



Niel Rowan Vana

September 12, 1996 - August 27, 2015

Niel Vana, 18, of Murphysboro, passed away at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, August 27, 2015, at his residence in Murphysboro.

Niel was born on September 12, 1996, in Carbondale, Illinois, to Eric Vana and Sue (Nielsen) Vana.

When he was younger he was a member of the Grange Hall Lads and Lassie 4-H Club. He took piano and Classical guitar from Mrs. Joeline Maes. While in high school he was a member of WYSE. He was a graduate of the Murphysboro Township High School and was attending John A. Logan College on a math scholarship.

Mr. Vana had his black belt and was a former member of the Moo Sul Kwan.

He is survived by his parents of Murphysboro;

two brothers and their wives Quinn and JoAnn Vana of Cobden, and Isaac and Anne Vana of Murphysboro;

one niece Maven Alyse Vana of Cobden and one niece or nephew on the way;

his paternal grandmother Iris Louise Vana of Carbondale;

his paternal uncle John Vana of Carbondale;

his maternal aunt Mary Lynn Powell and her husband Larry Powell and his cousin Samuel Powell, all of Murphysboro,

and maternal aunt Becky Swafford and her husband Joe Swafford;

and his cousins Bethany Reiman and Jacob (Kelsie) Reiman, all of Murphysboro, and Stefani Swiatkowski of WA.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents Robert Vana, and Ernie and Imogene Nielsen, his aunt Ruth Nielsen, and cousin Ericka Swiatkowski.

Gravesite services will be held at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 2, 2015, at Pleasant Grove Memorial Park with Dr. Joel Hebert officiating.

Family and friends are asked to meet at the cemetery. Memorials may be made to the donor's choice. For more information, please visit www.pettettfuneralhome.com.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015, at Hope Church Carbondale, located at 7373 Old Route 13, Carbondale, IL.

Tribute Wall



“ *Niel Rowan Vana*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Sue,
I am so sorry to hear about the devastating loss of your precious son. I can't even fathom the depths of pain you and the rest of your family are living with every single minute. I wanted you to know that I am thinking of you and praying that Jesus will hold you very close during this terrible time.*

Karen Grammer Price - August 31, 2015 at 07:38 PM



“ *My heart just hurts for you and your family. I am sorry for your loss. My memories of Niel in music lessons were all sweet. He was an amazing Christian young man and very meticulous in his manner and lesson preps. Niel was a delightful student and I am honored to have been blessed to teach him. Know that the Lord will never forsake those who turn to Him. I am praying for His Perfect Peace to cover you.*

*In His Light and Love,
Joeline*

Joeline Mayes - August 31, 2015 at 02:48 PM

JC

“ I send my condolences I know the feeling of losing a child this year in May I lost my 3 month old daughter. So the pain I know what your going through so I give all my love and condolences to you and your family and God will give you strength in this hard time.

Jerica coping - August 30, 2015 at 05:50 PM

GH

“ Eric, Our symphathies to you and your family. Your in our thoughts and prayers.
George & Rhonda

George & Rhonda Heisner - August 30, 2015 at 10:11 AM

DB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Darla Borrer - August 29, 2015 at 11:08 PM

RH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. All of us at KFC are mourning with you. He was a great young man and when enjoyed the pleasure of knowing him and working with him.

Ron Harper - August 29, 2015 at 10:41 AM



“*Niel Vana and our son, Scott McClallen, spent numerous Sunday afternoons together as well as other times during their childhood. Niel was a wonderful young man with a shy smile and love for the outdoors, especially his poultry, including chickens and ducks.*

My two best memories are of a campout spent in the pine trees at the Vana's house, and a canoe trip on Little Grassy Lake.

The boys were about 7 when they camped out in a tent near Niel's house. They cooked supper over a fire and awoke in the middle of the night to see a large white animal with a long tail licking the grease from their firepit. Scott didn't know what it was; I tried to describe a Great Pyrenees, but Scott said it wasn't that. Several years later I was on the internet researching mountain lions and looking at pictures and Scott came up behind me and said "that's the animal that was licking up the grease at the campout at Niel's".

The last time I saw Niel, the boys were about 12. They took our canoe out on Little Grassy Lake for about two hours. They had lifejackets and I knew they were old enough to go without an adult, but I sat on the picnic table and watched them out of sight and prayed for them most of the time until they came back.

I am grieving the loss of your wonderful son, Niel, and praying for God to give you his peace and comfort.

Debbie McClallen

August 29, 2015 at 09:08 AM

KC

“ Sue & family. I'm so sorry for your loss. I was very sadden & upset when I heard of his passing. You guys were great neighbors & I will always remember Nich playing with Neil.

Kim Camden - August 28, 2015 at 10:24 PM