



Leo Augustine Santschi

June 22, 1998 - April 17, 2021

Leo Augustine Santschi, 22, of Manassas, Virginia, passed away on April 17, 2021. Leo was born on June 22, 1998 to Paul and Heidi Santschi in Springfield Illinois.

Leo loved volleyball, whittling, woodworking, reading, guitar, and singing with family and friends. He loved to visit his friends and went out of his way to spend time with them. Leo was quick to volunteer, loyal, dependable, and kind. His hard work and determination in football earned him a Heart of a Lion award. Leo was born in Springfield, Illinois and was homeschooled with the Queen of All Saints Homeschool Educators group. While attending Seton School, Leo was a prominent member of sound crew and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Following graduation, he served in the National Guard and attended Christopher Newport University for one year, where he joined the Delta Upsilon fraternity and took full advantage of all the volleyball the college had to offer.

Leo is survived by his parents, Paul and Heidi; Sisters Rachel, Margaret, and Celine; Brothers Thomas, Brendan, Jack, Brother-in-Law Brendan Vieira and beloved nieces and nephew; Grandparents Don Santschi and Herb Schlatter ; Aunts Barb Schlatter, Karin Freeburg, Meg Rose, Katie Santschi, Mary Ellen Jordan, Doris Santschi, Nicole Santschi, and Yasmin Santschi ; Uncles Karl Schlatter, Dan Freeburg, David Rose, David Jordan, Mark Santschi, Thomas

Santschi, James Santschi, David Santschi, and John Santschi; and numerous, loving Cousins .

A visitation will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas, Virginia 20110. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, Virginia, 20124 with burial to follow at 12:00 noon at Stonewall Memory Gardens, 12004 Lee Highway, Manassas, Virginia 20109.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **26.** 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Rosary

APR **26.** 7:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

APR **27.** 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Andrews Catholic Church
6720 Union Mill Road
Clifton, VA 20124

Burial

APR 27. 12:00 PM (ET)

Stonewall Memory Gardens
12004 Lee Highway
Manassas, VA 20109
<http://www.stonewallmemorygardens.com>

Tribute Wall

AB

“ Heidi and Paul, We are so sorry for your loss. I cannot imagine your sadness, but know that you and your family are in our thoughts.
Alina & Dave Balko

Alina Balko - May 09, 2021 at 07:59 PM

CB

“ Christine Burroughs purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Leo Augustine Santschi.



Christine Burroughs - April 27, 2021 at 03:21 PM

ML

“ I did not spend a lot of time with Leo on this earth, but the times that I did, I learned quite a bit about this young man. Most of the conversations we had were about life and faith. I learned that Leo loved his family, friends, and country. I learned that he was compassionate, caring, and a “deep” guy. I learned that Leo believed in God. He believed that God sent his son, Jesus, to this earth to die for our sins. I learned that he had hopes and dreams and was trying to “figure things out” like the rest of us. I noticed that he was quiet, observant, and thoughtful. I could actually see the wheels turning in his head before he spoke. He was an excellent listener which is a rare quality in people today.

Leo left this world way too soon but will live on in the hearts of so many that had the honor and privilege of knowing and loving him. Leo, rest in the arms of Jesus and enjoy the paradise that He prepared for you.

Melissa Lynn - April 27, 2021 at 07:31 AM

DF

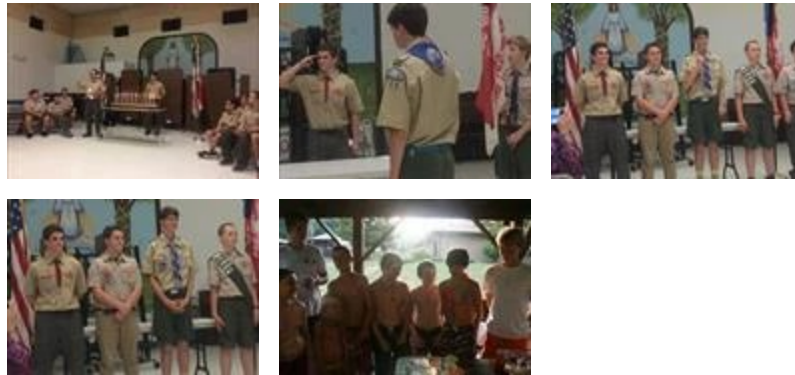
“ *Dan McGough Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Leo Augustine Santschi.*



Dan McGough Family - April 25, 2021 at 10:35 AM

JM

“ *Memories of Leo, Brendan, and Jack growing up with Garrett and Christian Mee...homeschooling, babysitting, playing broom hockey in the Mee's backyard on our Occoquan inlet, birthday parties at Sudley Club, and Seton Boy Scouts. Leo has been with us for life, and now we will pray for him perpetually until we see him again.*



Jane Mee - April 24, 2021 at 04:11 PM

TF

“ *The Garceau Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Leo Augustine Santschi.*



The Garceau Family - April 24, 2021 at 03:26 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Leo Augustine Santschi.*



April 24, 2021 at 02:50 PM



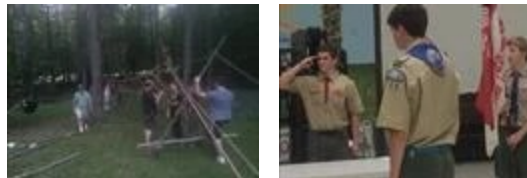
“ *With Distinction was purchased for the family of Leo Augustine Santschi.*



April 23, 2021 at 10:37 PM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Brian and Jane Mee - April 23, 2021 at 10:00 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Leo Augustine Santschi.*



April 23, 2021 at 01:27 PM

JF

“ *Leo was a good boy scout and a great leader. We willl never forget his leadership in troop 554.*

Jacob Thomas Fucci - April 22, 2021 at 09:46 PM

“ Leo was one of my Scouts in the troop at Seton School when I was Scoutmaster, and I received much more from him than he did from me. I sure wish I could have given him more, whatever it is that he needed and kept hidden.

Paul says that Leo was a natural leader; I certainly agree. Other boys wanted to follow and emulate him, and yet he was reluctant to get in front of them. Why? I always just put him the category of "shy" and not highly motivated by things like awards and ranks and leadership positions, but I never asked him why, given his natural ability, intelligence, and likeability. I heard a few people observe that he seemed always to be in the rear of group photos. I had trouble finding many Scout photos of him, since he was always at the edge of the group, sharing a laugh with one of the boys or just keeping his thoughts to himself. He seemed content, confident, and not dependent on what anyone thought of him -- but maybe he cared a great deal. I hope he knew that I was so very proud of him, especially when he accomplished Eagle. I considered him one of the troop's great examples of kindness and integrity.

That smile! It lit up a room, or the woods, wherever he was. He didn't need to make his presence known; the other boys went to him, admiring and trusting him. Trustworthy... loyal... helpful... friendly... he had all of those Scout virtues in spades. I am so disappointed and saddened that Leo made a last terrible mistake, yet I am also certain that God must be so proud of Leo for thousands of good days, and any parent would have been very proud to have him as their son. God in your incredible mercy take Leo and hold him tightly for all eternity!

One quick Scout story: Leo was active in the troop long after most others his age had disappeared, and by age 17 he managed to complete most of what he needed for Eagle Scout. He realized that Eagle would be an important accomplishment, but also that it would be difficult to do before the deadline of his 18th birthday (June 22, 2016). In January he came to me with a project for the House of

Mercy, and he worked through the extensive planning process while completing a few remaining merit badges that summer. It all came down to the wire... but then because of some miscommunication, staff changes, etc., the project fell through just prior to his birthday. The House of Mercy had another project that Leo could do, but the size of the project was not typical for an Eagle project. I felt terrible and assumed that was the end of a good effort; most Scouts would have bailed. But Leo decided that he would forge ahead, doubtful that he would be approved for Eagle but happy at least to do a project to help a good Catholic charity. Other boys rallied to Leo's side, and they completed the project. It seemed a special time for Leo and Paul, who put every effort into helping Leo succeed and was there with him patiently, every step of the way. By then, I had become convinced that in fact Leo demonstrated exactly what we look for in an Eagle Scout -- devotion to service above his own benefit, extensive planning for not one but TWO projects, determination in the face of adversity and unexpected challenges, and great leadership of his fellow Scouts and volunteers, all with a cheerfulness that was characteristic of Leo and frankly not the mood I would have felt under the circumstances! The project was smaller than most, but it was impeccable work and a generous gift to the House of Mercy. Thankfully, the BSA saw it the same. Leo completed his project report the day before his 18th birthday, and the BSA honored Leo with the rank of Eagle. I know that he was rightly proud of that accomplishment, and we were all very proud of him.

Leo, please -- with that same determination, beg God for mercy and for eternal life with Him! We're praying and won't ever give up on you. May your family be joined with you once again.

PATRICK J REILLY - April 22, 2021 at 08:05 PM

PR

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



PATRICK J REILLY - April 22, 2021 at 06:46 PM