



Sam DeCrease

August 3, 1959 - September 14, 2013

Sam DeCrease, gently passed into the arms of our Almighty Father on a beautiful Saturday morning. He was surrounded by his loving and devoted life partner, Dan DeWitt, his sisters, Becky and her husband, Roger, and Cathy, as well as his best friend, Lou Smith.

The undaunted courage and spirit of this artist will never be forgotten.

Although his battle is over here, he was not defeated, as he rises in victory over death to join his savior in heaven.

Our pain in his passing is lessened by the faithful knowledge that we will see him again; his kindness, generosity and creativity touched many in the Ohio Valley.

Sam was born August 3, 1959 in Wheeling, WV the son of the late John Herman and Marie Catherine Mackey DeCrease.

He graduated from WVU and was a catholic by faith.

Sam was a sales representative with the Wheeling News Register and a former Wheeling Business Owner.

He is survived by his loving companion of 34 years, Dan DeWitt; two sisters, Rebecca "Becky" (Roger) Haufe of McMechen, and Catherine "Cathy" (Jeff) Burdette of Moundsville; 3 nephews, Brian (Christine) Haufe and their children, Alexis, Zackary, and Cooper, Evan (Kaleigh Sikora) Burdette, and Eric Burdette; his best friend, Lou (Barbara) Smith of Wheeling; 2 uncles, Angelo (Erma) and Jerome (Claudette); several cousins, Pete, Toni Sue Cappelletti, Elaine Burris, Philip Capobianco, Danny Capobianco, Theresa

Kontra, Mike, Marcia Hayes, Lori, Bruno, Vince, Danny, Mark, Robert, and Beth Ann Rosier, and all of his four-legged friends.

Friends are welcome to come share, reflect and celebrate Sam's life on Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 12-4pm at Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 400 Jefferson Ave., Moundsville where a Celebration of Life Service will be held at 4pm with Rev. Msgr. Kevin Quirk officiating.

At Sam's request, he asked that if you have a picture of him that you bring it in, so his family can share in your memories of him as well.

Memorial contributions may be made to: DeCrease-DiCrease-DiCresce Family Foundation, Main Street Bank, c/o: Joe Donahue, 112 N. Lafayette Ave., Moundsville, WV 26041.

Sympathy expressions at grisellfuneralhomes.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 21. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home - Moundsville
400 Jefferson Ave
Moundsville, WV 26041
(304) 845-0400
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

Service

SEP 21. 4:00 PM (ET)

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400 Jefferson Ave
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Tribute Wall

SG

“ SEPT. 25th My Name Is STEVEN Gamble from Pittsburgh. So very Shocked & Saddened To Here About My Long Time Dear Friend Sam, We Were Like Brothers From The Day We Met While traveling & Designing Retail Stores For JCPenneys In The 80 's & Remained Friends From Then On. I have Wonderful Memories of My Visiting Him & Dan At Their Home For Weekends Of Many Laughs & Good Times... It Was A Gentle Teddybear of a guy & I Will Remember Your Smile Always My Friend & All the Great Times We Shared Traveling together Over The Years. Love always Your Friend STEVEN Gamble Pittsburgh.❤️



Steven Gamble - September 25, 2015 at 01:18 PM

JE

“ Jim Everly lit a candle in memory of Sam DeCrease



jim everly - January 01, 2014 at 10:18 AM

MK

“ Seeing this for the first time, my heart is broke, Sam was the truly the most wonderful person I ever had the pleasure of knowing, his heart and friendship knew no bounds, the world is a better place because he walked among us, and working with him made everyday fun, full of smiles and lots of laughs, even in my darkest days he helped me pull through, I will miss this man, but I also know he lives in the hearts of us all, and I know that when we cross to the other side, he will be waiting with open arms, and a smile that can heal all.



Mike Kukovich - December 17, 2013 at 08:02 AM

CP

“ Dear Dan, Becky and Cathy, Thank you for asking me to share the memory of that day 23 years ago. Sam's service was so touching. The flowers were exquisite. I'm sure he was smiling down on all of you. I'll never forget Sam and the kindness he showed to me. God bless you all. Chris Parker

Chris Parker - October 03, 2013 at 12:31 AM

MD

“ We are so sorry to hear about Sam. Allan and I met him while we were all in school together at WVU. Sam and I weren't in the same class, but were both in the Graphic Design program. He was a wonderful person and a very talented artist. Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.
Marsha and Allan Dietz

Marsha Paris Dietz - October 02, 2013 at 07:20 PM

BF

“ I had the sincere pleasure to share college years with Sammy in Graphics class--there were only 12 of us so we all became very close. Sam brightened up the room wherever he was--his smile permeated life in all ways. I can still hear his voice, see his art, and feel his presence in so many ways. My condolences to Sam's family--sure you will agree we were all better for knowing such a caring sweet human being. He will be in my heart forever.

Becky Furgurson - September 29, 2013 at 08:48 PM

JB

“ Dear Dan and Sam's Other Family:

It is so sad to think that we are going to be without Sam's laugh and knowing ornery smile.

Like so many, my memories of Sam go back very far, to the early 1970s when my family lived on Alta Vista Avenue (and Sam's family lived on Wheeling Avenue) in Glendale.

He was always so fun loving, effusive, and creative. I have this memory of us all dressing up for the GlenDale 4th of July Bike Parade. We were probably 10 years old.

Sam talked us into making tissue paper pom poms (about 10,000 of them) to decorate my sister Elaine's bike. It took hours. My sister had this big butterfly wing thing going on. She of course won the grand prize, which was I think \$15. So we went to DiCarlos and spent it all, feeding the winning team.

I also remember my first trip to downtown Wheeling (back when it was hopping, before they built the mall.) We all piled onto the bus one Saturday and took it to Wheeling to go to National Record Mart and Papa Joe's sub house by Stone and Thomas, with his Mom (who was also a laugh.) Year's later, when I had moved away, my Mom would always tell me how much she liked seeing Sam at JCPenney. He had this way of making everyone smile, and making everyone feel special.

Dan, your relationship with Sam is an example for us all. Take good care of yourself. I cannot imagine the silence you are experiencing.

Jim Bracken

Jim Bracken - September 24, 2013 at 10:46 PM

SB

“ I was a friend and neighbor of the Decreases as a child .Sam had fun dressing up even then. My mother would buy clothes from the Salvation Army for us to play dress up in. We had fun. Sam and I lost track of each other over the years, but I continued to hear of his talents often. Though I do not know you Dan, please know that my heart goes out to you during this difficult time. Cathy, Becky and your families..... you are in the thoughts and prayers of our family. God bless you all.

Sue Lynch Berisford

Sue Berisford - September 23, 2013 at 10:07 PM

PC

“ To Dan and the DeCrease Family:

Sorry to hear about Sam.

He was a great guy and I remember him from our days at West Virginia University.

He was always there to lend a needed hand or a kind word of encouragement to everyone he met.

Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

With Deepest Sympathy,

Pete & Erin Cuffaro

Pete Cuffaro - September 22, 2013 at 03:18 PM

LB

“ Smiles, kindness, creativity! Will remember him always.....my thoughts and prayers with Dan and family. Lynn Buch

lynn buch - September 22, 2013 at 11:49 AM

SB

“ See you later Sammy...lots of love, you will be missed so much ...your german friend Susanne
My deepest condolences to Danny, Kathy and Becky and your families on your immense loss...thank you so much for the most beautiful Celebration of Life I was ever privileged to attend...<3

Susanne Baron - September 22, 2013 at 09:03 AM

GP

“ Dan, Cathy, Becky and families....very sorry to learn of Sam's passing. We know Sam was a great person and will be missed by you and everyone whose life he touched. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. May the many memories you have of Sam bring you joy and comfort through the difficult days ahead.

Gary and Valerie (Jafrate) Pickett

Gary & Valerie Pickett - September 21, 2013 at 02:16 PM

JF

“ Sam was a wonderful human being and an even better friend to me and many,when I first started working at j.c.penneys,I met Sam and instantly knew we would be great friends,I then met Danny and he was and still is anger as t friend,even though our busy schedules don't allow us the time we used to spend together,I still consider them both family,my brothers for life,so sorry to Danny and Sam's sister's and family,he will.be sadly.missed and there will never be a better man than Sam,love to all.John Frazier and family

John Frazier - September 21, 2013 at 01:04 PM

AN

“ To "my boys"-
My heart is broken by the news of Sam's passing. I will forever cherish the wonderful memories of feeding squirrels and "tying knots" (and several others) as well as the many hugs and laughter that you both brought to my life. You both have changed my life and practice in ways that cannot be explained through words. I love you both so very much.

*Love-
Andrea, your forever primary nurse. <3*

Andrea - September 21, 2013 at 11:08 AM

DK

“ *A True friend and a wonderful addition to my family. Sam was an amazing, talented person who always kept me smiling. He took an interest in getting to know me and my family and we was more than happy to make him part of it. I will always cherish the times we have had together. He was one of the most giving people I will ever meet in my life time and feel very lucky to say that he was my friend and family. I will miss you my friend.*

*Love always till I see you again!
Dawn Kestner*

Dawn Kestner - September 21, 2013 at 10:00 AM

RS

“ *Dan and Sam's Family,*

I am so sorry to hear about Sam. You are all in my prayers. Havent been in close touch since John Marshall though I did see Sam at an auction a few years back and we promised to get together when I was back in the valley.....havent been back in a few years. Sam is one great man and reading through these tributes gave alot to many many. I remember Sam always being with me and his cousin Maryjane on our dates!

I am blessed to have known Sam May God be with you all today!

richard saffol

Richard Saffol - September 21, 2013 at 08:16 AM

JM

“ *I left No. Wheeling years ago Dan, but recently Kevin Quirk made me aware of Sam's passage. I will always have great memories of your and Sam's friendliness and those delightful spontaneous smiles of his. Kevin Quirk is such a gift to us all.*

Jim Mullooly - September 21, 2013 at 07:56 AM

DW

“ TO DAN AND THE DECREASE FAMILY,I MET SAM THROUGH LESLIE MORRIS AT THE NORTH WHEELING CASINO,HE USE TO CALL ME SEXY D,BECAUSE OF MY TRUCK PLATES,HE USE TO PLAY PHAROES FORTUNE,WHEN HE WOULD GET THE BONUS HE WOULD SAY COME ON SEXY D AND DO YOUR THING ,I WOULD GET HIM EXTRA SPINS AND ALOT OF POINTS, BECAUSE HE SAID I KNEW HOW TO STOP IT,ONE DAY I GOT HIM 900.00 ON IT AND HE SHARED HIS WINNINGS WITH ME FOR HELPING HIM WIN,LOL,SAM WAS A GREAT FRIEND AND HAD THE BIGGEST HEART THAT A PERSON CAN HAVE,WHEN I LOST MY MOTHER HE GAVE ME THE PRETTIEST CARD THAT HAD SEXY D ON IT,SAM I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU MY FRIEND,LOVE DESIREE WILLIAMS AND FAMILY,WILL SEE YOU AGAIN IN HEAVEN WHEN I GET THERE!!!! R.I.P.MY FRIEND.



DESIREE WILLIAMS - September 21, 2013 at 07:50 AM

LG

“ *RIP my dear buddy. You will be missed by all those lives you have touched. I am ever so great full to have worked for you in your business. We have shared many laughs together as well as tears and I will have these memories forever. I am glad we went to Jambo this year as I know you loved going every year and I must say you were a real trooper this year making all 4 days. We love ya and will miss you dearly :(*

Lori Gillespie - September 21, 2013 at 04:42 AM

PC

“ Dan- my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. I still have the stuffed dog you and Sam gave to Billy when he was born . Sam was the most talented person I have ever known. You two could always make me feel better when I was stressed out with my job. Keep your memories and you will smile thru the pain. Peggy Cash

Peggy Cash - September 20, 2013 at 10:24 PM

Cathy Childers

“ We all are so lucky to have known Sam. He was so much fun and brought such joy to all.

Sam and I have been friends since drama class at John Marshall, and later we worked together on special events for the United Way. Once Sam designed a fund-raising brochure and I had him autograph it for me.....I still have it. I have loads of memories that just make me smile.

My deepest condolences go out to Dan and Sam's family. May your warm memories, bring you comfort.



Cathy Childers - September 20, 2013 at 08:28 PM

Cathy Childers

Sam knew me as Cathy Baker

Cathy Childers - September 20, 2013 at 08:29 PM

BY

“ Dear Dan - My condolences on the passing of your soul mate, Sam. Although it has been years since we were neighbors in North Wheeling, I cherish the memories of those good times. May God shower you with love and bless you with all the memories of your lives together. Peace and Blessings

Bruce Yarnall - September 19, 2013 at 05:20 PM

SB

“ Dan,
Words there are none , Sam is home , we can only hope to all see
him too someday.
No more pain only joy! What great memories you and everyone
who's was touched by his friendship. The great heaven above got
another angel to look down on us! Sweet.
All our love and prayers,
Jack and Sharon Boston

Sharon Boston - September 19, 2013 at 05:06 PM

PC

“ Dearest Dan,
I am so sorry that you have lost your beloved Sam. He is
irreplaceable in your life and in our world. Sam was an extraordinary
man who embraced and changed each of us who loved him. We
were transformed by his joy and are blessed that he passed through
our life.
I loved Sam
I love you
Peg

Peggy Cartus - September 19, 2013 at 12:07 PM

DS

“ Danny,
I saw Sam's Obit in the Wheeling paper and my heart broke for you.
I am so sorry for your loss. Sam was a good guy. My thoughts and
prayers are with you. May you be comforted by all the great
memories. God Bless.

Deb Cutler Sbarra

Deborah Cutler Sbarra - September 19, 2013 at 09:29 AM

BS

“ Where do I begin, I'm so lost for words but have so much to say to Dan and Sam's family and friends.

I met Sam many years back when I was a traveling Fashion Photographer for JCP. We clicked right away . When he would walk by my booth his Smile, his craziness, his fun stature just cought me and we became friends instantly. Then I met Danny his partner and long time friend, who welcomed me with open arms as a friend of Sam's and of His! I was invited to stay at there home when traveling in the area and had great hot tub talks, met the family (dogs) and I was always HOME when there.

Then invited to a Christmas party where "from Wisconsin" I stood out like a sore thumb, cowboy hat and all! Sam Loved making fun of it but knew it was ME. Sam and Dan knowing everyone in town, I was very welcomed and felt like I had a new family!

Since meeting and no longer traveling with that company, we still somehow stayed in contact not often but for sure EVERY Christmas Eve while wrapping presents we would catch up on new times and old times and felt like we NEVER missed a day!

My Heart is broken knowing that he is not around to chat with anymore.

I spoke with Sam only a few months ago and as you all know, he had the Best outlook on life, despite his issues, High spirited, outgoing , laughing about old times and the best attitude. Who would have ever known that we would have an angel this quick in our lives.

To Danny and Sam's Family and Friends that are much closer, please know that he has touched many lives across the country and I was blessed to know him and that he will be in my HEART and MIND FOREVER!

Sam will always be looking over all of us making sure were laughing and loving life, family and friends as he always did!



Brent Stevens - September 19, 2013 at 01:20 AM

BS

“ *Brent Stevens lit a candle in memory of Sam DeCrease*



Brent Stevens - September 19, 2013 at 12:42 AM

JG

“ *To Danny and Sam's Family*

What a character!! He was the most funny, talented, loving and sunny man I have ever known. I am sorry he is gone, but he is not in pain, for that we have to be thankful!! I remember when he took my families portraits, they are beautiful, he teased my parents and family they fell in love with him too. He was so talented. Danny, you and Sam always made me smile you two were so cute together the love just poured out of you. Remember he will always be with you and all the people he touched, that is his legacy. We will remember him with a smile, just like he greeted us. Love you Danny!!! Remember your angel is close by.

Jeannie Goletz - September 18, 2013 at 08:39 PM

JD

“ *To Dan and the DeCrease Family:*

My heart hurts for all of you! I am hoping that you can find comfort in all the wonderful memories you have of Sammy! He will certainly be missed by many, as he was one very special man!

I will always remember the fabulous flowers/decorations Sammy created for my wedding. He wanted everything to be so perfect for me, that when he realized some carnations made it into my flower arrangements, he walked up and down the aisle of the church snipping off carnation tops because he knew I hated them.

Most recently, and so very unplanned, I spent a Christmas night with Sam, his family, and some of my family. It all started with a phone call from my aunt and ended up with all of us watching "Sam's 50th Birthday" video. I didn't know it then, but that would be the last time I would see Sammy. I shall never forget that night! RIP, my friend!

Jody Drake - September 18, 2013 at 06:44 PM

SB

“ *Cathy: Last Sunday Tom and I learned of your brother Sam's death at the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Cathedral that was celebrated by Msgr. Quirk. The congregation prayed for Sam during that Mass. God love you and your family. Love, Sharon and Tom Beatty*

Sharon Beatty - September 18, 2013 at 06:11 PM

TT

“ Dear Dan, we just want to let you know that we love you and Sam, and are heart broken for you loss. After reading about the nicest things Sam has done and been we are at a loss of words to add to his tribute. He was all these things and so much more. You, my friend, were the lucky one to have shared his life. Thanks guys for the laughter and friendship we shared and I don't think I could think of just one of you guys without the other. Sam and Dan will always be together in my mind and heart! Love Dave, Teresa, Gabby & Chris Teasdale.



Teresa Teasdale - September 18, 2013 at 05:24 PM

QB

“ Just saw this and am shocked.....our wonderful Sammy and all my precious memories.....I am soooooooooo sad. Wish I could go back in time and be with you all around Marie's bountiful table.....with John cracking jokes and everybody happy. Yours was and is a family locked in my soul. Please hug Sammy's soulmate for me. I really want to meet him. FIND ME I AM IN NEW MARTINSVILLE.....will come up to you. 304 398 4204. Quill Eubanks.....all my love. PS-he was the cutest little boy ever born.

Quillian Eubanks Brogan - September 18, 2013 at 11:34 AM

KW

“ I had the honor of working with Sammy for many years at the newspaper. He was our own personal ray of sunshine everyday. His humor and outlook on life was contagious. He made you smile even when he wasn't feeling his best. His nickname for me was "Special K" and that is how he made me feel every time we spoke - special. I will miss him. Prayers to Dan and your families during this time.

Kathryn Wojciechowski

Kathryn Wojciechowski - September 18, 2013 at 11:28 AM

CP

“ Sam and Dan were neighbors when I moved to Wheeling. They were the greatest! Dan, I am out of town but have you, your families, in my prayers. **BIG HUGS**

Cliff Pugh - September 18, 2013 at 10:59 AM

FD

“ Dan, my heart was so heavy when I first heard of Sam's problems, and then broken when I heard of his passing. You and Sam were so good to me. You both gave me friendship and love. I will always treasure our time together, drinking iced tea in your kitchen, soaking in your hot tub, taking our long walks through Wheeling, or eating Swedish fish while watching movies. Sam gave me confidence in myself when it was low, and helped me to grow in so many ways. I wouldn't be the person I am today without having had the both of you in my life. The love and friendship you gave me will always be a special part of my life. Being so far away during this time is hard, I wish I could be there to give you a big hug, and to celebrate Sam. Remember all the special time's you have shared with Sam. My thoughts and prayers will be with you when Sam is laid to rest. I love you both.



Franklin Dometrovich - September 18, 2013 at 10:47 AM

EH

“ I am so sorry to hear of Sam's passing, heaven has truly gotten an Angel. Sam & I worked together many years ago at JCP St. Clairsville and always made me laugh & smile when I ran into him over the years.
My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

Elizabeth Hanlon

Elizabeth Hanlon - September 18, 2013 at 10:42 AM

LT

“ The Lord has taken a wonderful, wonderful man. I'll never forget hosting the Easter Seals Telethon, and there he sat in the front row, with a big bouquet of flowers with a ridiculously huge fake diamond ring pendant attached. An early wedding gift for me! So cute!

Whenever I walked somewhere in Wheeling, it never failed, I'd hear someone yelling at me. Without ever turning around, yep! It was Sam! God rest your amazing soul!

Leigh Ann Towne - September 18, 2013 at 10:29 AM

AS

“ Very sorry to see this today. We always liked seeing Sam and talking with him. He was a kind-hearted and funny man. God Bless his family and friends. Renee and Kevin Dorsey Airport Limousine Service, Wheeling, WV

Airport Limousine Service - September 18, 2013 at 10:29 AM

RZ

“ *To Sam's Family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with Sam's family. He was loved and respected by all those fortunate enough to have known him. We will always remember his creative talent, his kindness and the fun person he was.
We send our deepest sympathy.*

Walt & Rose Mary Zurek

Rose Mary Loria Zurek - September 18, 2013 at 09:57 AM

CE

“ *While we didn't know Sam, we do know Dan. We want you to know, Dan, that you have our sympathy. We pray you are comforted by family and friends and warmed by precious memories. God bless you all.
L.J. and Ceci Edgell*

Ceci Edgell - September 18, 2013 at 09:03 AM

TW

“ *Dan I am so sorry. My prayers are with you and the family. I have such fun memories and pictures of our Jamboree days; I remember the fun we had when you and Sam had a few of us over for dinner; and the fun I had occasionally working with Sam through the catering business. He was so talented.*

Terry Warren - September 18, 2013 at 08:59 AM

SC

“ *To Sam's Family,*

I worked with Sam over the years as he was my advertising rep at the newspaper, but I also knew him through his wonderful floral design work. We became very good friends. He was one of the kindest men I ever knew, and would go out of his way to do something special for anyone he loved. He would come to visit me at our office in funny costumes just to make us laugh...my favorite was his Alice and Wonderland "Mad Hatter" costume! What a trip! This May, when Sammy was facing his own battle, my mother in law passed away. He went out of his way to help me find a Hawaiian Lei for her funeral celebration, bringing my daughter an angel and a children's grieving book, and stopping by my office with a strawberry smoothie to make me smile. That's the kind of man that he was. I will never forget him - I told him frequently that they just don't make men like him and that he was a special angel on earth. My mother said it best when she said that Sammie was the sunshine in many people's lives. My prayers are with his beloved Danni, who he always talked about with me so fondly, and the rest of his family. I am a better person for knowing Sammy and I hope his legacy will live on in all of the lives that he has touched because he certainly made the world a better place.

Stacey Creely, Linsly School

Stacey Creely - September 18, 2013 at 08:47 AM

TJ

“ *Cathy and Family,*

I met Sam in the early nineties when we both took floral design class together at the florist that I was employed. We had so much fun! He brought us chocolates each week and when asked why, Sam replied, " I am the only guy here...a piece offering." Sam was the hit of our class and we all immediately fell in love with him. He didn't even need those chocolates! Would run into him on occasion and we just picked up where we had left off, even if it was a year or two. Sam is truly one of a kind in so many ways. When I met Cathy I should have realized right away that Sam was your brother. You were a great help and an inspiration for my son. Both of you are so kind and caring.

Sam will live on in each and every person that he touched. And, he touched many. We all have much to learn from Sam. If we could all be like him this world would be a much better place. Please take care of yourselves and know that he is in a better place and continuing to be a wonderful person. I am quite sure there are many angels with prettier wings right now. Rest in peace Sam, you really deserve it.

Tammy Silbaugh Jacovetty

Tammy Silbaugh Jacovetty - September 18, 2013 at 08:17 AM

MG

“ My heart is so heavy to have to say goodbye to Sam. I have so many happy memories of Sam...

Back during the days of high school proms and homecomings, Sam would always show up while I was getting ready and give me the most beautiful flowers. (Which I still have!). He always said, "Mary Michelle, you don't need to be showing up to a Linsly prom with flowers your date picked up from Kroger on the way here, use these hunny".

Sam was one of those special souls. His joy and humor was contagious and I'm truly blessed I'm able to call him my friend. Sam, you are truly missed. You were always there for me and my sisters and for that, i'm forever grateful.

To Danny, Sam's friends and family, my thoughts and prayers and whole heart are with you all at this time. I pray the memories of Sam bring joy to you heart and the Lord be with you.

Miss you Sam...

-Mary Michelle

Mary Guin - September 18, 2013 at 08:08 AM

LR

“ Sam, you were my source of strength, and so much help, when I ran the Ohio Co. Animal Shelter. Your smile and laughter were contagious. Your love of animals and life were amazing. May you find peace in Heaven, I know that you will be taking care, and checking on those furever friends, that have crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Love you, and will miss you terribly.



Lynell Rine - September 18, 2013 at 08:03 AM

CD

“ *Becky, Roger, Cathy and Families:*

So very sorry to hear about Sam. When Roger worked at Family Service, I would ask about Sam. Even though I did not really know him, I always heard about his many, many talents. My niece, Leanne always spoke highly of him.

Take care, all of you, and be strong during this very difficult time. Our sympathy and condolences and may Sam RIP.

Connie (Jafrate) & Dan Delande

Connie Delande - September 18, 2013 at 07:19 AM

TW

“ *PLease know I am so sorry to hear of Sam's passing and know you are all in my thoughts & prayers....God Bless Terri Wiedebusch-Chambers & family*

Terri Wiedebusch-Chambers - September 18, 2013 at 06:34 AM

MD

“ Dear Dan --

When I did my student teaching at John Marshall, I had the pleasure of directing Sam in Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap" (I believe he played Major Metcalf), and I knew then that he had special talents. Years later, my husband Tim and I met up with Sammy, every now and then, at JCP, and at other places where we'd bump into each other occasionally. He was always charming, full of creativity, and gifted with a wonderful sense of humor; my heart is saddened by his passing.

May God's peace and blessings be yours during this most tender season; and, may He give you many lovely memories, so that you may always have roses in December.

*Ever hoping . . .
Always in Jesus,
Maryann Droll*

Maryann Droll - September 18, 2013 at 04:20 AM

AT

“ Amy & Thor T. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Sam DeCrease.



Amy & Thor T. - September 17, 2013 at 10:26 PM

CB

“ *Clay Bowers lit a candle in memory of Sam DeCrease*



Clay Bowers - September 17, 2013 at 10:23 PM

AT

“ *Amy Tangvald purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Sam DeCrease.*



Amy Tangvald - September 17, 2013 at 09:34 PM

MK

“ *To my buddy from Big Brothers and Big Sisters.....how you made me laugh at all our Board Meetings. May you rest in the arms of our Savior and know you were loved and admired by thousands of friends. I will always remember you Sammy!*

MaryJo (Zacchini) Kurko

Bellevue Heights, Bellaire Ohio 43906

MaryJo (Zacchini) Kurko - September 17, 2013 at 09:33 PM

LH

“ *To Dan DeWitt: Dear Dan, I just read about the loss of your long time partner, Sam. I am so sorry. Please know that I am thinking of you and praying for strength to get you through the next few days and the many months ahead. Keep the good memories and the happy times as the center of your thoughts and surround yourself with positive people. Take care and God Bless. Lee (Lemon) Horn*

Lee Horn - September 17, 2013 at 09:27 PM

JR

“ *Jeff Rafa lit a candle in memory of Sam DeCrease*



Jeff Rafa - September 17, 2013 at 09:26 PM

LF

“ *I am sadden to hear of Sam's passing. The DeCreases are truly a lovely family. Sorry for this difficult time and prayers of love are sent their way.*

Lois Hammond Foster

Lois Hammond Foster - September 17, 2013 at 09:17 PM

JK

“ *I am so very saddened to hear of Sam's passing. We were at John Marshall together and I believe we may have shared some of the same classes. Although we had different friends and didn't hang around in the same circles, Sam had a big presence there!! As guys go, he was a really good guy. Just reading the beautiful tributes show that he continued to be a wonderful human being - loved and treasured by those in his life. So, in memory of dear Sam DeCrease, I light a candle.*



*Jennifer (Wise) Kitagawa
Sasebo, Japan*

Jennifer Kitagawa - September 17, 2013 at 08:24 PM

TO

“ God bless Sam and his family, he was a great guy always loved seeing him and Dan. Will truly miss him. Thomas A. Orth

Thomas A. Orth - September 17, 2013 at 07:43 PM

JR

“ Judy Halpin Rice lit a candle in memory of Sam DeCrease



Judy Halpin Rice - September 17, 2013 at 06:02 PM

JR

My memories of Sam are that he and Dan lived and operated their wonderful business in 726 Main Street. The house that I grew up in. He and Dan were such wonderful neighbors to my parents when they lived next door. Over the years he and Dan always said stop by and we will show you what we have done with the place. But as is so often, we never got to it. I will miss his personality and wonderful ornery sense of humor and most of all his wonderful talents. This is a loss not only for us but our city of Wheeling and our Ohio Valley.

RIP Sam

Judy Halpin Rice formerly of 726 Main Street

Judy Halpin Rice - September 17, 2013 at 06:09 PM

LW

“ Lila Wilson lit a candle in memory of Sam DeCrease



Lila Wilson - September 17, 2013 at 04:17 PM

CO

“ So sorry to hear of Sam's passing.....we have many warm memories of our days working with him at JCP. His smile, laughter, and sense of humor made it a joy to work around him. Heartfelt condolences to the family.....may you find comfort in all of your beautiful memories of him; he will always be with you.

Wanda, Crystal, and Michael Craig

Crystal Craig O'Connor - September 17, 2013 at 03:55 PM

JY

“ My thoughts and prayers goes out to Sam's Partner and family.. I went to John Marshall With Sam.. We were in several classes together , he always had a smile for everyone.. I remember him doing my makeup for my class final in Drama for a mime act.. I will never forget him as the Cowardly lion in The Wizard of Oz.. The last time I saw him was at TJ Maxx.. I had not seen him for a while, then 2 weeks in a row we bumped into each other.. Sam I am so glad I got to know you R.I.P.. Jana (Allison) Yocum

jana yocum - September 17, 2013 at 03:43 PM



Belinda
Gruber

“ I went to school with Sam, we were in art class together. He was always a gentle guy with a heart as big as he was. We went to the prom together our junior year! I will always remember his kindness to me. My father had passed away the summer before our junior year and Sam was one of the few friends I really had. It was the only formal dance I attended and it was wonderful to go with a gentleman, we laughed a lot!

The Lord calls all of us back to him from which we came.

Psalm 27:4-5

One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.

May his family find comfort in the Lord in their loss and discover sweet memories of Sam will last their for lifetimes.

Pastor Bea Gruber

Belinda Gruber - September 17, 2013 at 03:34 PM

DB

“ I went to school with Sam and remember his fun and sunny disposition. He was one of those people that you couldn't help but like instantly.

Even though those years are long past, the memories are still fresh. I will forever remember him as a teenager and I'm sure his soul will be forever young.

Sending prayers and condolences to Sam's partner and family as I know your pain must be great at this time. Keeping him in your heart will ease this difficult time.

Debra Bresow - September 17, 2013 at 03:21 PM

JC

“ Sam you will be greatly missed; you were a great friend with a huge heart and a smile always on your face. Rest in peace my friend.

Jamie Crow - September 17, 2013 at 03:03 PM

EM

“ Always the life of the party! A great guy, you will be missed. You were a powerful force in helping restore North Wheeling.

Elmer Murphy - September 17, 2013 at 03:01 PM

RP

“ Sam,
It was a pleasure to be a co-worker at jcpenny with you. RIP and prayers to you family

rosemary pavelka - September 17, 2013 at 02:41 PM

SW

“ I am truly blessed to have known Sam. From the first day that he entered our lives at the newspaper, we all became blessed. Sam brought so much joy to everyone around him. A truly remarkable man who was so creatively talented. Sam loved life and he showed such gallant bravery in his battle to live. Our hearts are filled with sadness but we have such cherished memories that will help us mend.

Halloween was never my thing but I couldn't wait to see Sam's costumes each year. They were always over-the-top!

May his memory be eternal!

Steph Warbel

Stephanie Warbel - September 17, 2013 at 02:10 PM

BB

This made me cry, Steph!

Betsy Bethel-McFarland - September 18, 2013 at 08:25 AM

TM

“ *My heart and prayers for Sam's family and friends. Sam was such a wonderful, warm, caring, funny, loving person. I am honored to have known him. May the angels sing songs of joy upon his arrival. Until we meet again, dear friend.*



Tina Simmons Marking - September 17, 2013 at 01:49 PM