



## Nick Yates

October 17, 1997 - October 5, 2016

Nicholas Paul Mario Yates, 18, of Marquette Heights, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 at home.

He was born Oct. 17, 1997 in Peoria and is survived by his parents, Linda Wheatley and Kirk (and Barbara) Yates. Also surviving are his grandfather, Lou Basso; his siblings, Louie Yates, Grace Wheatley, Geoff Duval, Skye, Parke, and Madison Wheatley and Alec Gebhart. Nick has many loving aunts, uncles and cousins as well as a large extended family. Certainly last but not least are his beloved pets, Sookie, Mr. Wilson, Hope and Rosie.

Nick was preceded in death by his grandparents, Joan Basso and Ray and Marla Layton. We know he is in their loving arms again.

Our Nick was a unique guy. He was born with an old soul, which meant he could be a grumpy old man too. Quiet by nature, Nick had a sharp mind, a quick wit and a wicked sense of humor. He was a charmer with a mop of blonde hair and beautiful blue eyes. He looked a lot like his Nanny, but he had his uncle Paul's profile.

Nick was in a wheelchair at an early age so he wasn't able to be physically active. He put his mind to other things and was a wonderful artist, he loved to draw and paint. He and Zach Riter, Nick's partner-in-crime and best friend are gamers. They played as much as they could get away with, always side by side. Nicky loved to read, he could go anywhere in or out of this world when he read.

His love for animals was endless, they were his constant and loyal

companions his entire life. They all loved him equally.

Marvel comics, fried chicken, Ramen Noodles and Frank's RedHot. Please don't forget the Frank's...seriously. Going out with his brothers, he loved it all. Above all, he loved being a big brother to his little sister, Grace.

With the love and support from Nick's family and friends he lived a short but full life. The Make-a-Wish Foundation sent the family to Sea World, and he traveled from coast to coast on vacation. Whatever was going on, he was included. He went to concerts, movies, out to Stone Country, camped, fished, you name it. Nick was the center of the family.

Nick was so happy at the MDA Summer Camp in Bloomington, Five great summers where he was just like everyone else.

Nicky leaves a huge hole in our lives and hearts. He will be SO missed by so many, but he left us all with the greatest gift of all, LOVE...Lots of Love.

If you would like to share this love, please consider making a donation to MDA Summer Camp at 102 E Main Street #201, Urbana IL 61801, or to Make A Wish Foundation. Nick would love that.

A celebration of life for Nicholas will be held Saturday, October 15th, at 4:00pm at 1927 County Road 905 East, Low Point IL. Deiters Funeral Home and Crematory in East Peoria is in charge of arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

OCT 15. 4:00 PM (CT)

Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - East Peoria  
444 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL 61611  
(309) 699-5999  
[garydeiters@deitersfuneralhome.com](mailto:garydeiters@deitersfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

TI

“ I thought about you a lot today - and the inspiration you bless me with each day. I'm a stronger, better person because of you. It's a revelation, and it burns like an ember on my skin, burrowing yet painless. I know more about the person I am and the place where I belong, and your spirit is like a backbone of courage for me, holding me straight and keeping me focused. Happy birthday. Thank you, thank you, thank you for being. -Tim

Tim - October 17, 2017 at 09:00 PM

TD

“ The Celebration service was beautiful and, for me, unforgettable. I can now tell where Nick got all of his charms, wit, intellect, sense of fun, and good humor. You are truly angels among humans for sharing the best of your selves with him and helping him to do the same for the world at large. He affected many, many lives, and all in entirely positive ways. Knowing him - and you - has been a revelation I will always keep as part of me. May fortune and peace find you wherever you go, now and always.

'There is no death, only a change of worlds.' - Oglala Lakotah saying

Tim Drury - October 16, 2016 at 01:41 PM

TF

“ Tony and Karah Flores purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Nick Yates.



Tony and Karah Flores - October 14, 2016 at 01:42 PM

CH

“ I met Nick his first year at MDA summer camp. I was taking pictures around the camp fire and he asked if he could try. I'm thinking I am crazy for letting him since I just got this camera a week ago, so I let him. He took several of that stuffed gray and white cat. I will miss you, I know no one is telling you to slow down. Go fast, fly high my friend.

Candy Horath - October 13, 2016 at 09:18 PM



Barbara  
N Kirk

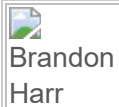
*Puffs is the cats name. She's by my side every day.  
Thank you for sharing*

Barbara N Kirk Yates - October 12, 2017 at 12:02 PM

SB

“ So sorry for your loss...I had the pleasure of a few chats with Nick over the years as I walked my dogs...seemed he was always heading to the library at the time, prayers to your family.

Sue Bagby - October 13, 2016 at 09:04 PM



Brandon  
Harr

“ I met Nicky at MDA camp. It was an honor to watch him from from a little boy to a young man. May he go as fast as he ever wanted now that he is at rest. R.I.P. Nick! Love you brother!

Brandon Harr - October 13, 2016 at 08:44 PM

BP

“ I got to see Nick over the last few years every time he passed thru the faculty lounge or in the hallways. We chatted about video games and books. Such a nice kiddo. He will be greatly missed.



BJ Price - October 12, 2016 at 01:46 PM

JG

“ I met Nick out at the farm, with my daughter Drew a few years ago, trying to play with the kittens. At first they did not want to come out, but Drew told him to just wait, and they would come out if they waited. Pretty soon, they were out playing with some homemade toy Drew had made as Nick dangled it around. His smile was huge! I am so lucky to have had the chance to meet him, he really was a unique person.

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**Jen Glad** - October 12, 2016 at 12:04 PM



“ Suzanne Peirson lit a candle in memory of Nick Yates



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**Suzanne Peirson** - October 12, 2016 at 11:42 AM

AF

“ What a big loss to the world.  
Nick was an amazing person. funny, ornery, Bright and happy.

*He touched everyone's heart that crossed his path .I only knew him a short time but I will always remember him and his little mischiefs grin and his ability to make a negative situation a positive.*

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**a friend** - October 12, 2016 at 09:09 AM

DG

“ Nick rode the bus with several of my students. I know that Daymon will miss him so very much on the rides to and from school. I know they enjoyed sharing stories!! We at PCHS will miss Nick's smile and kind greetings. Thinking of your family, Dione Gresham

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**Dione Gresham** - October 12, 2016 at 07:32 AM

JC

“ I used to drive Nick to high school on late in days, did it for a few years... Between Nick and the other kids teasing me there was never a dull moment. I was deeply saddened by hearing of this... Nick is the best.

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**Joe Coffey** - October 12, 2016 at 06:10 AM

BY

*He thought you were pretty cool stuff. Thank you.*

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**Barbara Yates** - October 12, 2016 at 06:42 AM

JW

“ I'm so sorry to hear Nick has passed away. My heart aches for Linda and her family.

*After the clouds, the sunshine,  
After the winter, the spring  
After the shower, the rainbow  
For life is a changeable thing.  
After the night, the morning,  
Bidding all darkness cease,  
After life's cares and sorrows,  
The comfort and sweetness of peace.*

*Helen Steiner Rice*

*Sending happy, healing thoughts your way.*

*Jennifer White*

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**Jennifer White** - October 12, 2016 at 05:23 AM

JG

“ So sorry for your loss. I called Nick, Jake and Sabrina the 'wheelchair posse' at PCHS. He and Jake ate lunch everyday and swapped their drinks. The boys loved it when he could come over for a video game competition! He will be greatly missed.



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**Jean Gryns** - October 12, 2016 at 01:21 AM

SB

*Having fun*

**Steve N Bobbie Billings** - October 13, 2016 at 03:46 PM



*I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I can't imagine anything worse.*

**Bill Wylie** - October 14, 2016 at 05:29 PM