



Christopher Vladimir Thurman

August 30, 1999 - January 8, 2019

Christopher Vladimir Thurman passed away unexpectedly on January 8, 2019, at his family home in Springfield, VA. Chris was born in Tyumen, Russia, on August 30, 1999, where he began his life in a children's home. On April 18, 2000, Chris and his brother, Alexander (Sasha) Thurman were adopted by Natalie and Nelson Thurman and began their life in Springfield, VA. Chris attended Springfield Estates Elementary School, where he received the DAR Good Citizenship Award in 2012; Key Middle School; and Lee, Mt. Vernon and Bryant High Schools. He was active in swimming and diving (Springboard Pool), scouts, and pre-teen activities at Grace Presbyterian Church. His volunteer spirit and desire to help others showed early. While still in elementary school, Chris would volunteer at Earth Sangha's Wild Plant Nursery. While at Key Middle School, Chris volunteered at the Key Center and with the I Can Ride Bike Camp for kids with physical challenges. His compassion for and desire to help the hurt, lost, broken, and helpless shone through his passion for rescuing animals. Through attempts to nurse injured birds and squirrels back to health, Chris discovered the world of animal rescue and wildlife rehabilitation. From baby squirrels to dogs, cats, rabbits, reptiles, rodents and critters in between, Chris never encountered an animal in need that he didn't try to help. As soon as he was able, Chris pursued certification in wildlife rehabilitation.

In addition to his mother, father, and brother, Chris is survived by his grandmother Lee Smidt, aunts and uncles Sharon Thurman, Dennis (and Tina) Thurman, Suzanne (and Jim) Wade, Randy Smidt, and Josephine Jarfas Smidt, and cousins Seamus and Finn Wade, Avery and Esther Millie Smidt, and Brittany Thurman.

A memorial service will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church in Springfield on Saturday, January 19th, at 1:00 pm.

Memorial contributions for Chris Thurman can be made to Hope & Serenity Equestrian Center & Farm Sanctuary, Friends of Rabbits, or an animal rescue organization of your choice.

Comments



“ 1 file added to the album Obituary Wall

Jefferson Funeral Chapel - January 28 at 10:09 AM



“ Chris, I love you so much and I will miss every moment we spent together. You were my light during the darkest of times and you saved my life. You will forever be in my heart, until the day I see you again. My one and only true love!

Heart - January 24 at 12:00 AM



“ I remember how kind and funny Chris was when we used to live in Springfield! I could not believe that you have departed from this world so soon. Our thoughts and prayers to you and your family.

January 19 at 12:00 AM



“ Very kind person!

Warm Glow Light - January 19 at 12:00 AM



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Written in the Stars - January 18 at 12:00 AM



“ Your Friends of Rabbits family will never forget your kindness, enthusiasm, and dedication.

January 18 at 12:00 AM



“ I am missing you. But I know you are in heaven and we will meet again there. Love. Mom. Kim

Candle of Peace - January 18 at 12:00 AM



“ Nelson, Natalie, Sasha, Sharon and other family members. We are praying for all of you in your loss is Chris. We will remember fondly the good times Jaden shared with him when they were younger. These are special memories not to be forgotten.

January 17 at 12:00 AM



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Your Light Shines - January 17 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris, you are an amazing human who will always be in my heart. You were the older brother I never got to have and I'm beyond thankful that I got to experience my younger years always by your side, and almost 15 years just knowing you and catching up with you at random times. I have never been so close to another person. Thank you for going on adventures with me, being a part of my family and I yours, and teaching me how to be brave and as weird and as spontaneous as possible. I will be thinking about you every day. RIP
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Sunshine - January 16 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris, you were “the brother by another mother” to Cassie. We loved taking you to Great Wolf Lodge with us and you and Cassie always kept us laughing. We love you and will always miss you. Erich and Lilly Friedrichs

Candle of Peace - January 16 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris, you were always smiling and happy everytime I was around you and it was always wonderful to have you around. You were a part of our family and im so happy you could be there for Cassie throughout her life. I know how much she will miss you, so watch out for her. I know she will carry on her love for animals for you.
�� -Megan F

January 16 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris you were always there for me and i will always miss you, you were my little brother and your life will always be celebrated. Your kindness for everyone and animals will be missed but will live on through your family and friends. -kimberly kane

Paw Print - January 15 at 12:00 AM



“ Nathalie, I am so sorry for your loss. Chris was such a kind soul. I shed tears for him when I found out that he was gone. He was always gentle and kind. My thoughts and prayers for Chris and the family he left behind.

January 15 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris you were one of my very first students in kindergarten. You were such a sweet boy, always kind to your classmates and respectful to your teachers. I enjoyed watching you progress through elementary school at Springfield Estates. I'll never forget how you would just stop by my house and ask to pet our rabbit. I know Spunky enjoyed the extra attention. I'm glad you were able to use your love of animals to help them, especially those in need. You are missed.

Candle of Peace - January 14 at 12:00 AM



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Beautiful Dreams - January 13 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris you are a super hero to a lot of animals and a lot of people. We could always count on you. I will miss my hugs and kisses you always greeted me with. But i know in my heart your spirit and soul are with god. And kedes. Takeing care of gods creatures. I will never forget you my son as I called you and you called me mom. Bless you. Love. Kim. Mom

Baseball - January 13 at 12:00 AM