



Ayden Wayne Ethridge

January 16, 2001 - January 16, 2023

Ayden Wayne Ethridge was born on January 16, 2001 at Chanute, Kansas to Travis Wayne Ethridge and Jill Ranee Gillett. Ayden passed away on January 16, 2023 at the University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City. Ayden's early years were in Chanute, Kansas moving to Fredonia, Kansas in first grade. Ayden played trombone in the band at Fredonia Jr. and Sr. High School, played football and ran cross country, loved Quiz Bowl and Dungeons and Dragons Club. Ayden was quick to make friends, lived life to the fullest with a loving heart and kind soul, capturing an audience everywhere he went. On February 16, 2016, Ayden received a heart transplant. Ayden was joined by his heart donor Jenna Michelle Lindsten Schmidt. Ayden's transplant and miracle brought many to understand organ transplant and gifted the world with the love only organ donation can create. Ayden did many things that teenage life brings through his donor's gift. Ayden had almost 7 years of life after transplant making the world a better place because he lived in it. He graduated from Fredonia Jr/Sr High school and attended some college at Neosho County Community College. Ayden was able to be a cornea donor. Ayden believed in giving and requested to have his body donated to science and have his heart and grafts studied to help organ donation for children to survive longer. He made this decision when he was still a teenager. Ayden adopted the name of Alexis and toward end of life preferring to be referred to as Alexis. Ayden was accepting of everyone and taught unconditional love. Ayden was survived by parents Travis Wayne Ethridge, Chanute, Kansas, Jill

Ranee (Gragert) Gillett and step-dad John J. Gillett, Fredonia, Kansas, Grandparents Larry and Bernice Ethridge, Chanute, Kansas, Stephen M. Gragert, Oxford, Kansas, Jean Gragert, Oxford, Kansas, Great-Grandmother, France Louise Walker, Aunts, Uncles, and many cousins. Ayden brought home many friends, Koby Anderson and Cory Newkirk and cousin Blake McDermott came to reside in the homes of Ayden's parents. Ayden had many best friends and roommates come to be like brothers.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February, 4, 2023 at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall in Fredonia, KS

The family will receive friends at visitation following the Celebration of Life.

Memorial Donations may be made to Ronald McDonald House Charities Kansas City, Ward Heart Center, Children's Mercy Hospital, or Heart Center, University of Kansas Medical Center.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1201 Madison
Fredonia, KS 66736
(620) 378-3658

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ayden Wayne Ethridge.*



February 03, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Ayden Wayne Ethridge.*



February 03, 2023 at 07:26 AM



“ *Your genius and eclectic nature was one that can never be duplicated. You were and are the apple of your Mama's eye. We will miss you here on Earth, sweet angel and look forward to the time we get to enjoy you again. All our love. - Stallings Family, Fredonia*



Jillian Stallings - February 01, 2023 at 12:03 PM

FS

“ From Washburn Law School purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Ayden Wayne Ethridge.



From Washburn Law School - January 22, 2023 at 08:37 PM

JL

“ Dear Jill, Lori McMillan told me the terrible news of your dear Ayden's death. I am so terribly sorry. Ayden was such a sweet part of law school life while you were a student and WSBA President at Washburn Law. Although his death is deeply tragic, I'm glad you had Ayden for 22 years and I'm glad Ayden had you for a mother. I hope that you and all of Ayden's family and friends will accept my deepest condolences. Love, Jalen Lowry

Jalen Lowry - January 22, 2023 at 08:26 PM

LN

“ Love Amy Newkirk- purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Ayden Wayne Ethridge.



Love Amy Newkirk- - January 22, 2023 at 07:24 PM

BR

“ Becky Roles lit a candle in memory of Ayden Ethridge



Becky Roles - January 21, 2023 at 12:18 AM

KB

“ *Katrina Billbe lit a candle in memory of Ayden Ethridge*



Katrina Billbe - January 20, 2023 at 08:30 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ayden Wayne Ethridge.*



January 19, 2023 at 03:40 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ayden Wayne Ethridge.*



January 18, 2023 at 03:29 PM

LK

“ *Lynn Kustanborter lit a candle in memory of Ayden Ethridge*



Lynn Kustanborter - January 17, 2023 at 08:01 PM