



Ian Michael Butler

September 27, 2000 - January 4, 2021

With deepest sorrow, we announce that Ian Michael Butler, age 20, our beloved son, brother, family member and friend accidentally passed away on January 4, 2021.

Ian will be missed everyday by his mother Maureen Fannin, father Michael Butler, brother Owen, his grandmother Wanda, his loving aunts Lynn, Colleen, Ellen and Sue, his uncles John, Dave, Keith and Todd, his cousins Asa, Flynn, Rebecca, Scott, and Melissa, and all his friends. He is preceded in death by grandfathers Les Fannin, Charles Butler, and Grandmother Marilyn Kuehn Fannin. He has angels to watch over him.

Although only 20 at the time of his death, Ian affected many people in his lifetime. He had a warm smile and beautiful blue eyes. Ian was enormously funny with a keen intellect. A mother would say he was a gifted debater, but others would say he just loved to argue - often carrying a provocative message. At first glance, his style appeared relaxed and unassuming, but the tee-shirts he wore often revealed his strongly held beliefs in civil rights, humanity, kindness - and a few boasting that he was usually right.

Ian was deeply moved by music and started writing lyrics at ten years of age and was an aspiring musician/rap artist. He self-produced his music under the name Aydrian with best friend Josh Tinsley, who recognized his talent and encouraged Ian to start recording and take his music more seriously. We are profoundly grateful to have these recordings and plan to share them with the world. Ian and Josh spent many hours together mixing beats, writing lyrics,

and bringing to life Ian's dream of giving listeners a cinematic experience and, of course, go crazy and rage. Ian often said he did not want "no bystanders" at his concert. His brother Owen said this was a well-known quote from Travis Scott - Ian's main musical influence. Everyone who listened to his music spoke of his amazing lyrical ability, musicality, and his well-crafted songs. At the time of his death, he had over 100 songs finished and unfinished.

Ian loved many things in addition to music. He treasured his family and friends, and we all miss having those long and engaging conversations with Ian on any and every topic. He was an introspective and deep thinker who often thought about the world and his place in it. His Father recalls many discussions about the universe, metaphysics, politics, religion and many more topics of interest to Ian. His Mother recalls many hours and days talking about his music, relationships, life struggles, and those daily interactions of watching him navigate life and hearing him rap upstairs in his room.

Ian also loved animals and was kind and loving to them. He loved his two adopted orange/tabby cats he named Frank and Sargon. They were strays in the neighborhood, and we often called him the cat whisperer since he was able to sooth Sargon's often prickly disposition. He also loved hiking with his father in the Blue Ridge Mountains (especially Old Rag Mountain), playing video games, watching YouTube, Burger King, Pho, reading, writing, anime, paintball, watching movies, and podcasts.

Our beloved son Ian will be deeply missed. It is hard to imagine life without him. The family held a private viewing on January 10th, and a celebration of life will be announced later where all can gather to share memories and their love for Ian.

"Not all who wander are lost. I stop wandering when the music stops."

Ian Butler

Tribute Wall

MO

“ *Mom lit a candle in memory of Ian Michael Butler*



Mom - December 02, 2024 at 01:30 AM

MO

“ *You were loved so much. Always and forever. I miss you so much. Love Mom*

Mom - December 02, 2024 at 01:29 AM

IM

“ *Ian's Mom lit a candle in memory of Ian Michael Butler*



Ian's Mom - May 06, 2023 at 01:23 AM

LK

“ *We remember Ian as a happy laughing little boy roaming the neighborhood with his friends pretending and looking for great adventures. We also remember him as a protective big brother looking out for his baby brother. Our hearts break for you.*

Linda and Flip Kleinfelder - February 12, 2021 at 07:58 PM



Thank you so much Linda and Flip.

Maureen Fannin - July 11, 2021 at 03:12 PM

CB

“ We are so very sorry to learn of the death of your beloved son. We bought the house he grew up in 2 years ago and still can see the growth chart of your boys inside the pantry door frame. Our hearts are broken for you.

Christine Brinks - February 12, 2021 at 07:42 PM



Thank you so much Christine. He loved that house. So many amazing memories there. Maybe I could stop by sometime and see the growth chart. Thank you so much for sharing this.

Maureen Fannin - July 11, 2021 at 08:43 PM

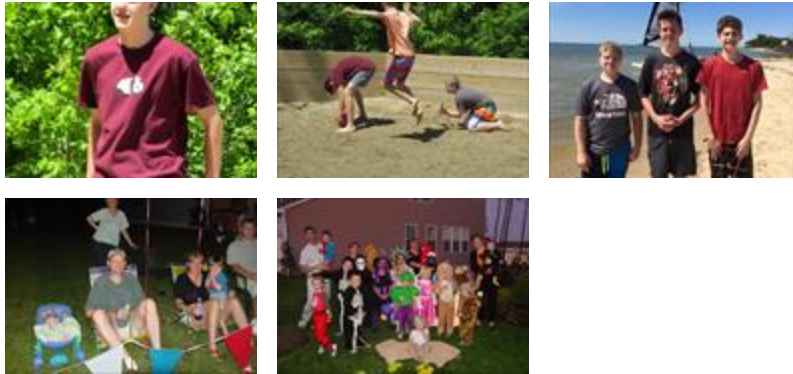


“ I met Ian when he was a 4 year old preschooler. I got to know him more as a kindergartener, I was one of his teachers. Ever since that year, I've babysat Ian and Owen many times over the years. He was always a comedian, keeping me laughing all the time. Although I've not seen him in years, the family has been and always will be in my top favorites. I remember when I was going to get married, he told his mother that he had to meet him first. Hearing this news has completely broke my heart. My deepest condolences to Maureen, Mike and Owen. And all of the countless amount of people who knew and loves Ian. Rest easy baby boy. Your memory shall live forever ❤️💔

Tonia Delaney - February 08, 2021 at 12:12 AM

CL

“Maureen, Mike, and Owen, our heart aches for the loss of Ian in all of our lives. I thank God my family had the blessing to know Ian. He was a special boy. All I can picture is this 4 yr old boy with his big smile and super thick hair laying on my couch laughing and watching cartoons with my kids. We had so much fun with Ian on so many occasions, birthday parties, basketball, Camp Silver Beach, Nerf Wars, Capture the Flag, and so much more. Thank you for sharing Ian with my family. I will treasure these memories forever. We are here if you ever need us. Ian will live on forever in all of our hearts and memories. We love you all very much.



Carolyn Lopez - February 07, 2021 at 10:59 AM

CS

“Maureen, I am so very sorry for your loss. My mother's heart grieves with you and I am heart-broken for you for the depth of pain only a mother can know.

Cathi Spooner - February 02, 2021 at 10:41 PM

CA

“ Colleen Arnold lit a candle in memory of Ian Michael Butler



colleen arnold - January 31, 2021 at 07:42 PM

AC

“ Ian always had time to see me and talk when I came to visit. His gentle spirit and smile will always be with me. I remember John and I are driving up from Norfolk to see his birthday and then taking a week off of work to spend with Maureen during his first weeks of life. The good memories of the three stair step boys playing together at Shallow Brook Drive and Nethy Bridge are as many as the stars are in the sky! I'm forever grateful for all the family time and holidays we had with Ian and that Asa always had a big brother cousin to look up to. Rest In Peace Ian in your heavenly home. We love and miss you. There heart knows no words. Aunt Colleen ❤️🙏



aunt colleen - January 31, 2021 at 07:24 PM

Laura
Hobart

“ *Maureen,*

Thank you for sharing Ian's life with us. I'm so glad that you have his songs to help you remember him by and I'm grateful that he was a part of the world. Ian was a special person and he will not be forgotten. You and Owen are in our thoughts. We love you all.

Laura Hobart - January 31, 2021 at 04:30 PM

Meggie
Lofton

“ *I am truly sorry for your loss Maureen and for your family. I remember when you were pregnant with Ian and a time we all went to lunch. He was such a beautiful baby boy then. The years have gone by and what a wonderful young man he had become. You are a wonderful mother. I know how much you will miss him.*



Meggie Lofton - January 31, 2021 at 03:41 PM

MB

“ *1 file added to the album Ian Butler*



Mike Butler - January 31, 2021 at 10:02 AM

EM

“ Though we did not know the young man that Ian had become, we will never forget the kind, energetic and funny boy that he was. Thinking of Ian's bright smile beaming across the room at his birthday party many years ago is a memory that will be cherished. We are thinking of you and your family at this sad time. Love, Elizabeth & Craig McCall

Elizabeth McCall - January 30, 2021 at 07:52 AM

CB

“ Love and prayers for you, Maureen, and family/friends, who loved and were blessed to know him. I remember the pride and joy he brought you and us when you shared him with us on fb. What an amazing young man. 💕

Crissy Burnett - January 29, 2021 at 10:10 PM

EA

“ So sorry for your loss. My condolences and prayers go to your family. RIP 🙏

Elie Azar - January 29, 2021 at 09:07 PM

MO

“ Mom lit a candle in memory of Ian Michael Butler



Mom - January 29, 2021 at 08:13 PM

MS

“ *Maureen and Family, I want to extend to you my deepest condolences for the loss of Ian. I am thinking of you and wish you strength in this difficult time. Much Love, Melanie Spence*

Melanie Spence - January 29, 2021 at 08:11 PM

ND

Maureen i am so sorry, there are no words to comfort you! 🙏🙏🙏❤️

Nancy Davis - January 29, 2021 at 08:48 PM

TD

Sorry for your family's loss...beautiful tribute.

Tim Dzubak - January 29, 2021 at 10:00 PM

MB

“ *1 file added to the album Ian Butler*



Mike Butler - January 29, 2021 at 08:07 AM

MB

“ *1 file added to the album Ian Butler*



Mike Butler - January 29, 2021 at 08:06 AM

MB

“ 1 file added to the album *Ian Butler*



Mike Butler - January 29, 2021 at 08:05 AM

MB

“ 1 file added to the album *Ian Butler*



Mike Butler - January 29, 2021 at 08:04 AM

MB

“ 3 files added to the album *Ian Butler*



Mike Butler - January 29, 2021 at 08:04 AM

ST

I'm so so so sorry for your loss Maureen. I'm speechless. Please accept our deepest condolences. Never got to meet him, but it sounds like he was a wonderful young man. Sending you hugs xo

suhair taha - January 30, 2021 at 12:10 AM

AB

*Ian and I had a conversation about a month before he left us. his mother handed him the phone as he was asking questions on how to protect his music. As I was giving him some advice on the first steps he needed to take, I could tell that he was excited and passionate about this new endeavor, I am glad I got the chance to share in that no matter how brief. I heard Ian's music, his mother would play snippets for me of things he was working on. As a singer/songwriter myself, I was impressed. I have known Ian since he was a baby, I will never forget the first time I held him, the baby of my childhood friend, that held me as a child. Fast forward to a day around the kitchen table ...playing what Maureen and I fondly refer to as the game of ADD Life. Playing the game of Life and eating pizza with Ian and Owen is a day that I will always remember. :) I also will hold onto the time I took the Fannin crew to a show at GMU..unsure as to how this 12 and 9 year old would react to a quirky drama show ...but it turned out they really enjoyed it! These are just some snapshots of my time spent around Ian, ones that are prominent in my mind. My experience of him was , he was quite intelligent, with a propensity to be a joking smart ass. His smile was always bright. And anytime I would visit Maureen Ian would at least come to say Hi! Maureen, my sister, you know how much I love you. I am always here for you and your family. Peace to your and yours --
Ann Randolph*

Ann Randolph Blair - January 31, 2021 at 04:57 PM

MB

“ 1 file added to the album Ian Butler



Mike Butler - January 29, 2021 at 08:02 AM

AT

Maureen, my heart is broken for you and the family... entire family. This is devastating news. I trust you will find comfort in knowing so many are praying for you. May God's great Comforter the Holy Spirit provide what you need. — No one can understand your pain except God. As you mourn and grieve the death of your child. I am just so sad and sorry. — Alice Turner

alice turner - January 31, 2021 at 02:43 PM