



Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020



Scan to Visit

Table of Contents

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Obituary | Page 3 |
| Events | Page 5 |
| Tribute Wall | Page 6 |
| Media | Page 11 |



Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020

Thomas Allan Unger, son of Steve and Lynette, brother of Andy (Emily), was a gift of God to his family and the world. His birth in Cherry Point, NC on April 4, 2001 was an exciting event which almost took his life and that of his mother. His childhood nickname, “Danger-Boy” was well-earned right from the beginning. Friends will remember that throughout his childhood he was well-known for quick disappearances, dangerous jumps, scaling amazing heights, and daring escapades. Although the heart-stopping nature and number of these events slowed as he got older, even as a teenager he loved to frighten his mother by running to the very edge and leaning out over chasms. Oh, the stories we could tell.

Because his father was in the Navy, Thomas’s life was one of moving often and of traveling with his family. Thomas lived in North Carolina, Virginia (twice), Hawaii, California, and Arkansas. His favorite was, of course, Hawaii. Taking advantage of military travel opportunities, he had visited most countries in Europe and several in Asia and Africa in his short life. In the midst of travel he would often complain about going, but would later regale his friends with tales of his adventures. He was looking forward to seeing even more of the world as an adult.

Thomas was extremely bright but did not like academic things, ever. He did, however, like homeschooling and the freedom and flexibility it gave us. He also loved doing things together as a family and staying home. He showed an early propensity for art and music which took him in non-traditional directions. He loved technology and began making movies with friends in third grade. In middle school he began creating original digital music, which ultimately became his biggest passion in life. He spent many happy hours as a teenager crafting original music compositions and “mashing up” works by other people. He had an innate ability to hear music in his head and spend all the time it took to craft it in digital form. Many of his creations are still available online.



Obituary

Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020

Thomas possessed a quick wit and a dry sense of humor that made everyone who knew him laugh. He loved music, YouTube videos, and video games, and hated to get up in the morning. Even at a young age, he was kind to small children and continued to be kind to everyone throughout his life, even while poking fun at them. He had no pretense and was quick to spot it in others. He was a steady, faithful friend, and could be counted on to be reliable in a tight spot. He was a son, brother, friend, Eagle Scout, musician, and an Airman First Class in the 188th wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard. He completed Air Force Basic Training in April 2020. Thomas was a member of Christ Community Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas and was growing steadily in his faith.

Thomas passed from this life on Friday, August 21, 2020, at 11:20 pm after a short but valiant fight with a very aggressive cancer. He is very loved and will be sorely missed by his many family members and friends.

As some of you have asked, we would be very honored if you would like to give in memory of Thomas to charities that are special to our family. Below you will find 3 options of places to give, the reasons for each, and a link. Please put his name on your donation so they get it in the correct account. Please do not send flowers or plants as they will just die in a few days. (Trust me on the plants) Gifts to these organizations will impact many lives in life-giving ways.

1. Advocates for Africa's Children (<https://www.afachildren.org/give/>)

As a family, we have supported this ministry for years. Thomas found our family mission trip to Swaziland in 2014 a meaningful, growing time in his life and believed in their vision of helping build thriving, sustainable rural communities in Eswatini and Tanzania. We would be honored by your gifts to them.

2. International Justice Mission (<https://ijm.donordrive.com/participant/2393>)

IJM is a much larger organization with a wide footprint in the world. We have supported them for years, and Thomas and Lynette volunteered weekly in their home office for 2 of our years in Northern Virginia. They are doing wonderful work in the world.

3. Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Ozarks

(<https://rmhcozarks.org/donate/ronald-mcdonald-houses/>)

These lovely people gave us lodging inside Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Missouri during our time there with Thomas. They took wonderful care of us and enabled us to be close and comfortable during our last days with Thomas. We cannot thank them enough.



Events

Thomas Allan Unger

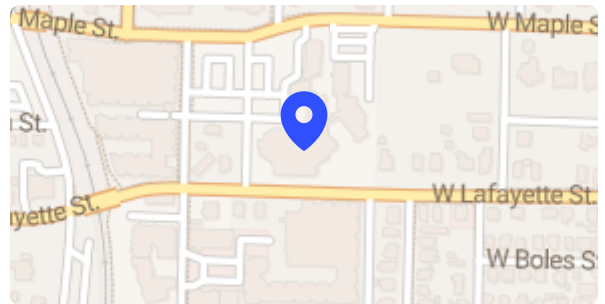
APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020

Visitation

Saturday, September 5, 2020

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM CT

University Baptist Church
333 W Maple St, Fayetteville AR 72701

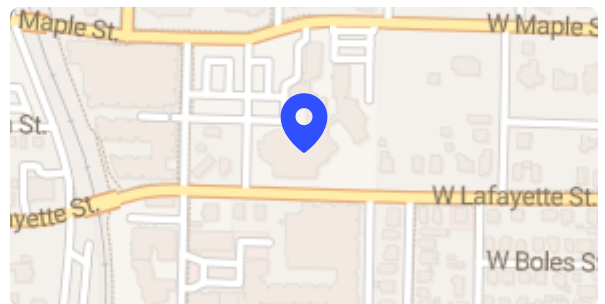


Funeral Service

Saturday, September 5, 2020

10:00 AM CT

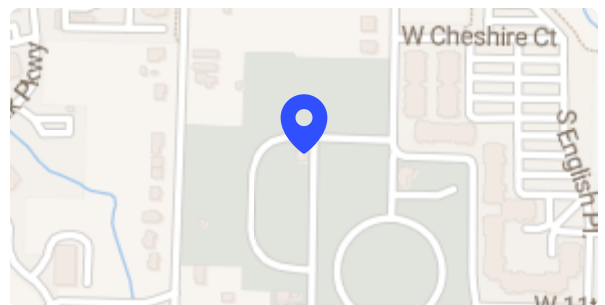
University Baptist Church
333 W Maple St, Fayetteville AR 72701



Committal

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Fayetteville National Cemetery
1000 S Lt Col Leroy Pond Ave., Fayetteville AR 72701





Tribute Wall

Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020

BV

Brandon Vaughn shared an album called **Memories Album**.



September 5 at 5:41 PM

BV

Brandon Vaughn posted:

I had the pleasure of meeting AI several years ago, back in 2017. I came into contact with him thanks to Discord and the use of his online personality, Offtopic, while I was doing something similar. Viewing him as an interesting person in the beginning, our relationship slowly grew stronger over time. By the year 2018, we were very close, and I felt the warmth of comfort every time I spoke to him. He was always a constant part of any friend group I was active in at the time, many of which I owned. Calling him Offtopic, Off, and then Thomas in the beginning of the time I knew him, I decided to call him "AI" as a joke upon learning his full name. It stuck really well, and eventually everyone in the various groups we hung out in started calling him that. Many tender memories were crafted by laughs, hardships, and trust, and by the time 2019 rolled around there was no denying it: AI had become one of my favorite people to be around, and one of three best friends. For the last year that I knew him, and after bouncing around in several friend groups, AI, myself, and several others formed a server on Discord called "The Boys". The icon for the server was four of us (AI, Shane, Lucas, and myself) aligned in the position of a meme that was popular at the time. If I can, I'll post this icon of ours in the Photos & Videos tab. Each day I got to see him was like an incredible dream. He had such a dry and ironic sense of humor, and we laughed at so many things together that it'd be impossible to recount them all. When AI left for boot camp, I enjoyed exchanging letters with him and seeing how he handled the challenge. I remember that the day before he left, we had a giant party in a game called Tower Unite, laughing the night away. His return brought tears to my eyes. His musical talent was something he always sold himself short on, but I loved how his mashups would make me laugh...and yet, they were impressively put together. He had such a knack for entertaining with unique content. Even when he was initially diagnosed with cancer, even when he suffered the effects of it daily, he always told me he was going to beat it...that he was going to run this thing into the ground, and return to spend time with me once again. He meant it, too. He didn't leave this world without a fight, and I respect him so much for that. He wanted the four of us guys to meet up and have laughs together, to make memories; he wanted to do this with many people online, in fact. He was a compassionate soul who really did love connecting with people. I may never get the chance to meet Thomas Allan Unger, but I swear that his existence will never be forgotten by me, and by those he touched. I had the pleasure of knowing one of the greatest people on this planet, maybe even in this universe. God bless the family that created him, cared for him, and raised him up, so that I might have the privilege of being his friend, and of loving him myself. I'll miss you forever, AI...and I pray that your family and friends will have the strength to carry on. I know it's what you would have wanted the most.

August 28 at 12:27 PM



Tribute Wall

Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020

DG

Dawn Garbeil posted:

Thomas and his family were a part of our homeschool life during our kids' younger years. Thomas was full of fun and wit, and it was never a dull moment when Thomas was along on an outing. Thomas' kind and adventurous spirit will live on in the hearts of those lucky enough to have known him.

September 5 at 7:41 AM

GD

Galen Denham posted:

I was very sorry to hear that Thomas had passed from this life to the next, but glad to know of and see the evidence of his trust in Jesus. He was a Gentleman and a young man to be proud of. A true credit to his family. We will always think highly of him. Yours Truly, Galen & Laura Denham

September 5 at 5:51 AM

DG

Dawn Garbeil posted:

Thomas and his family were a part of our homeschool life during our kids' younger years. Thomas was always a whirlwind of energy and wit; it was never a dull moment when Thomas was along on an outing. We are blessed to have shared time with Thomas and to have felt his kind and joyous spirit. That spirit will live on in the hearts of all those who were lucky enough to have known Thomas. ----
The Garbeil Family

September 4 at 12:00 PM

MM

Maddie M. lit a candle in honor of Thomas.

I never met Thomas in person. I met him through his online persona Offtopic and befriended him over the course of a few years. Despite this, I felt like I really knew the guy. I shared a lot of good times with him and his presence is one that I'll never forget. I speak on behalf of myself and the rest of his online friends when I say that our hearts go out to the family during this time.

September 3 at 5:46 PM



DD

Disd, Liss And Ria Department sent a Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers to the Unger family.

September 3 at 2:32 PM





Tribute Wall

Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020



Allen Family posted:

We continue to lift your family to the Lord with love and heartfelt prayers. The Allen family

September 3 at 10:13 AM



A1c Liam Fitzpatrick posted:

I knew Thomas for only a short while as he was a member of my flight during BMT. He was a quiet yet intelligent man who would help people out no matter what it was. He was a great guy and will be missed

September 2 at 10:03 AM



Tsgt Nathan Kieffner posted:

I did not know or ever meet this young man, but as a member of the 188th Wing it is always a blow when someone is lost. My deepest condolences to the family and friends of this young Airman.

September 2 at 4:22 AM



Tom Reed posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time

September 1 at 5:04 AM



Anonymous sent a Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray to the Unger family.



August 31 at 1:18 PM



Capt Michael D. Williams And Family sent a Red & White Standing Cross With Red Rose Break to the Unger family.



August 30 at 5:17 PM



Tribute Wall

Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020



Lisa Southern Cooley posted:

Our prayers for peace and comfort remain with you.

August 30 at 2:21 PM



Deborah Goff posted:

I only met Thomas a couple of years ago, but he left a lasting impression. He participated in a community theater performance along with his parents and I was privileged to be part of that performance. His voice was amazing, especially because he was so young. He was fun to be with and had such a great sense of humor. My heart goes out to the Unger family. May wonderful memories be a comfort to you. Debbie Goff

August 30 at 2:13 PM



Loretta Tanner September 1 at 8:01 AM

Praying for the family and thinking of ya'll at this difficult time!



Carolyn Cupp posted:

What a wonderful tribute to Thomas. Reading about his life gives us such a good picture of him with his family. What a blessing g for us to capture a sweet glimpse of his short life from your view, family who knew him best. Thank you for sharing his best qualities and precious glimpses of his life. Our love and prayers are sent to you at this hard time. We know you will lean on those everlasting arms. Robert and Carolyn CUPP

August 30 at 1:49 PM



Anonymous sent a Healing Tears - All Pink to the Unger family.



August 30 at 1:35 PM



Tribute Wall

Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020

IT

Isaac Thomas posted:

My sincerest condolences to the family of Thomas Unger.—Isaac Thomas

August 28 at 12:27 PM

GP

Grace P. September 12 at 9:32 AM

I still have memories of holding him at St M's and what a chunk he was. It's like I can still feel his warm solid little body. May God hold you close and comfort you. Grace P.

MK

Michael C. Keays September 6 at 4:00 AM

Thomas was an Eagle Scout and a Scout in Troop 349 in Falls Church, Virginia. He and his family were very active in our troop and contributed to it as much as they got out of it. I was proud to see him rise through the ranks and get as much out of scouting as he could. His untimely passing makes this fallen world sadder, and leaves us wondering why things happen as they do. I pray God will bring comfort to the family of Thomas and all of those who miss him now. As an Eagle, he is now soaring among angels.

JE

Jenni September 4 at 5:11 AM

I was looking at another obituary and saw your son's. As someone who comes from a military family the picture caught my eye. He sounds like a wonderful young man who will truly be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

PW

Patty Whelpley August 30 at 6:00 PM

Our family is heartbroken at the loss of dear Thomas. We are praying for you and wish we could come celebrate his life with you.



Media

Thomas Allan Unger

APR 4, 2001 - AUG 21, 2020



Brandon Vaughn shared a photo to the **Memories Album** album.

September 5 at 5:41 PM



An icon from a Discord server that Thomas was a part of.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit