



Samuel Miller

August 13, 1974 - April 3, 2017

Samuel T. Miller, 42, passed away at Riverside Medical Center on Monday, April 3, 2017. He was born on August 13, 1974 in Elgin, Illinois to Paul and Sara (Brown) Miller.

Sam lived in Kankakee most of his life. When he was 21 years old, the doctors said he needed a new heart. On February 8, 1996, he had a heart transplant at Loyola Medical Center. In 2003 it was found that he needed a new kidney. His father, Paul, donated one of his kidneys to Sam. Sam has loved life and was determined to enjoy life in spite of his physical illnesses. In the end, Sam was able to donate his eyes to Gift of Hope.

Ever since Sam was a boy, he loved the water. This love brought him to Boat Racing on the Kankakee River and other places in the USA. In 2003 Sam won World Champion in the 60 class at the Kankakee River Regatta. He continued to love racing and particularly the supportive group of fellow boat racers. Sam loved God and knew that God was with him each day whatever came his way. He was an inspiration to all who knew him. Besides boat racing Sam loved to drive BIG trucks.

Sam is survived by his parents of Kankakee; his sister, Jennifer S. Miller of Kankakee; two brothers, Dr. Jonathan M. Miller (Gwen) of Rivervale, New Jersey; Robert M. Miller (Kristin) of Valparaiso, Indiana; two nieces, Madeleine

and Lilliana; and one nephew, Keegan. He also is survived by one aunt, Susan Keck (Don) of Lake Junaluska, North Carolina and two uncles, Phil Brown of Omaha, Nebraska and Charlie Brown (Christine) of Whitehall, Michigan. Sam loved the support of his family and friends throughout his life.

Preceding Sam in death were his grandparents: Dr. Clifford Brown (Phyllis) of Mattoon, and Merle Miller (Lois) of Kendallville, Indiana.

Visitation is scheduled at Asbury United Methodist Church from 10:00 am to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 8, 2017 with a Memorial Service to follow at 12:00 noon. Rev. Scott Henley will officiate. Memorials may be made to Asbury UMC or to the Family wishes.

Please sign his online guestbook at www.schrefflerfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

APR 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Asbury United Methodist Church
196 S. Harrison
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-4408

Memorial Service

APR 8. 12:00 PM (CT)

Asbury United Methodist Church
196 S. Harrison
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 933-4408

Tribute Wall



“ *Samuel Miller*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *I always enjoyed sending e-cards and chatting with Sam. He was the most, kind, positive, respected and caring man in and out of the racing pits. He always made sure that anyone and everyone who needed ANYTHING was taken care of. Now, he is at peace and will be taken care of for eternity. We love you Sam.*

MaryEllen Hagerl - April 08, 2017 at 10:39 AM



“ *Our sympathy is with you. Your loss cannot be but God's gain. May hope, prayers, faith and friends sustain you. We cannot think of Sam without remembering his great love of the river races. Sincerely, Floyd and Donna*

Floyd & Donna Stradley - April 07, 2017 at 09:06 AM



“ *Although I never met Sam, I know his wonderful sister, Jenny, and mom and dad, Paul and Sara. My deepest condolences to you and your family. I pray that you feel God's loving embrace and feel joy knowing that Sam is resting peacefully in His arms.*

Monica Brigham and Easy Street Theater

Monica Brigham - April 06, 2017 at 05:25 PM

MC

“ As 1 Miller to other we always looked for Sam to park in his usual place on Labor Day and would cheer for him to win. I also loved to watch him practice when he would come down to Beckman Park. He gave us a lot of good memories. He will be missed. Thoughts and prayers for the family

Mary Miller Clark - April 06, 2017 at 03:47 PM

DS

“ Sam was an amazing person. He will be greatly missed.

Nurse Deb



Deb Sisk - April 06, 2017 at 02:33 PM

CR

“ Sammy was a wonderful person. He will be dearly missed. Thoughts and prayers are with you. Carole & Jeff



Carole Reno - April 06, 2017 at 12:33 PM

LV

“ Very sorry for the loss of a special life. Prayers for those who loved him. - - Lorna and Marty Vinson



Lorna Vinson - April 06, 2017 at 09:54 AM

SB

“ *SHERRY BRZOZNOWSKI lit a candle in memory of Samuel Miller*



SHERRY BRZOZNOWSKI - April 06, 2017 at 09:28 AM

TB

“ *Words can not express the sorrow we feel in the loss of Sam- why must the good go young?*

Race in Peace- Boatstars Yolo Vintage Raceboat team -the Boyd Gang

Ted Boyd - April 06, 2017 at 09:09 AM

AW

“ *Sam was a true Champion in so many ways. You will be missed my friend! But never forgotten. Godspeed!*

Aaron Wachholz - April 06, 2017 at 08:46 AM

WS

“ *Sam was a special person, and we all have been inspired by his life. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family at this time. Love, Wendy*

Wendellyn Shelquist - April 05, 2017 at 10:16 PM

DV

“ *Dan Vaughn lit a candle in memory of Samuel Miller*



Dan Vaughn - April 05, 2017 at 09:45 PM

PM

“ *We should all take a page out of Sam's book on how to live life. Truly an inspiration*

Pete Matthews - April 05, 2017 at 09:22 PM

Andé Wegner

“ *Andé Wegner sent a virtual gift in memory of Samuel Miller*



Andé Wegner - April 05, 2017 at 06:16 PM

RW

“ *ROBERT WASHINGTON lit a candle in memory of Samuel Miller*



ROBERT WASHINGTON - April 05, 2017 at 03:11 PM

RW

2 TIMOTHY 4 : 7 I HAVE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH

ROBERT WASHINGTON - April 05, 2017 at 03:38 PM

CR

“ *Candy Ray lit a candle in memory of Samuel Miller*



candy ray - April 05, 2017 at 02:18 PM

CR

“ *Camdy Ray lit a candle in memory of Samuel Miller*



camdy ray - April 04, 2017 at 10:39 AM