



Peter McKinley Ladd

December 25, 2001 - December 25, 2012

Peter McKinley Ladd, 11 year old cherished son of Mary Ellen (McKinley) and Patrick Ladd, died unexpectedly on Christmas morning at CT Children's Medical Center after a brief illness. Peter was born July 16, 2001 with cerebral palsy and, because of his disability, was a trusting soul who relied on many loving people to meet his basic needs. Peter lived in West Hartford his whole, short life and attended the Early Learning Center, Norfeldt Elementary School and King Philip Middle School. Peter loved going to school. He was welcomed and accepted by the many wonderful children at Norfeldt School where he spent six fantastic years under the guidance of a warm, dedicated and loving staff. Peter loved music, swimming, going for bike rides, Miracle League baseball, therapeutic horseback riding and watching The Brady Bunch and Leave It to Beaver. He also loved water parks and hanging out on the raft with his Dad at Cape Cod. Peter was often complimented for the way his presence could light up a room and for his infectious belly laugh when he really got going. Peter was always willing to give a friend at school a high five and enjoyed roaming the halls on his bike or in his walker. Everywhere he went people would approach him to say hello. Besides his parents, Peter is survived by and will be deeply missed by his loving older sister, Elizabeth, and his spirited younger brother, William; his paternal grandparents Ann and Vic Preissner of Marlborough, CT and Len and Lois Ladd of Washington, DC. Peter was blessed with 17 amazing aunts and uncles who loved and cared for him. He also leaves behind 23 wonderful cousins, all of whom loved Peter in many ways. Peter is predeceased by his maternal grandparents Maureen (Curtin) McKinley and Aaro S. McKinley.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 29, 2012 at the Church of Saint Peter Claver, 47 Pleasant Street, West Hartford. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. Calling hours will be Friday, 4 to 8 p.m. at the Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, 136 South Main Street, West Hartford. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to HARC/Camp Bulova, 900 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105 or Camp Care Therapeutic Riding, 106 Route 66, Columbia, CT 06237. For directions and online condolences, please visit www.taylorandmodeen.com.

Comments



“ Dear Mary Ellen and Family, You and Peter are in my thoughts and prayers. I am so very sorry to hear of his passing. I send love and deepest sympathy. I will always remember our days together.

Jane Rothschild - Longmeadow, MA - January 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Patrick and Mary Ellen, You were extraordinary parents to a very special little boy. You accepted the challenge of raising him with grace, dedication and compassion. How lucky he was to have had you both! Now you are role models in grief as you adjust to life without Peter. Take comfort in the knowledge that he has reached the ultimate goal of life, rejoicing in the Presence of God. We burst with pride in you both. Dad and Lois From Les Mis: "Threr's a grief that can't be spoken, Threr's a pain goes on and on..." So true

Dad and Lois - Wahington, DC - Grandparents - January 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so fortunate to have had peter in my ccd class for his first and second grades. Peter's smile always lit up the room, -- and he and the other children made a connection and had a special bond. I will never forget Peter, --- and what he taught me---what is really important in life--- faith, hard work, perseverance, and courage. I am blessed to have known him and to know the Ladd family.

Julie livingstone - West Hartford, CT - CCD teacher - January 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with your family. Forever cherish all of the wonderful memories you have of Peter.

Valerie Cavagnaro - Newington, CT - Friend of Lois and Len Ladd - January 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your whole loving family. Peter was a wonderful boy.

Peace,
Mike, Molly, Delaney, Liam, and Bridget

Mike Patterson - West Hartford, CT - January 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Patrick, Mary Ellen, Elizabeth and William, We are so very sorry for this tremendous loss. We never met Peter, but I had pictures of him as a young baby and at his First Communion (from his grandmother, Anne Preissner - a very dear and old friend). We were attached to him in prayer, and intend to stay in touch with his spirit. He and all your family are a beautiful example of strength and courage. You are in our prayers.

Jan and Joe Hendron - Wethersfield, CT - January 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ I still have a hard time accepting that we lost such an amazing and special person from our family. I will always miss his goofy little smile that always brightened my day...I love him so much and Thanksgiving will never be the same without Peter. We're so incredibly blessed to have enjoyed the time we spent with him...and I know he lived a wonderful life full of nothing but love through our large and caring family. Patrick, Mary-Ellen, Elizabeth, and William...I think about you guys everyday and I love you all so much... Words cannot describe how special and beautiful Peter was and how much I will miss him...I love you Peter!

Erin Ladd - Asheville, NC - January 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Thinking of you from Washington, DC.~ Kevin, Rebecca, Brian and Erin.

A friend - January 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Patrick, Mary Ellen , Elizabeth , and William , We are so sorry to learn of Peters passing. He was a joyous child, full of love and kindness. We are lucky to have been able to spend some holidays with him and you all. With all our love, Elise and Lucy

Elise Mischel - January 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Ladd Family,
We are so very sorry for your loss.
Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.
With Deepest Sympathy,
Joann, Paschal, Owen and Quinn Brennan

Joann Brennan - West Hartford, CT - January 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM