



John Michael Foster

September 27, 1963 - June 18, 2015

It is with tremendous sorrow that the family of John Michael Foster, 51, announces his passing. John (Michael to his family) died June 18, 2015 at home in Redlands, CA after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

As a child, Michael was a popular student with many friends. As an adult, he attended Cal State San Bernardino and soon after graduation received his CPA certification. He went on to enjoy great success in his career and as an investor and was known for sharing that success with friends and family. Michael was charming, witty and full of personality – his unique, infectious laugh is legendary. He was a deeply compassionate man who taught, mentored and extended his hand to friends and family as well as to more unfortunate people who needed lifting up. To those who loved him, he was a truly loyal friend and will be missed by all more than words can say.

He was preceded in death by his mother Linda (Henry Montijo) Foster.

He is survived by his father John (Martha) Foster, sisters Kelly Foster and Toni (Aaron) Brock and twin nieces, daughter Whitney Jensen, nephew Tanner Hoffman and his aunt Gay (Ken) Spencer. Also surviving him are cousins Tracy (Gary) Cole and family and Jamie (Darren) McLachlan and family.

There will be a Celebration of Life afterward and the location will be given at the service.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Loma Linda University Children's Hospital in memory of John Michael Foster.

Events

JUL **Celebration of Life** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

10

Bobbitt Memorial Chapel

1299 E Highland Avenue, San Bernardino, CA, US, 92404

Comments



“ John, I have known you since 7th grade, although we lost touch after Cal State, we reconnected thru FB and I could not have been happier. You are a wonderful man and my children and I thoroughly enjoyed out time together. From bowling, pizza dinners, Mexico Cafe margaritas, Havasu and Angel games; you made the "What the Heck"Family smile and laugh. I will miss you so much and your smile. My phone is sad and my heartbroken that text messages are no more . I know you are in our Lord's loving arms looking down upon me and the kids and now you are the one say, " WHAT THE HECK"! love you forever JFo and I will see you again. ~JEAH~

shannon - July 14, 2015 at 01:38 PM



“ Rachelle Solis lit a candle in memory of John Michael Foster



Rachelle Solis - July 10, 2015 at 01:45 AM



“ I am truly saddened Michael was a dear friend and part of my fondest memories growing up . We are all better people for having known him. To all the family my family sends their prayers we loved him too!

Rachelle Solis - July 10, 2015 at 02:08 AM



“ Fond childhood memories of John who I always thought of as my friend Kelly's, little brother. Over the past few years having been friends with John on facebook brought a reconnection but unfortunately that reconnection met with seeing John go through health challenges. Despite those challenges John always brought a smile to all of us with his humor and most of all his support of those around him. Almost a year ago is when I saw John last when he hosted a wonderful celebration for mutual friends who were getting married. I was given the honor of being witness to this marriage that he officiated. He gave a whole new meaning to fighting a hard battle with grace, dignity and courage. Thank you John for being a value to many lives!!

Melanie Taunton

Melanie Taunton - July 07, 2015 at 03:14 PM



“ When I think of Michael, I remember one specific time, when I was invited to join the family (Jack, Martha, Kelly and Michael) to go out for pizza. Although this memory is more than 40 years ago, it is one that made a life long impression on me. While the family outing was fun, and the food was good, it was something said, after the dinner that will remain etched in my mind. The food server noticed everyone was done eating, and asked if he should box up the left over pizza. He was told that they did not want it. Michael, who was just a little boy at the time, spoke up, immediately "maybe Colleen would like to take it home". He knew that I was struggling financially with a recent divorce. I was truly touched by his extraordinary thoughtfulness at such a young age. By the way, I enjoyed every bite of that left over pizza, thanks to Michael!

Colleen Thompson - July 07, 2015 at 12:40 PM



“ My husband and I would see Michael at family functions and I always thought what a handsome man he was. He looked so much like his dad, our wonderful friend and neighbor, Jack. Michael was the life of the party, laughing and joking. You could tell how much he enjoyed his family and friends.
Our hearts break for our dear friends, Jack and Martha. But it is time to let go and know that Michael is no longer in pain and is in a better place. He is fine now, but those he leaves behind will still grieve his loss and treasure the wonderful memories of a beloved son, brother, and friend.
May Michael rest in peace forever.

Paula and Robert Boothby - July 03, 2015 at 12:06 PM



“ Kelly...please accept our most sincere condolences, love, and prayers. Michael was always a very special person to us all who knew him. We send our love...Sarah and Phil

Phil and Sarah Sigler - July 01, 2015 at 09:39 AM



“ The comments about Foster are so spot on. Although I definitely did not know John as well as most, I am thankful for the time we lived on the same street and he, Rob and Jeff goofed off together daily. Also, I remember when he sang, "Lady" during karaoke. It has always stuck in my mind for some reason. Between he and Eric, I was never sure who had the better voice. :) Please get to my boys asap, John. I know you have others to get to first. LOVE. Debbie McCready

Debbie McCready/Moonly - June 28, 2015 at 11:21 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of John Michael Foster.



June 28, 2015 at 04:13 PM



“ Micheal was such a great cousin. We were miles apart, he in California and me in RI. Yet, I knew he was my cousin --- we'd share a special connection for all of our lives, my son even shared his Sept 27 birthday day. He would have the same values as us, he was raised in my eyes a true Foster, which meant a light hearted personality, a caring way towards others, a natural alcohol drinker, know how to have a good time, stand out amongst others with a warm smile, and of course knowing what "clean" meant the Grandma Foster way. He of course was a Foster true-n-true and much more.

As I was told he was the good looking one in the family, yet I just saw him as my cousin and wondered why all the girls were flocking to him. I recall a night in Cape Cod when we went to a bar and after being there for 5 minutes, he had 3 girls wrapped around his finger. He had that spark that just filled the room.

Through many visits East we shared a lot of heart to heart talks. We discussed so much, relationships, work and our lives. Again we were miles apart, but felt through these conversations we were a close family that saw each other all the time and that years between visits were really only months or even days.

I am sad that my children will not get to know my amazing "cool" cousin, I'm sad that I will not get have one last drink together, I'm sad that you are not going to be here and will miss you so much. I know that I will see you again and we'll have another great time together.... until then I'll remember you and keep you alive through stories of the great days we've had together. Love you forever cuz,

Heather (Foster) Cini - June 27, 2015 at 08:59 AM



“ My heart aches knowing I can't text you and crack jokes. I've known you since I waz in 6th grade because you were older than me and I would tell you that every chance I could. You have always been there and always a loyal friend the best. To me you were my JFo as I was Deny to you. I will miss you beyond words and will always have you in my heart. I love you forever and so my dear friend until we meet again.... Deny out!



Denise Hinshaw - June 27, 2015 at 02:04 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John Michael Foster.



June 26, 2015 at 07:58 PM



“ The year was 1963, the date September 27th. I was 17 and in my senior year of high school. My pregnant sister and Kelly came to stay the night at my mom and dad's because Jack was working nights and my sister, Linda, was due to have her second child. Sure enough, she went in to labor, they woke me up and asked me to watch Kelly. It was in the middle of the night and I remember being so perturbed (typical teenager) at them waking me up and to top it off to watch Kelly. Well that was the beginning of the kid who did it his way. That was the day John Michael Foster was born.

Michael was a typical kid on the outside but few people knew the medical problems that he had. My sister always told him he was no different, she didn't make any changes in their lives for him. He went through years of operations and pain. Through it all, this kid was treated as if nothing was ever wrong with him. This was the beginning of the "can do" attitude that he had all his life. He swam, ran, skateboarded and all the other things kids his age did. He never once complained that he had pain or felt any different.

He was a born leader....a pied piper of sorts. People from all walks of life followed him, felt comfortable and accepted by him and were mentored by him. He had a big heart and wasn't afraid to use it. One story comes to mind....he always saw a homeless man at a Del Taco that he frequented every morning. One day he started speaking to him and asking him about his story. The man had fallen on the worst of times. He lost his job, his family and his dignity. No drugs or alcohol were involved....just a guy down on his luck. Michael asked him what he was going to do about it. This man said, well I don't have clothes to apply for a job and I have no transportation. It's tough to just get started. Next day at Del Taco, Michael takes him shopping and buys a bus pass for a couple of months. He didn't see the man for a while but lo and behold, the man showed up at Del Taco....groomed and self confident. He had been waiting for this moment to tell Michael that he wore the clothes and rode the bus and yes....he got the job. He was so thankful for the coaching, support and just a helping hand. The paying it forward attitude that Michael had was just a natural thing to him.

Women were drawn to Michael. Everyone in his family always said, "What is it about him that attracts women?" Well, we could never answer it but even on his death bed, nurses were as flirtatious as he was.

Michael wasn't perfect.....who is? What he was...a fierce and loyal friend, doting father to Whitney, generous by nature, fiercely protective of his sister, Kelly, and fun to be around. The moments where he would start singing....hilarious.

It was life changing that I was able to help him and be with him the last few months of his life. We had long and deep conversations about everything. I think my presence reminded him of his mother, my sister, and it was comforting to him to have me there. Yes, I learned what a stubborn, A type personality he was and smiled when he tried to teach me to be frugal...ha..that's a good one. We laughed, we cried. It was too soon to lose a man of his caliber at such a young age. I loved the time I got to spend with John Michael Foster. God must have a great plan for him. I am happy to say he

is now one of my angels!!! Aunt Gay

Gay Spencer - June 26, 2015 at 06:26 PM



“ My name is Felix Figueroa and I worked with John when he was with American Title. We had kept in touch over the years and I just wanted to share how generous he was when it came to helping people out. He was always such a nice guy, and knew how to enjoy life. He is a GREAT MAN, and we be missed by all that knew him.

Felix - June 26, 2015 at 11:24 AM



“ To the family of Michael, May your faith sustain you and bring comfort, Love to all. Uncle Bob and Carol

Robert Foster - June 26, 2015 at 06:47 AM



“ As a young boy I remember Michael catching his first fish at Waterman's Lake in RI. The smile on his face was as big as the fish. What a great day to share with my nephew and the memories. The memories linger. Love you Mike. Uncle Bob and Carol

Robert Foster - June 26, 2015 at 06:41 AM



“ I have known John since Junior High but I was truly honored that he married Lori and I in Sept 2014. John fought cancer and won as he lived his life to the fullest but his fight ended June 18 leaving behind all of us that loved him so dearly. He was a true friend to all that knew him and during this time of remembering Johns life our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. We love you John Michael Foster your memory lives on in all of us classmates, friends and family. Until we meet again my friend RIP

Darla Riegel-Wilhelm - June 25, 2015 at 11:46 PM



“ I knew John as far back as 7th grade and was friends until we graduated. In jr high I always thought he was cute and had a secret crush on him. He was always nice. He will be missed very much as he was always the life of our reunions. Rest in peace and fly high John. I'm glad to have called u my friend. Until we see each other again

Gaye Robertson - June 25, 2015 at 11:32 PM



“ I remember the minibike rides and all that chess Mike and I played. And how lucky I was to see him on those visits back to RI - life on earth is such a short visit, and heaven is like an eternal joy ride on a sunny day and a good meal. God Bless his soul to find peace in his new home and welcomed by all those he once knew.

Cousin Kim - June 26, 2015 at 10:06 PM



“ Kind hearted, funny, determined...a true man of integrity. The world needs more like you ! Rest peacefully John.

Sheryl Berz - July 09, 2015 at 11:30 PM



“ I have known John since he went to school with my daughters, and we kept in touch through all of the years. When he was at American Title, I worked for him, and I can tell you, he was one of the best County Managers I ever had, and believe me, I had plenty. John was a kind and generous to everyone, friends, employees and just acquaintances he met through his journey in life. I feel very blessed to have been his friend, and will miss him greatly, however, he is no longer in the awful pain he endured the last few years. My prayers are with Kelly and the family.. Rest in peace John, until we meet again

Barbara Sanchez

Barbara Sanchez - July 10, 2015 at 10:07 AM