



Hayden Garrison Brown

September 25, 1986 - July 28, 2017

Hayden Garrison Brown, 30, of Traverse City, Michigan and Washington DC, died whilst on diplomatic assignment for the United States Department of State on July 28th, 2017. Hayden was born on September 25th, 1986 in Traverse City to Connie and Steve Brown. He married the love of his life, Kaitlynn Lovell Schneider, on September 5th, 2015 on the best beach in Traverse City.

Hayden was born a Spartan, and graduated with his Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from James Madison College at Michigan State University in 2009. After living and working in Washington, DC for three years, he completed a Master of Arts in International Relations and Economics from Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies.

Hayden was happiest when he was outdoors, whether fly fishing on Wilton Creek, sailing across the Mediterranean, yurt skiing in Idaho, mastering his tennis serve, or cycling on Old Mission Peninsula. He was a proud Traverse City Central High School alumnus, continued to play goalie in Washington, DC, and aspired to support the local Arlington, VA high school football program.

Hayden's passion for the environment and travel extended beyond his hobbies. After his degree, he was awarded a Presidential Management Fellowship and took his dream job as an Energy Officer with the United States Department of State. His work focused on shaping long-term energy policy and supporting sustainable development in South Asia and the Middle East.

Hayden leaves behind his wife, Kaitlynn Brown, his parents, Connie and Steve Brown, his parents-in-law, Paul and Shauni Schneider, his three brothers, Cam, Greg, and Kurt Brown, and their dog, Loki.

Hayden was a person who poured his heart into all that he did, determined to leave the world better than how he found it. His intellectual curiosity, light hearted nature, and compassion left an imprint on all who met him. His life will be forever honored and cherished by those he influenced.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Hayden's name may be made to Sail Future's mentoring program at <http://sailfuture.org/donate.html>.

The memorial service will be held at First Congregational Church on Saturday August 5th,

at 4:00 PM. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. An additional memorial will be held in Washington DC on a date that has yet to be determined.

Events

AUG **Memorial Service** 04:00PM

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First Congregational Church

6105 Center Road, Traverse City, MI, US, 49686

Comments



“ I was out of the country when Hayden's service was held. I am shocked to hear of the news of his passing. I didn't know Hayden, but I knew of him, as part of the James Madison College Family. My condolences to his parents, and especially to his three brothers. I had Cam in class for a year and got to know Greg through JMC Senate and his wonderfully planned trip to Detroit. I wish I could have been at the memorial service in person to express my sympathies in person. My heartfelt sorrow to Hayden's wife as well. Hayden's accomplishments speak so well of JMC's mission. We are proud to have been a part of his well-lived life.

Louise Jezierski, professor, JMC.

Louise Jezierski - September 04, 2017 at 01:51 PM



“ I am so sad to have heard this news. My heart goes out to Steve, Connie and the whole family.

Lee Grodsky

Lee Grodsky - August 11, 2017 at 09:07 AM



“ We are so very sorry to hear about Hayden. Our families crossed paths many times through younger years. Love & prayers for all of you.
The Yeiter Family

chris yeiter - August 04, 2017 at 09:36 PM



“ My heart goes out to all of you. Hayden was one of the very best ones. May you find comfort in knowing that many of us will remember him fondly forever.
Carol Roehrich

Carol Roehrich - August 04, 2017 at 08:04 PM



“ We are so very, very sorry to hear of your loss, Steve and Connie. Hayden was a wonderful young man and made you both proud. He will be missed and our hearts go out to you and your family. - Anne & John Gault

Anne Gault - August 04, 2017 at 11:10 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Hayden was such a kind , bright, gentle person. Memories of him make us smile. Dave and Betsy Olson

Betsy Olson - August 03, 2017 at 07:37 PM



“ Dear Brown Family - I am so deeply sorry for your loss. Hayden and I met freshman year in James Madison, both living on the first floor of 1 South. I'm from the Upper Peninsula and we realized my cousin, Sam Tuck, was a friend of Cam's. We became friends over the years and had a fantastic time traveling through Israel together for 3 weeks after graduation. Some of my favorite memories are from our time in Israel. I will miss his adventurous spirit, sense of humor, passion for following his dreams, enthusiasm for life, and our shared love of northern Michigan. You are in my prayers. With deep sympathy, Carrie (White) Pastor

Carrie Pastor - August 03, 2017 at 05:41 PM



“ Dear Cam, The Valent family is so saddened by the passing of your brother, Hayden. Natalie has told us he was an extraordinary person who was loving and generous to everyone he met. We know that you are part of a wonderful family who nurtured and supported Hayden to become who he was. He will be forever missed by all that knew him or your family. May God be with you. Love and Peace. Holly and Tom Valent-Midland, MI

Holly and Tom Valent - August 03, 2017 at 11:27 AM



“ Hayden was my favorite intern - twice! He was an extraordinarily hard worker, committed to his work and the mission of the office, always willing to pitch in to help his colleagues and most importantly, he had a wonderful sense of humor. It was obvious from the first time that we worked together that he would go on to do wonderful things and I was convinced that we would work together again. I will miss him dearly and I feel very lucky to have known him.

Elizabeth Lien

Elizabeth Lien - August 03, 2017 at 10:52 AM



“ May your faith strengthen you during this time. I'm so sorry to hear of the passing of Hayden.

Cherie M. Brown

Cherie M. Brown - August 03, 2017 at 06:58 AM



“ My eyes well with tears as I read this. Hayden was in my office regularly as I was the Career Consultant for JMC at the time he was there. He introduced me to his brothers, was always willing to lend advice to other JMCers and had such a contagious spirit of adventure. He was motivated and so very loved by his friends. I am so sorry for your loss.

Jaimie Hutchison - August 02, 2017 at 01:21 PM



“ Dear Brown Family, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I met Hayden in Case Hall in between James Madison classes at Michigan State. We had alot of fun those years and it was great to reconnect with him in DC while working together at the State Department. He was a tremendous asset to the State Department and and will be greatly missed. My deepest condolences. -Marissa Cloutier (formerly Tons)

Marissa Cloutier - August 02, 2017 at 11:35 AM



“ Dear Brown Family,

Our hearts go out to you with this enormous loss. Hayden was an outstanding student in my class on regional politics in the Middle East at James Madison College. Hayden was not only intellectually curious, wrote an excellent research paper on Lebanese politics, and raised the level of discussions, but he showed a strong commitment to public service and had great integrity and kindness. He lived life to the fullest. Our hearts go out to the whole family, and especially to you Greg as we got to know you so well through classes and study abroad. Our thoughts and prayers are with you,

Yael, Eric, Maya, and Aidan Aronoff

Yael Aronoff - August 02, 2017 at 09:44 AM



“ Dear Brown Family,

Your loss is heartbreaking and grief overwhelms - know that myself and many, many others are thinking of you during this difficult time. I didn't know Hayden, but it sounds like the light of his spirit will be bright into eternity. God Bless his soul.

Peace,
Beth Collins

Beth Collins - August 02, 2017 at 08:38 AM



“ We are very sorry to hear of your loss, and encouraged to read about Hayden's vitality and quality of life shared with those around him. Be well. -David Hilt family

David Hilt - August 02, 2017 at 08:12 AM



“ Hayden was a student in a class I taught at Johns Hopkins SAIS. The students in this class were exceptional, and Hayden shined among them. I was struck by the high quality of Hayden's thinking and ideas, and his up-beat nature and kindness. His death is a terrible loss. There are no words to express how sorry I am for Kait, Steve, Connie, Cam, Greg, Kurt, Hayden's extended family, colleagues and friends. You and Hayden are in my thoughts.

With much love and deep sympathy,
Cathleen Kelly

Cathleen Kelly - August 02, 2017 at 12:01 AM



“ Dear Brown Family,

Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers. Our hearts are aching for you at the loss of your son, brother and husband. Our deepest sympathy to all of you.

Sam, Linda, Meagan, Sarah and Derek Drelles

Linda Pombier Drelles - August 01, 2017 at 07:13 PM



“ Dear Brown family,

Our hearts are aching for you at the loss of your son, brother and husband. Hayden served his communities honorably in his brief time on Earth. May the love of the community surrounding you, and your beautiful family support you in the years ahead.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you,
Dana, Jamie and Briggs

Dana Allen - August 01, 2017 at 04:23 PM



“ Dear Brown Family,

So very very sorry and sad to hear of Hayden's passing. The Old Mission memories always included him. We send you prayers and condolences.

The Linsell Family

MaryAnn Linsell - August 01, 2017 at 03:55 PM



“ What a nightmare for your whole family, so sorry, remembering a sunny upbeat 12 yr old...loosing another guy with such a bright future, a loss for the whole community, local and globally. Mark and Ursula Johnson

Mark and Ursula johnson - August 01, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ Connie: So sad for you and your whole family. Thinking of you at this most difficult time and wishing I could help in some way. I am deeply sorry. An old classmate, Joy Hammock Dixon

Joy Dixon - August 01, 2017 at 10:41 PM



“ Dear Kaitlynn, Connie, Steve, Cam, Greg & Kurt -

My heart is breaking for you. I haven't seen Hayden in many years, but have such fond memories of him (and your family) as a Trojan hockey player. I knew he was destined for great things and he definitely lived a full and accomplished life. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy. I will keep you all in my prayers for peace and comfort in the difficult days ahead.

Much love,
Jennifer Marris (Givens)

Jennifer Marris - August 01, 2017 at 03:34 PM



“ Dear Brown Family,

Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers. Our hearts are aching for you at the loss of your son, brother and husband. Our deepest sympathy to all of you.

Sam, Linda, Meagan, Sarah and Derek Drelles

Linda Pombier Drelles - August 01, 2017 at 06:46 PM



“ I'm so sad to hear of this young man's untimely death. Paul and Shauni, your daughter and the entire Brown family, please accept my sincere condolences.

nancie billingsley - August 02, 2017 at 05:56 AM



“ Our entire family extends peace and comfort to the Brown family and the Schneider family during this difficult time. Such fond memories of high school sports and what a full life Hayden lived after. Prayers for all of you. Dan and Pam Marsh and Thomas, Eric and Jordan Apsey

Pam - August 02, 2017 at 07:09 AM



“ Dear Brown Family,

There are no words that I can say that would express how sorry I am for your loss. I remember Hayden when he played Trojan hockey with my son, Mike Keyes, and the many games they played together. What a great life he made for himself and his family that showed the great spirit he had for life. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Vicky Magnan (Keyes)

Vicky Magnan (Keyes) - August 02, 2017 at 08:57 AM



“ As your community, friends, and family mourn with you, know that Hayden will be remembered as a kind, generous and community-oriented person. He has touched so many lives on his short stint on earth, and our hearts go out to you after such a devastating loss. Love and prayers to all of you.

Julie Millen and Alex, Sami, Shane Darrow

Julie - August 02, 2017 at 02:14 PM



“ Kaitlynn, Connie , Steve, Paul & Shaunie, Our prayers for you today are for comfort. The feelings we have in our hearts don't hold the right words, Just look at how Hayden was loved by his great big TC, Spartan , John's Hopkins D.C. Family.

You are loved...Mike & Korin Drilling

Michael Drilling - August 02, 2017 at 02:36 PM



“ Hayden was such a kind and gentle soul and always had an easy and determined way about him. He was always working hard for the goals he set before himself and was successful at creating a life that truly embraced his dreams and values.

Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. Know that we are remembering and honoring Hayden as our hearts are aching with you. May you feel the love, comfort and support of the community and those who surround you.

Sending our love and prayers,
Paul & Jenny Hanrahan and family

Jenny - August 03, 2017 at 06:47 PM



“ Connie and Family, My heart and prayers to all of you. I am so sorry to hear about Hayden. I send you strength and support as you all navigate this great loss.

Jenifer Strauss

Jenifer Strauss - August 04, 2017 at 11:43 AM