillfillan was a member of Sigma Nu Fraternity. He student taught in the P.C.C. program in Toledo City Schools.

He enjoyed listening, playing--especially the drums-- & singing to all types of music. He was an avid reader. Mark was a good friend to everyone he met, and he loved life and lived each day to the fullest.

A funeral service will be held Mon. July 6, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in the Blanchard

River Church of Christ with Pastor Steven Umphress officiating. Burial will follow in Hueston Cemetery. Visitation will be held Sun. July 5, 2009 from 1-7:00 p.m. in the CLARK SHIELDS Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Forest Fire & EMS, Forest Jackson Public Library, Blanchard River Church of Christ or to the charity of the donor's choice in care of CLARK SHIELDS Funeral Home 301 S. Patterson Forest, OH 45843. To extend a condolence, share a memory, or to view the Life Tribute video visit [www.shieldsfh.com](http://www.shieldsfh.com).

<http://videos.lifetributes.com/77109>

# Tribute Wall



“ Just heard about Mark. I pray that God has touched your hearts and given you the strength that you need each day. I believe that we have many questions and only one supreme being has the answers. We must have faith in knowing that Mark was needed to do a special job in a special place more than he was needed here. Peace to you!###imported-begin##deb##imported-end##

August 19, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ wow, i never figured i would be one of the people to write on here. i just wanted to tell aunt christa and uncle rick that i am soo sorry!! i just can't imagine what it must be like to lose a son...especially one as special as mark. if it's this hard for me i don't even want to go through the pain you are going through. all you need to do is remember the many things he did right in the world and forget the few mistakes he had. i just hope i can have a son as sweet, as humorous, and as thoughtful and caring as mark. just know that i am praying for you obth, and the rest of the family, mark included. he's having the party of his lifetime up there and we'll all get to be with him again someday:) and just think..we could teach keaton to be just like mark!! i love you family!!! R.I.P. Mark N. Gillfillan¼ you were the best person, son, friend, grandson, cousin, and best of all...hero! for nothing loved is ever lost and he was loved so much!-- Molly Catherine¼¼¼7/1/09¼¼¼i love you mark nicolas gillfillan¼¼¼¼###imported-begin##Molly Shultis##imported-end##

July 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Gillfillans you are in my thoughts and prayers. Mark definately brought energy and life to band and showchoir. May God grant you a peace that passes all understanding.##imported-begin##Debra H##imported-end##

July 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I will be praying for your entire family that God will give you comfort and peace. If you ever need someone to talk to feel free to get my number from my sisters. May God bless and keep you##imported-begin##Tina (Riegle) Courtad##imported-end##

July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick,Christa and family,  
We are so sorry for your loss.....God be with you and give you strength day by day... You are in our prayers  
Janice Clark  
Holly & Chad Siebeneck##imported-begin##Janice Clark, Chad& Holly Siebeneck##imported-end##

July 08, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ i am so sorry for yuor loss.##imported-begin##alexis loveridge##imported-end##

July 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick, Christa, Andi, Sarah and Family,  
I am so sorry to hear about Mark. Mark was a very special young man who carried out God's purpose, someone who when you saw him, you saw what God wants from all of us. Please know how very much you are thought of, prayed for and loved.  
Love to you all,  
Jim, Amber(Justice), Hannah and Madison Ulbricht##imported-begin##Jim, Amber(Justice), Hannah and Madison Ulbricht##imported-end##

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July 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Our girls really enjoy Mark each year at V.B.S. Christ's love really shined through him. We are praying for you during this very hard time. Much love the Wintringham's##imported-begin##David, Rhonda, Chelsea, & Olivia Wintringham##imported-end##

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July 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ To Nelson and Jennie, I am so sorry to hear about your grandson. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Jeannette Reser, El Paso, TX##imported-begin####imported-end##

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July 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Christa and family,  
You have my deepest sympathy. Loss of a loved one never makes sense, and such a tragic loss makes even less sense. Trust in the Lord and your family and friends, and cherish your memories, and it will help you get through this saddened time in your lives.  
Sincerely,  
Lynn (Day) Allen  
Big Rock, TN##imported-begin##Lynn (Day) Allen (class of 78)##imported-end##*

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I was a good friend of Mark for my time at Bowling Green. I am truly saddened and sorry for the loss of your son. He was one of the most sincere and noble people I knew. I will miss him very much. I hope the fact that he was such a great individual and touched so many, including myself, will ease your hearts. Again I am truly sorry and I wish for peace to come to you.##imported-begin##Steven Font##imported-end##*

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Christa and Rick, We are so sorry for your loss. Our family will keep you in our prayers.  
  
Richard and June Hassan and family##imported-begin##June & Rich Hassan##imported-end##*

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear about your loss. We will always remember Mark with a BIG smile on his face. You are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless! Bill, Vicki, Jake, & Shelby Fout###imported-begin###The Fout's###imported-end###

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Christa and Rick, I wish there was something i could say to ease your pain, Mark was such an amazing young man always looking out for others, Seth always wanted to "hang" with the big guys at show choir events and Mark always paid special attention to him and made him feel ten feet tall. when Seth had to write a paper about who he most admired and wanted to be a couple yrs ago Mark is who he chose to write about, he really looked up to Mark every bit as much as he did Chase. You are all in our prayers, if you need anything now or in the coming months i'm here for you and my heart goes out to you, sometimes the only that helps is having a shoulder to lean on for a while, lorr###imported-begin###lorri lortz###imported-end###

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Mark's passing. I am a PCC student, and also had several classes with Mark this past year. He will be truly missed at BG. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.###imported-begin###Christina Bowers###imported-end###

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Our children grew up together. Tom and I can't stop crying. When another friend that we loved so much passed away Christa, you were so wise when you looked me in the face and told me you were going to do as many thing with your kids and family as possible and not wait. I heard your words and took them to heart. Its late and I can't because of my grief for you. May God hold you in the Palm of His Hand.##imported-begin##Barbara J. Eisaman##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Mark was a very nice young gentleman! I know Jill was blessed to have grown up with him through the (church) youth group. God bless you. Charlie, Karen, Jill ,and Jen & Andre##imported-begin##Fulks Family##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I worked with Mark in the music group "Children of the Light". Through his outgoing personality and smile, his positive attitude, and his willingness to be a team player, he was a natural leader in the group. It was a privilege to know him and he will be missed. I am truly sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Holly Myers##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We are friends of Andi's mother/father in law and never had the pleasure of meeting Mark yet always heard about him and what a fine young man he was. We were so saddened to hear of Mark's passing and wanted to send our deepest sympathy's to the entire family. I have said a pray that God will hold all of you very closely during this very difficult time in your lives. God be with all of you and may Mark Rest in Peace.##imported-begin##Chuck & Karol Hennessey##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick & Christa,  
We were saddened to hear of your son's sudden death. We nearly lost our son, when he was 14, but thank God he was spared. To even think we nearly lost him, still, to this day, kills us and he is now 30. Our prayers go out to all of you in this difficult time. We are Natalie Walker's parents who met you at Andi's reception in your home. God bless and comfort you in the days ahead. He still loves you and is holding you closer than ever. Lean on Him.  
Lee & Sherri Walker/ Indianapolis##imported-begin##Lee & Sherri Walker##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was saddened to hear about the accident and Mark's death. He always had a smile, and he was such a vital member of PCC. I know that Dr. H enjoyed the conversations he had with Mark, and I also know that Mark would have made a great teacher. May it help to know that he has already influenced the students who came in contact with him during the time he spent in Toledo Schools as part of the PCC program. He will be missed by those students, his fellow PCC students and all those whose lives he touched. My thoughts are with you.

Sue Hoffman##imported-begin##Sue Hoffman (Dr. Hoffman's wife)##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Gillfillan Family: I knew mark from living in Kohl Hall freshman year and being in PCC with him. I am also a member of the Greek community and was deeply sadened to hear the news. Mark was one of the happiest, sweetest, and most sincere people I ever met. I feel so lucky to have known him. Every time I saw him he would greet me with a smile and always stop and talk to me. Knowing him was as true blessing, and he will be missed greatly. My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Sarah Blackburn##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy goes out to you and your family through this terrible time. Prayers and thoughts are with you.##imported-begin##Irene Tinker##imported-end##

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“*Krista, Rick, and family, Our hearts ache for you in your loss of Mark. Know that you are all in our prayers. Mark was known to us through his involvement in "Children of the Light" and remember him as a blessing to everyone through his drumming and vocals. We will miss his wonderful smile and friendship. God bless you all in this difficult time.##imported-begin##Ron, Dianne, Emily and Sean Sewell##imported-end##*

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“*We can not even comprehend your pain with this loss. Terri and I are so very sorry. You are in our thoughts.##imported-begin##Ed and Terri Arrington##imported-end##*

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“*Rick and Christa, Andi and Sarah, There are no words I can say to bring you comfort only to keep your faith. He only takes the best. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your daughters.##imported-begin##Ann Rodabaugh##imported-end##*

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July 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“*I know how proud of Mark you were, I hope that my sons are half the man that Mark was. You both did a great job with him and remember the good times and cherish those times. Our family is thinking and praying for your family. Love you very much.##imported-begin##Rylen, Addie, Grace, Jack and Rudy Murray##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ As words can not ease your pain please know that you are all in the thoughts and prayers of the Cramer family. I hope you find comfort in your memories.##imported-begin##Lorie Dyer-Kelbley##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. We pray for God's arms to wrap around you with His love to ease the pain.##imported-begin##Ron & Carol Riegle##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Andi and family, I cannot be there in person, but I send my love and prayers to you. It's tragic times like these that make us want to hold our children a little longer and remember tell the ones we love just how much they mean to us. He was our little brother in our "circle of friends" and was there at times for comic relief. My deepest sympathy to you, Sarah and mom and dad Gillfillan.##imported-begin##Nancy Deringer Wilson and family##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was shocked to hear of the loss of Mark. My thoughts, prayers and condolences are with you in this trying time.##imported-begin##Liza (Kleman) Vergara##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so incredibly sorry for your loss. I am praying for all of you during this time and the days following.##imported-begin##Jayme (Myers) Hiller##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Mark personally and I still can not believe it. The PCC program will not be the same. I'm really going to miss him around campus. When ever I saw him he always said hi to me with a smile on his face and I'm really going to miss that. You guys are in my prayers. I know Mark is going to be missed by many and I was lucky to have known him and so was anyone who meet him. He always knew what to say and always had a smile on his face.##imported-begin##Hannah Cranfill##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Krista,Rick,Jen,and Nelson. My heart and prayers goes out to all of your family in this time of grief and sadness. I am so sorry for your loss. I never realized Miles and Mark were only 35 days apart in age. That saddens me to think I never really got to know him. That time has a way of rapidly passing and no one knows how much of it we have to spend with our loved ones till it's gone. All my love Mel##imported-begin##Melanie Roller Wahrer##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ My heart aches for you. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. -Grine's, Dave, Teresa and Family##imported-begin##Teresa Grine##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick, Krista, sisters and families, friends of Mark, we were horribly shocked and saddened by the news about Mark. Words may not comfort you, but knowing Mark has gone to be with God will. Just being neighbors for so many years, makes us feel the loss also. Prayers are with you, your family and friends in Christ. You will be remembered in ours.

Karen, Melissa, Heather, Hayley and Tasha Hicks  
(now from NC)###imported-begin##Karen Hicks###imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Christa and Rick and Family,  
We were so shocked to hear of Marks Passing,we will keep your whole family in our prayers for healing, strength and comfort during this most difficult time.We are so glad yours and our Grandson Keaton Mark will carry on his name with pride. God Bless you all.###imported-begin##Carla and Steve Libby###imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mom & Dad,  
We are so sorry for Mark's sudden passing. You all have been in our prayers and we will continue praying for the family. Cindy wanted to attend the funeral but due to her pregnancy, her doctor would not allow her to fly. We send our love and condolences. God Bless,

Josh and Cindy Evans###imported-begin##Josh and Cindy Evans###imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Christa, Rick, Andi, Sarah, and family - Mark was always full of energy, always smiling, and very cheerful...even after being told to stop drumming on the seats of the bus on the way to football games. Your family will continue to be in our prayers during the days ahead. Our hearts ache for you!###imported-begin##Kevin, Amy, Kennedy, and Grady Phelps##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I am in shock. My heart goes out to your family at this time. I ran Cross Country with Mark and he was one of the people who made it so much fun. He was always joking around. I will never forget the time that for "hero" day at school, he dressed up like Mr. Ruggles. He was a good guy!  
This Poem has been flashing in my head ever since I found out about Cody and Mark's passing.

*One night a man had a dream. He dreamed  
he was walking along the beach with the LORD.*

*Across the sky flashed scenes from his life.  
For each scene he noticed two sets of  
footprints in the sand: one belonging  
to him, and the other to the LORD.*

*When the last scene of his life flashed before him,  
he looked back at the footprints in the sand.*

*He noticed that many times along the path of  
his life there was only one set of footprints.*

*He also noticed that it happened at the very  
lowest and saddest times in his life.*

*This really bothered him and he  
questioned the LORD about it:*

*"LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."*

*The LORD replied:*

*"My son, my precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."##imported-begin##Nathan and Emily (Wilkins) Spieth##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



*“ Andi and family,*

*I was absolutely shocked on Wednesday when I heard the news. I am so sorry for the loss to your family. We will be praying for you and the family during this difficult time. Just remember you can find solace in the Lord Jesus Christ.##imported-begin##Harold & Nicole Camper##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Christa and Rick I've not figured this out myself yet the why questions and the pain we have to go thru with this kind of loss. All I know is that faith in God and seeing Cody in the next life has kept me going. I'm here for both of you. If you remember long ago we started this journey together as great friends. Maybe we are supposed to be so very close again. My prayers are with you and only someone who has lost a child knows the unbearable pain this causes. I love you both. You will be in my thoughts and prayers. Love you Kim##imported-begin##Kim Camper##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Rick and Family So sorry to hear about your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Connie and Larry Siferd##imported-begin##connie siferd##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Gillfillans,*

*Words cannot express the loss and emptiness you feel at this time....a shocking death is the worst, unearned feeling you can experience. Not having the chance to say goodbye and remind him how proud you were and the love you had. Losing an only son, brother is difficult and each day, year you remember what might have been. Amazingly Mark will live on in the next generation for you to watch again. May God comfort each and everyone of you. The Dilleys...##imported-begin##Robyn, Dana, Jessica, Chelsea, and Devin Dilley##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick and Krista and family: Our hearts are full of tears imagining your sorrow, but no words of my own come to mind to help ease the pain you must feel.

*Psalm 73:26*

*My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.##imported-begin##Rand and Peg McBride##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Mark was a part of our People to People family. I traveled with him to New Zealand and Australia in 2005. We were like a large family and he was one of my 34 children. I will miss him but always remember the times our family shared for that 2+ weeks together.##imported-begin##Marc Findley##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Christa, Rick and family:  
I am so sorry for you loss. Let the Lord give you that peace you need now. My prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Katrina (Bishop)Shull##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick, Christa, Andi, Sarah and families, What a wonderful young man Mark was. It has been interesting watching him grow up, what a neat guy!

*May your strong family bond and faith help you through this very difficult time. We hold you all in our prayers.##imported-begin##Terry, Laura, Sam & Liz Wagner##imported-end##*

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick and family our deepest sympathy in the loss of your son Mark. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you and your family. Steve, Teresa Crace and family##imported-begin##Steve Crace##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was so very sorry to hear about your loss of Mark. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. God will stay near and you can rest in His strength. Let Him comfort you.##imported-begin##Don and Rosalie Mazey##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick and family....our hearts are hurting for the loss of your son...love and prayers##imported-begin##Dave and Jen DeLancy##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was in shock and disbelief when Heather called and told me about Mark. I am so sorry for your family. I sang at a hospice memorial recently where they turned hundreds of butterflies loose in memory of loved ones. Always remember what a caterpillar thinks is the end of his world our God calls a butterfly. Please know that our prayers are with you. Vicky & Mike Rich Darla & Heather##imported-begin##Vicky Edwards Cox##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Sarah and Family,  
I am very sorry about your brother.  
Praying for you all to have peace that passes understanding.  
Jen.##imported-begin##Jen##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick, Christa, Andi, Sarah, and to the rest of the Gillfillan/Shultis families, Just wanted to send a little note to let you know you are all in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Ty & Holly Thacker##imported-end##

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July 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Our daughter Rachel knew Mark at BG -- we are so very sorry for your loss. We know words could never, ever comfort you at this time but you are in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Randi Fatzinger##imported-end##

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Krista and Rick:  
I am in shock and disbelief. Please know that we are thinking about you and offering prayers for your strength and comfort during this difficult time. Your extended family at Riverdale grieves with you and I pray that God will keep all of us close to his heart during these horrible tragedies.  
Janet, Megan, and Tiffany (Gossard-Durenberger)##imported-begin##Janet Durenberger##imported-end##

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I was deeply saddened and shocked when I heard of Mark's passing. I had the privilege of getting to know Mark at BGSU, and what a guy he was. We were both involved in the same teaching learning community (PCC), and we were both members of the Greek community. Every time I saw Mark at PCC or at a Greek event, I was always greeted with a smile, and he would ask me how things were going. He was truly one of the best. On his facebook page, Mark has a quote that I think fits him very well: "Good guys may finish last, but the best are never truly finished." Mark may have been taken from all of us, but he is certainly not finished. His journey will continue and he will live on through those who were lucky enough to know him.

Mark, you will be sorely missed. Rest In Peace.##imported-begin##Emily Smith##imported-end##

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy and prayers go out to your whole family. All of us at Blanchard Valley Hospital's OB/Maternity Team are saddened for your great loss. Thinking of you all at this time and hoping God will give you strength and comfort to get through this very difficult time.##imported-begin##Holly Jordan##imported-end##

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Rick and Family: In deepest sympathy for your loss, It seems like yesterday he was a small child. Just remember you have your memories and keep them so dear and never forget the good times. Just remember God has a special place for Mark and he will continue to be God's child. May God Bless you all at this time.##imported-begin##Becky Freeman & son##imported-end##

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



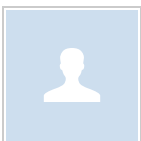
“ Krista, Rick, and Family,

We are so sorry to hear of your loss. It's such a shock! Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. God Bless!

Craig, Becky, Janessa & Jayden Taylor##imported-begin##Craig, Becky, Janessa & Jayden Taylor##imported-end##

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ This is so unreal. We are truly sorry to hear about Mark. He was a very talented and gifted young man. He will be deeply missed. Mark had a wonderful sense of humor and personality -- that was what we loved about him. Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers. May the love of God surround you and hold you in the days ahead. The Pever's - Doug, Luann, Kristen, Kimberly and Chad##imported-begin##Luann Pever##imported-end##

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Christa and Rick, and family we were so saddened to hear of Mark's passing. We know that this is a very difficult time for all of you. Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers. We know that Mark will be missed and we can see that he has touched many lives. May God keep you all close and your faith remain strong.##imported-begin##Tom and Lori Edwards##imported-end##*

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July 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM