



Joseph T. Ashurst

December 18, 1993 - March 20, 2021

Joseph T. Ashurst was born December 18, 1993 in Kansas City, Missouri and passed away March 20, 2021 at St. Luke's Hospice House peacefully with his mother and two sisters by his side.

Joseph was a compassionate, electric young man with a heart winning smile and who was loved by anyone who met him. Joseph's passion for video games was a large part of his youth as he spent many hours mastering many stories with his friends and family. His love for movies and pop-culture contributed to his captivating personality. Joseph was a lover of all things humor, and often enjoyed hearty laughs and even telling jokes of his own. Joseph's role as a supportive friend and family member was always on display: There was no obstacle or challenge that kept Joseph from showing love to those who he cared about.

Joseph battled MERRF syndrome that would eventually take his life, but never the love that he gave to all that he knew.

Joseph is survived by his mother: Rhonda Ashurst (Baldwin); his two sisters: Chelsey Ashurst, Brandy Ashurst; brother: Kalani Ashurst; brother-in-law: TJ Choate; grand parents: Joseph Baldwin, Debra Baldwin, Pat Ashurst; Aunts: Wendy Jackson, Stahr Ashurst, Cherry Ashurst; Uncles: William Brandy Ashurst, Rick Baldwin; Nephew: Colton Choate; Cousins: Zachary Ashurst,

Kiara Ashurst, Addriana Brown, Haley Williams, Anthony Brown, Bayli Frost, Mallori Frost; friends: Justin T. Kelly, Lenny Gonzalez, Shane Wagnon; and many more extended friends and family.

Joseph is preceded in death by great grand parents: Roy Tippet, Gladys Tippet, Bob Brockhouse, Elizabeth Brockhouse; grand parents: William Ashurst, Madeline Eileen Garman; cousin: Amber Brooks; Great-grandfather Joseph Baldwin; Great-grandmother Patricia Bowers; and many more extended family.

A celebration of life will be planned for 2021 in honor of Joseph T. Ashurst. All of his family and friends will be notified when a date is set.

In lieu of flowers, consider donating to The United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation: <https://www.umdf.org/about/>.

Tribute Wall

KA

“ I remember when me and him you used to play together he used to give me the biggest wedgie so bad he could pick me up ,I miss those days . love you bub I help to see you up there one day

kalani ashurst - November 05, 2025 at 08:51 PM

BR

“ This is the longest I have ever been without you, dude. I miss you. We left some flowers for you in the lake on Sunday.



Brandy - March 22, 2022 at 02:07 AM

KA

“ i love my bub

kalani - November 17, 2021 at 09:57 AM

BR

“ I wanted to share a little iconic photo of my brother. He had the same little face his whole life. I miss him so much.



Brandy - May 11, 2021 at 09:18 PM

BS

“ I have been Joe's sister Brandy's best friend for about 13 years. If he wasn't at Justin's he was there when I would come to visit. After some convincing Brandy and I would often watch him play video games or watch a movie with him. Even when he had friends over we would all hang out. When I was over once he wanted to watch one of the Halloween movies. I told him my mom said I wasn't allowed to watch scary movies and I had never seen one before. He said, "Well your mom isn't here is she?" I couldn't argue with that logic.

I moved around a lot growing up but Joe, Brandy, and their family stayed consistent in my life. One summer I was staying over and I asked for a drink of water. Joe was always picking on me that I didn't have to ask and to just get the things I wanted. That day he told me that I was family and I could just make myself at home. It was such a kind thing for him to say and it has always stuck with me.

One of my favorite memories with Joe is when Brandy, Joe, a friend, and I all learned that if you microwave an egg in its shell it will explode. Joe decided we should see it in action so the four of us were huddled in front of the microwave and Joe started to tell some story he heard and because we were all so focused on Joe talking we missed the egg exploding. Joe suggested since the microwave was dirty now anyway we should just put another egg in. I will never forget how horrible the smell was. We didn't find out until after watching the second egg explode that the eggs were actually expired. It was a smelly and messy time but we all had fun and the kitchen was filled with laughs.

I miss causing mischief in the kitchen late at night with Brandy and Joe. We had great laughs and made great memories.

Brittany Savage - April 16, 2021 at 05:45 PM

BA

“ I remember he always used to let me play gta5 with him but tell me not to tell aunt rhonda bc i wasn't old enough to play lol. - bayli

bayli - April 14, 2021 at 12:32 PM

RA

“ My precious son. His smile was the first thing that anyone noticed on his sweet face. And if you knew him, you knew, that, that smile radiated from his heart. He would take the tough times in life, and find the best in them. He would have to remind me, “it will be ok, mama” he would say. His laugh, and the true embrace of it, was golden. It goes without saying, that I dearly miss him. I will see you again, one day, my perfect son❤️



Rhonda Ashurst - March 28, 2021 at 12:37 PM

RT

“ Santa Calagon an Gremlins he loved the oversized gizmo and that years fair was so much fun with him we had gotten to enjoy . He was so full of love he did like to joke he put a smile on your face . Love you. Tim and Renea Thomas

Renea Thomas - March 26, 2021 at 09:50 AM

RO

“ I would ho gang with Joe at times when Rhonda had to work and Joe and I would talk about things guys talk about Joe told me how he wanted to go to a strip club for his 21st birthday but his dad was supposed to take him but had moved to CO his birthday came and went but going to a strip club is something he really wanted to do so he asked me if I'd take him .so needless to say I couldnt tell him no .On the day of taking him I show up wearing Jean's and a t shirt went in to get Joe and he was dressed in a three piece suit with slick shoes and a pair of dark sunglasses .when we get to the club Joe was the best dressed guy in the place and had all the ladies checking him out he had a smile on his face that drew the ladies to our table and one of the dancrs gave Joe her phone number he hadent asked for it she just gave it to him .So Rhonda thank you for those days that you gave me to hang out with Joe it gave me the opportunity to know Joe better and become friends so thank you

Ronnie Olszanski - March 26, 2021 at 12:58 AM

BR

“ My brothers love for video games started ASAP. One of our favorites to play together when we were older was any of the games from the “Silent Hill” franchise. Still one of my favorites. I remember we had spent so much time on beating a boss that when we had finally got it, we hugged and jumped around the living room.



Brandy - March 25, 2021 at 05:18 PM

DO

“ omg where do I start at about my little Joe Joe. I have know this young man for a very long time so I remember when he used to love coming over to hang out with my son's. Every time I seen this little guy I used to just come up and hug me and I'm sure going to miss his gorgeous smile he had.I really enjoyed seeing Joe Joe alot when he came over he was like another son. He had such a big a was so loving and kind.Im sure going to miss my boy...love you sweet boy...

Dwana orell - March 25, 2021 at 04:54 PM

JK

“ There’s a story my friends always bring up and to this day I cackle when i talk about it.

So it’s a Friday and a bunch of my friends wanna go for Mexican good right? And I’m like “hang on guys I gotta call joe” I phone in my weekly call.. he picks up and almost immediately is like “come get me from this prison” 🤔 he was always dramatic about whatever falling outs he was having with Rhonda or Brandy and would storm around the house all angry. So I pull up and something about joe that I’ll never forget is that he always calls shotgun. Always. And you could never argue with it because that’s just how it works. He’d call it on the phone before I even came to get him. So he hops in the front and we go to eat. We get there and sit down and the lady comes to our table and asks us for our drinks. 🙄

Now. If you know Joseph.. you know this boy took full advantage of his ability to legally purchase adult beverages *WHENEVER* it was possible. We’re all at the table ordering pibb, sprite, someone got a tea.. joe got one of those Ginormous fishbowl margaritas.

And there were a lot of times people would look at his id and then look back at him and go... no. Get out. And he would raise hell. I’d have to pick him up and practically throw him over my shoulder as he swears his way out of the door. This time, the waitress asks for his id, (which he eagerly had out and ready to go)

Like seriously, he had his id out when we walked into the restaurant. The lady looks at the Id... looks at joe, giggles like this 🤔

And goes “OK!”

And we’re just sitting there with our hands over our heads laughing into the menus.

Joe hears us laughing and goes “what? I can’t drive with these legs anyways, you guys can carry me” and at this point My friend Mark is choking. So that’s not even the best part of the story. The checks come and joe is a little bit tipsy. What does he do? He tries to pay for everyone’s bills with his ID for starters, after we get that taken care of he’s trying to flag down the waitress... she comes over and he goes “can I have a To-go cup? And she leaves and comes back with this little Togo cup. And for a second we can see him trying to figure out how he’s gonna get this massive fish bowl margarita that

mind you, isn't more than halfway gone, into this tiny cup.. and before we can say anything the lady comes over and goes "NO! No!" And he's like what? And we're like dude you can't.. you can't take your margarita to go! And he's goes "well why not?! I paid \$13 for this thing!" And we're like Joe no! 😂

He's taking our laughter for challenge and trying HARDER do to it now. He's literally threatening to just walk out with the fish bowl itself.. and you know what? We paid, and I carried as he swore his way out the door.

We get to the Car and I set him down and he goes "I paid 13 dollars for that freakin thing"

And I kid you not he didn't talk to me the whole car ride home. 😂

You really gotta love him for who he is.

He would grind your gears so bad sometimes but man oh man.. you'd miss him when he wasn't around. That's my best friend man. Always will be.

-J

Justin Kelly - March 25, 2021 at 04:10 PM