



## Dan Gooley

April 2, 1982 - November 4, 2022

Dan Gooley, 40, of Bloomington, died tragically on November 4, 2022 after losing his fierce battle with the disease of addiction. Dan was born April 2, 1982 in Bloomington to proud parents M. Stephen Gooley and Cynthia Clapham, and welcomed by his loving older sister, Samantha (Gooley) Ridge.

Dan had an enormous heart and incredibly generous spirit, often giving of himself before giving to himself. He fed and sheltered two house cats, multiple feral cats, families of raccoons and skunks, deer, and birds at his beloved wooded home. Dan spent hours of his rare free time ensuring that his friends and loved ones were doing okay, whether he was or not.

Dan was the Administrator for Valhalla Cemetery for 5 years, and took immense pride and pleasure in doing a good job. He worked overtime nearly every week to ensure that the process bereaved families went through was as smooth as possible. Dan formed close friendships and connections with colleagues, pushing himself to work hard and not let his team down. Even when seriously injured, he drove himself to work every day to be there for his work family.

Dan was a total "car guy," having begun his love with Matchbox cars as a kid and graduating to the real thing: he had four cars but his true love was his restored Nissan Z. Just weeks ago, Dan had delighted in telling family how the

Z was running again and he had driven it around town. Dan also loved anything bright and appealing: home lighting, flashy cars, and things that shined. His dad jokingly called him a crow, drawn to bright objects.

He had purchased his own home several years ago, as a fixer-upper, and spent hours working on renovation. Dan prided himself on keeping a clean home, with a place for everything and everything in its place. He enjoyed yard work, and found mowing to be a relaxing chore.

Dan was a beloved son, calling his dad every day until his death this past June, and talking with his mom every morning on her daily walks. He was uniquely thoughtful, coming up with singular gifts each Christmas for his parents, sister, and niece and nephew. He was a funny uncle who made his niece Vanessa and nephew Mason laugh from the time they were little. Dan was so proud to hear that Vanessa had been accepted to IU and happy she'd be in Bloomington. Dan was the stereotypical little brother who drove his sister crazy when young, and who made every event a thousand times better when they were adults. His sense of humor will never be replaced and the world is less bright for losing his laughter.

Dan was preceded in death by his father, Steve Gooley and stepmother T. Kathy Gooley. He is survived by his mother, Cynthia Clapham, sister Samantha Ridge, brother-in-law John Ridge, nieces Vanessa Ridge, Brittany Wildman, nephew Mason Ridge, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Dan's desire was to help animals and people in need and he often gave more than he could - of his time, energy, and resources. In Dan's honor, the family asks that in lieu of flowers, those who wish, please donate to Amethyst House or Pets Alive.

We want everyone to know that Dan's death was a tragic mistake. He loved

his job and his co-workers. He loved his family and his friends and spent countless hours helping and caring. He was looking forward to taking classes again at IU, remodeling his house, working on his car, and spending time with his friends and family. He had been healthy and doing well for years; recently he was in emotional and serious physical pain and only wanted to feel a little better on a Friday night. Please understand that one bad choice can cost a life. He never knew what was in the substance he took. This can happen to anyone who buys an illegal/unregulated drug. Until November 4, this tragic outcome had happened to strangers - last week it happened to Dan. It robbed us of our son, brother, nephew, uncle, colleague, mentor, and friend. Please don't let it happen to you and please seek help for yourself or a loved one who is struggling with addiction of any kind.

Services will be held at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 South Old State Road 37, Bloomington, on Saturday, December 10th from 11:00AM to 1:00PM.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

DEC **10**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory  
4155 S. Old State Road 37  
Bloomington, IN 47401  
(812) 824-5905  
<http://www.allencares.com>

# Tribute Wall

KS

“ Karen and Bob Stryker purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Dan Gooley.



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**Karen and Bob Stryker** - December 05, 2022 at 05:00 PM

KW

“ Sending Love & Prayer's, Kim 🌹



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**Kimberly Williams** - November 21, 2022 at 08:31 PM

PB

“ Our hearts were broken when we were told Dan passed away. He was a caring and loving man. He was always there for his family, friends and co-workers The day Dan came to work at Valhalla as my boss our personalities clicked. We would always have each other laughing over silly things. He was the best boss I ever had. He loved e-mailing me pictures of his house and animals. Most of all he loved his Mom and Family and was looking forward to being with them on thanksgiving. My love and prayers are with the family. I will never forget you Dan Love You Pam

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**Pam Beliles** - November 20, 2022 at 06:29 PM

LK

*Cynthia,  
I never knew Dan as an adult but remember him through you as a happy child. I cannot begin to know your grief and feelings now but my heart goes out to you. I hope that I will have an opportunity in the future to tell you in person and see you again.  
Lois Kaufmann*

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**Lois Kaufmann** - November 21, 2022 at 06:12 PM

BF

“ *I want the family to know he was a wonderful person I knew from work. He always was willing to help anyone. He will be missed. I am so sorry for your loss.*

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**Betty Foster** - November 19, 2022 at 10:15 AM

JE

“ *Jenny lit a candle in memory of Dan Gooley*



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**Jenny** - November 16, 2022 at 04:50 PM

MD

“ *We were so sad to learn of Dan's passing. He is such an important part of Theresa's life and has been for over ten years. They were such good friends; she is grieving and our family grieves with her. Rest in peace Dan!!  
The Devich Family (Joe, Mary Anne, Katherine, Theresa)*

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**Mary Anne Devich** - November 15, 2022 at 09:06 AM

JH

“ When I heard of this tragic loss I was broken-hearted 💔 Dan was such a kind soul and an amazing person that was funny as well. I will keep you all in my prayers 🙏 as we go ahead and grieve 😔 and celebrate his life 🙌 and all that he had done. I was one of his friends in high-school and years after that I just haven't seen him a long time but he will be truly missed by all those who had the lucky chance to know him! May he rest in heaven with our lord savior and his loved ones in heaven, amen! 💙

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**Jessi Hodges** - November 13, 2022 at 03:10 PM