



## Jonas Eric Longacre

February 26, 1998 - January 2, 2014

Our beautiful son and friend, Jonas Longacre, died unexpectedly on January 2.

From an early age he astonished and delighted those around him with his abilities as an artist, linguist, and engineer. He was happy in the company of people of all ages; even as a 15 year old boy he was as comfortable milling persimmons and crafting Christmas ornaments with middle-aged women friends as rock climbing at Hoosier Heights with fellow teenage boys.

He loved his teachers at Hoosier Courts, Templeton Elementary, The Project School, and Bloomington High School South, as well as his music teacher Kevin MacDowell, and he repaid their care with dedication to his studies. At the time of his death he was taking Advanced Placement calculus, had been studying Latin for several years, and had almost finished reading Godel Escher Bach. Inspired by Tolkien, he had long been engaged in constructing languages and was considering a career in computational linguistics. He was no less adept at primitive survival skills such as starting fire with a bow and drill than at writing software.

But most impressive of all was his character. He was

extraordinarily principled and fair, kind to people and animals, the personification of modesty, and a strict respecter of rules. He adored his parents and was genuinely and deeply solicitous about their welfare. He took care of them as much as the reverse.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Jess Torp, and is survived by his mother Patti Torp, father Mark Longacre and wife Nancy Hiller, grandparents Dolly Wagoner, JoAnne and Jack Longacre; numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins on both sides of his family; and countless friends.

Family and friends are welcome to a visitation at the Allen Funeral Home, 4155 S Old State Road 37, Bloomington, on Wednesday, January 8, from 4 to 7 p.m. with a memorial service to follow. A celebration of life will follow at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Camp Palawopec, 3497 N. Clay Lick Rd., Nashville IN 47448 or the Bloomington High School South Robotics Club, 1965 S Walnut St., Bloomington IN 47401. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.allenfuneralhome.org](http://www.allenfuneralhome.org).

"I am all ages like everyone else.  
I'm from the speed of the wind  
And how it blows."-Jonas, fourth grade

# Tribute Wall

KG

“ A friend of mine who works at Templeton sent me a photo today of a mural we did together with Stella, Ben, and Adam. The Escher one, Hand with Reflecting Sphere, in the boys' bathroom--something about the illusion of reality's continuity in reflection's inherent distortion. Obviously, it got me thinking about you, so I looked up your obituary. I guess it's your golden birthday. Nothing is coincidental--something about the cosmos. I hope you're doing well out there, wherever that may be.

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**Kaiya G** - February 26, 2024 at 02:04 PM

AN

“ I don't know anybody here personally and I accidentally came across this obituary, 8 years after this young man passed... Simply seeing how long it took for me to scroll through these comments showed me how much this sweet boy was loved. I can tell you gave Jonas a marvelous life from simply reading about him. He lives on in strangers who don't know him.

- Anonymous

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**anonymous** - February 02, 2023 at 09:49 PM

JO

“ Jonas Longacre was easily one of the smartest people I've ever met. He was the sole reason I made it through Geometry class; I just remember turning to him nearly everyday and asking how I'm supposed to do this problem or this question, and he would always help. One of my favorite memories is walking to Bryan Park with him and a few friends to mess around for an hour or two. He was always so nice too, and had a great sense of humor. I really wish I had the chance to thank him for being the most decent person I've ever had the pleasure of meeting.

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**Josef Kersey** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

MC

“ Mark. Just heard about Jonas! Gosh we remember him as a baby playing on the computer while we talked about constructing our house. We are so very sorry to hear of his passing. Our prayers will be with you as you move forward on your journey with the memories and his spirit of love living within you! Blessings!

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**Mary Loro & Greg Crouch** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

CH

“ My heart aches for you all at this difficult time. Sending my deepest condolences.

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**Chris Clothier** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

PA

“ May the angels guide you gently through your grief; and may the spirit connection you now have with Jonas be a source of peace for you and, eventually, great growth. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Paula Bates** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

CO

“ Dear Mark and Patty,  
I am so deeply sorry to hear of Jonas' passing. I know there is nothing I can say to ease your pain and suffering right now. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers, and that you and Jonas are loved by so many. Your tribute to him was so beautiful- what a remarkable child.  
Lots of love,  
Cory Reynolds (Gordon's daughter)

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**Cory Reynolds** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

KI

“ To Mark and family, I found the news by way of Angela and finally put it together after a post in the Palawopec FB site. I passed on this sad news to Janda, who is out of the country (I believe) and would miss the newspaper. I also shared this with one of Jonas' campers from 'boys sesh'; Kyle, who we visited today. Kyle was shaken, but able to tell me that Jonas was his CIT and he knew him well. My Sarah shared some pictures with me from campers (Gavin, and others) and other mutual friends too and I'm so, so sad. I wish I could have met your beautiful son. He was just as brilliant as the stories about him. Much love, -Kim S.

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**Kim Sackmann** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

DR

“ I was Jonas' Finite teacher last trimester. He was such a bright and delightful kid. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

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**Drew Frey** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

SG

“ Dear, dear Patti. There are no words and nobody deserves this. We have thought about you every day since we heard, and Jonas and everyone who loves him have been with us in the background underneath everything we've done since then. Jonas will remain forever in Autumn's spirit as a cherished childhood compatriot, *The Boy with the Amazing Smile*. And reading these comments, I would say that Jonas succeeded in changing the world a little bit by the age of 15, more so than many of us can claim having done as adults. I cannot begin to wrap my head or heart around the irrevocably changed shape of your world. Know that our love is with you in utter, utter sympathy. May tremendous love embrace all of you on your journey to peace.  
A great mystic once wrote, "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well." Let's believe it.  
Love,  
Sunii, Autumn, & Jeff

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**Suzin Snyder, Autumn Snyder-Siney, & Jeff Goldin** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

DP

“ I wish to offer my deepest condolences for your loss of Jonas. I had the privilege of knowing Jonas as a teacher's aide at Hoosier Courts and remember Jonas very well. He was such a sweet and joyful boy. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Dara (Sides) Parker** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

SH

“ My thoughts are with you and your family in this trying time. May strength be with you and peace find you.

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**Sheldon Beasley** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

PE

“ *Wildflower seed in the sand and wind  
May the four winds blow you safely home.* ”

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**Peter Hamlin** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

GM

“ *We are so sorry to learn of Jonas's death. You are in our thoughts  
and prayers.* ”

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**Glenda & Patrick Murray** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

KE

“ *Nancy and Mark, I am so sorry to have just heard about Jonas. You  
both are in our thoughts and prayers.* ”

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**Kendall Reeves** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

KI

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I worked with Jonas over the summer  
doing robotics projects for the FIRST robotics team. We met at the  
library several times, and it turned out I was learning from Jonas!  
We spent several hours talking about engineering related stuff, him  
and his friends asking me questions about things ranging from  
power generation to AC to DC conversion. Clearly he was headed  
down a path of greatness. I was so saddened to hear of his loss, he  
will be greatly missed.* ”

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**Kiron Mateti** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

GA

“ Read the kind words and saw that beautiful face and was immediately saddened by such a loss. This is not the way this is supposed to go. It came as an even greater shock when I realized, I had played catch with this, then 3 year old boy, at the softball fields not so long ago. He was special then, you could just feel it. I am pained for your loss and for the the rest of us as well. Please accept my Condolences.

Sincerely Yours,  
Gary Stoll

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**Gary Stoll** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

Jl

“ We are so very sorry for this loss. Jonas, from your description lived and learned more in fifteen years than most of could hope to. With deepest condolences and love from Jill, Calvin, and Sam. May his memory be a blessing to you always.

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**Jill Vass** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

PG

“ My heart aches for you and your family. May God ease your pain and bring peace . My thoughts , prayers and hugs to you.

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**Paula Missi Giddings** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

YY

“ We are deeply saddened by Jonas' passing and hold you all in our thoughts. Ysabel remembers him always being a happy boy and very nice. We would like to offer any support you might need during the days ahead.

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**Yara and Ysabel Cluver** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

CF

“ Jonas brightened many lives. He was very smart – studying Latin at TPS when no one else understood it and studying Geometry and Algebra II at the same time. He was joyful too – students would sometimes hear him humming and whistling a tune in perfect harmony with himself. Even those of us who did not have the good fortune to know him well feel his loss, and we know that you, his family, are really suffering now. May it give you comfort to know how much he loved you and that he was a light for others, and to know that you have the loving support of many people near and far.

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**Chris, Nicola and Sarah - A Project School Family** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

ST

“ There are no words to express our sadness. Jonas was always a light at Hoosier Courts. A pleasure to teach and an absolute joy to be around. His smile contagious, his eyes bright, a real treasure. I have so many warm memories of Jonas from the classroom to our camping trips. He was an amazing soul. I know he will truly be missed by all who knew him. We are out of town and won't be able to make the funeral, but wanted to let you know we are here if there is anything we can do. May you find comfort in your memories. Staci, Uwe, Landon, and Jonah

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**Staci Walter** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

CA

“ Jonas is a bright light in a dark world. While I have only been his teacher 6 weeks, he has inspired me (and our class) in so many wonderful ways. I will keep your family in my thoughts and Jonas in my memory always. It was an honor to know him.

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**Catharine Rademacher** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

AN

“ As a member of the community who did not personally know Jonas or you, his family, I can attest to the reach his spirit had. So many of my friends and acquaintances have been deeply saddened by his passing and I have been hearing stories about what an amazing human being he is. As a parent, I grieve with you, from a distance, in the shadows, but as your fellow Bloomingtonian.

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**Anna Lynch** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

CH

“ Patti, Mark, Nancy, Jonas was at PDO with my daughter, Nicole, when they were very young, and we shared Anna Haag as a wonderful caregiver. On at least one occasion, Anna watched Jonas and Nicole together, I think they were two or three. I have not seen Jonas since that time, but have often thought of him. He was one of the children that stood out, for his kindness, his gentle soul, and his beautiful, amazing smile. I am heart-broken for your loss. You have been in my thoughts and prayers constantly. I wanted you to know that your beautiful son's light has shined in my life and my memories for thirteen years, even without seeing him in person. Our loss of his presence in this world is incomprehensible. I am so sorry.  
Chris

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**Christine Haseman** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

JJ

“ Dear Mark and family,

*We are so very sorry for the loss of Jonas--for you especially, but for the community as well. Even as a young boy roaming the bleachers while Mark played softball, it was easy to tell that Jonas was an amazing child with many gifts. The obituary fits the picture I have of Jonas in my head, even though I haven't seen him in several years.*

*While Jonas' physical body is gone, there is no doubt in my mind that his spirit remains steadily, heartily, and cheerfully with you all.*

*Love and peace,*

*Janet and Nels*

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**Janet and Nels Johnson** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

RE

“ *I have read this lovely obituary many times today. He seems like a curious, engaged, and thoughtful boy. As an educator, I would love to have had him in class. As a relatively new parent, I can only hope my child has the qualities you spoke of. I ache for your loss, despite never knowing him. Clearly, a loss to all.*

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**Rebecca Swanson** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

JA

“ We have not seen each other in over 30 years; yet when I see a child taken before his parents, my heart wails with loss for the parents/schoolmate. No parent should ever feel this.

*Patti, from what I remember of you in high school, you are one of the sweetest, most giving people. And reading the obituary about your son, I can only believe he is a lot like you.*

*My prayers are with you, your husband, and your family.*

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**Jaime Gleason** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

RO

“ Warm wishes and prayers from me to you and yours, Patti. May your heart heal swiftly, as your dear son is in your soul forever. Blessings.

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**Roxanne Rogers** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

DA

“ I have not seen Jonas since he was very young playing with Autumn, Risa, Turner, Dylan, Rocky, Sam, and Calvin. I am so deeply sorry for your loss and pain. I wish for you many unexpected memories to lighten your hearts. Patti, please feel free to contact me even or especially if you are feeling disconnected. I know we haven't seen each other in years, but that doesn't matter. My heart is with you.

*Love,  
Danyell*

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**Danyell Dahn** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

LJ

“ Dear Nancy,  
Our deepest sympathy goes out to you and your husband, Mark.  
Please know your family is in our thoughts.  
Linda and John Whikehart

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Linda and John Whikehart - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

RV

“ Know that your family and friends are with you during this very  
difficult time. May the happy memories overshadow the pain as you  
heal.

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Roger, Penny & Auntie Vi - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

RE

“ Please accept my deepest condolences for your loss.

*I did not know Jonas as well as I wish I had, but was privileged to work on the same robotics team as he did. His ingenuity, skill, and eagerness to contribute distinguished him as a vital member of the Quadrangles, but what we will remember best is his unusual kindness and what an incredible kid he was.*

*There are no words I can say that can make this better, that can make this hurt less. There is nothing we can say that will make this make sense. All we can offer is our support during this time, and a promise that Jonas will be remembered.*

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rebekah burkhart - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

RO

“ Cannot believe that such a wonderful person is gone. Always appreciated having him around the kids, and seeing him around town on his bike or wherever.

Will look for any pictures I might have, wish I could be there in person.

-Rob

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**Rob Reed** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

KP

“ Mark, Patty, Nancy and family,  
Jonas was generous with his kindness, an encourager, a gentle soul. We can't think of him without seeing his smile. Those bright lights will remain as his gifts to all of us. In the days since he died, all of our recollections have been happy ones. We hope the treasures he left you will help sustain you now, and that all of the love that is pouring out to you will bring some comfort as you cope with this unfathomable loss.

With all our love,  
Karen, Kurt and Sam

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**Karen Pitkin** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

DO

“ Dear Mark, Nancy and Patti,

I am so devastated to hear of the loss of your dear Jonas. I was so moved by your loving words, and I can't begin to imagine the extraordinary grief and pain you must feel at his passing. Please know that you are surrounded by the love of all who know you and knew Jonas and that we are wrapping you in our arms and hearts during this unbearably difficult time.

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**Donna Stevens** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

VI

“ I didn't know Jonas but only through the words spoken about him by my children. It is truly heartwarming to know that there was a child in this world like Jonas. I am amazed to hear about his spirit and how it touched so many people. Patti and family.....you have my deepest sympathy. May Jonas' spirit surround you with hugs and much love. God's blessings to you.

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**Vicki Hollenbeck** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

JA

“ David and I send our deepest condolences to both of you. Nancy, know that I am standing by Lee, doing what I can to help her as she does what she can to help you, that you can do what you can to help Mark and yourself and others survive this incomprehensible time. It's all we can do.

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**Jane Neidhardt** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

MA

“ Yes, I admit it. I often looked through my kitchen window into Patti's kitchen. Over the years, I watched Jonas grow taller and taller from under the counter to the young boy to the sprawling, tall young man of last week. I knew what time it was by glimpsing his bike after school or Mark's truck in the driveway. I am so sorry for the loss of this life for his parents, family, and friends but also for the world - a blossom not fully bloomed. He will be dearly missed....

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**Mary Weitz** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

CY

“ It breaks my heart. No words can ease your pain, I know, but find comfort and strength in those who knew your son and loved him.

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**Cynthia Hunckler** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

BP

“ We are heartbroken for everyone at the unexpected loss of Jonas.

*The words written about his life and the picture really capture his incredible spirit and sweetness of the boy we knew.*

*It was our honor to have him as our nephew and our huge regret that we will not see him grow to be the outstanding man we are sure he would have been.*

*Sending love, prayers and hugs until we see you.*

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**Beth and Paul Torp** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

DA

“ *I was Jonas' Geography teacher last trimester. I am so greatly saddened by his passing. He was a really fun kid to have as a student: Really bright and always ready to grin at my worst jokes. I wish I could share your burdens. If there is any way I can be of service to him please let me know. I mourn deeply for you all and Jonas.*

*Humbled,  
Dan Combs*

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**Dan Combs** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

DO

“ *Mark, Patti, Nancy,  
There are no words to express the deep sorrow that Joan, Sean, Jesse and I feel at your loss of your beautiful son, Jonas. There is no sense to be made, but through this most difficult time please know you are loved and we are holding you all close in our hearts. Jonas will always be remembered for his sparking spirit, and those memories will help you pass through the sad days ahead.*

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**Donn Hall** - October 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM