



Casey Marie Schwartzmier

May 15, 1996 - January 15, 2017

Casey Marie Schwartzmier, age 20, of Ross Township, passed away on Sunday January 15, 2017, of an accidental heroin overdose after a long brave battle with addiction. She is survived by her parents, Richard and Michelle (Waldorf) Schwartzmier, her brother Eric Schwartzmier, grandparents Mary (Planic) and the late Richard F. Schwartzmier, Jerome B. Waldorf, and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Casey never wanted to be defined only by her addiction and mistakes, she was so much more than that. She made it clear if she was to ever pass as a result of it she wanted people to know the truth with the hope that honesty about her death could help break the stigma about addicts, and get people talking about the problem of addiction that is taking away so many young lives. Casey was a beautiful, intelligent child of the suburbs who fell into its grip. It can happen to anyone. She was feisty and outspoken but would do anything for anyone and always lit up the room with her smile and sense of humor even while struggling with her demons. She loved her family deeply, wanted to adopt every animal she saw, and play with every child she came across. Casey believed strongly in second chances, maybe because she craved another chance for herself and other addicts, so she donated her life saving organs to give someone else a second chance at life. That was Casey... this amazing woman should be remembered for this and not her mistakes. Casey believed that hiding her cause of death would help no one, but if her story could help just one addict push even harder for another day of sobriety, encourage an active user to choose recovery, or shine a light on this horrible epidemic, then it would be worth coming out of the shadows. She was very open about her struggles and now is not the time to change that. This strong attitude with a fierce drive and loving beautiful heart that wanted to help other addicts even in death is one of the many things that she can be defined by, not her addiction. Casey wanted to live. She had dreams of a future career, children of her own, and fought hard all the way until the end, one day away from entering rehab, but couldn't break the chains of this demon that's wiping out a generation. Addiction doesn't discriminate, it will take hold and destroy anyone in its path including the families and people who love them. Addiction hides in the faces of everyday people all around us. Casey isn't just another statistic or just "another one gone too soon", she was a great heart with a bright future and a gift that the world lost and can never be replaced. So the best way to honor Casey is for people

who read this or knew her to think twice before you judge an addict.. Friends received on Friday, January 20th from 1:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the LAWRENCE T. MILLER FUNERAL HOME, INC., 460 Lincoln Avenue, Bellevue. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held in the Incarnation of the Lord Church on Saturday, January 21st at 10:00 AM. Interment will follow in St. Nicholas Cemetery, Reserve Township.

<http://www.ltmillerfuneralhome.com>

Cemetery

St. Nicholas Cemetery

Reserve Township, AK,

Events

JAN Visitation 01:00PM - 09:00PM

20

Lawrence T. Miller Funeral Home, Inc.
460 Lincoln Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, US, 15202

JAN Service 10:00AM

21

Incarnation of the Lord
4071 Franklin Road, Pittsburgh, PA, US, 15214

Comments



“ Thank you for sharing Casey’s story. Please rest assured that you have educated another person today to have sincere empathy for others and their struggles with addictions.

I can understand why you said she “always lit up the room with her smile and sense of humor”. Her smile is beautiful and I can see her lighting up a room with it. Her smile made me smile.

Please continue to focus on those happy days when you were all together with Casey as she lit up the room with her smile and sense of humor. Please continue to cherish the memories you have and may good memories provide comfort for you.

May the “Father of tender mercies and the God of all comfort” give you the needed courage and strength to cope. May God’s word comfort your crushed hearts.

Davis - September 13, 2017 at 08:37 PM



“ I, too, have lost my daughter Laura (19 yrs) to heroin in 2015. Like Casey, she was a lovely, bright, talented young woman with the promise of a bright future. I could imagine our daughters being friends as they were close in age, and Laura was also an animal lover. I truly am sorry for your loss. Casey's "story" is poignant and real, and I hope you can find glimmers of peace from your work to bring awareness of this disease to the public. I thought I would share with you my daughter's obituary. I, too, did not want to hide the addiction and thought she would want it that way also. Thank you for sharing Casey's Story. I had a hard time reading it through my tears but at the same time it provided comfort, comfort in knowing that someone else truly understands the pain that I have gone (and am going) through and feels the frustration and the fear of such a loss. My daughter's obituary can be found at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/recorder/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=177148931>. My email is kjohnson@keene.edu
Thank you,
Kathleen Johnson

Kathleen Johnson - August 23, 2017 at 11:12 AM



“ To Casey's family and friends, and all those mourning the loss of loved ones gone too soon from addiction, remember that "Those whom we love and lose are not where they were before. Now they are wherever we are." Saint John Chrysostom. Her story touched me deeply. Thank you for sharing her story so openly. She was wise and beautiful inside and out. Marian Hayden



Marian Hayden - April 27, 2017 at 03:08 PM



“ Jennifer Jones lit a candle in memory of Casey Marie Schwartzmier



Jennifer Jones - April 27, 2017 at 09:56 AM



“ Please know Casey's story touched my heart



Brenda Colwell - February 05, 2017 at 08:40 PM



“ I never knew your daughter, or your family. I did read an article on your obituary to your daughter. Addiction is an awful thing, I am so sorry your family had to go through this pain and suffering. I want to focus on your beautiful daughter for a moment, not her addiction, she sounded like a wonderful, loving daughter, sister, human. Her plight on this earth was not long but her life, the lessons she insisted you pass down and even her donation of organs - she lives on - she lives on forever.

May her death never be in vain, may we all, as a world who needs healing see the sunshine in this young ladies life and may we all be able to help one more person. May addiction always be a word in past tense, not present.

As my husband and I try to begin our family, your daughter is on my mind, may she be in heaven helping God pick the right little one for us.

I am truly sorry for your loss. No parent should ever bury their child.

Thank you for the eloquent obituary and bringing light to addiction issues. We will pray for Casey and your family.

From Jessica in Toronto Canada.

Jessica - February 01, 2017 at 03:53 PM



“ I am so sorry for your immense loss...may she rest peacefully as she watches over you from above....Marisa Testa

Marisa Testa - February 01, 2017 at 08:33 AM



“ Sharon Connolly lit a candle in memory of Casey Marie Schwartzmier



Sharon Connolly - February 01, 2017 at 12:47 AM



“ I did not know Casey but I wish I had as she sounds like a truly remarkable young woman.

Thank you for sharing her heart and bravery but most especially her love with us.

Her disease took her but it did NOT beat her.

My own sister died while waiting for an organ transplant that would never come. I cannot begin to imagine how much hope and love her gift of life has meant for those who received her organs.

I will pray for Casey and for you, her beloved family. May you find comfort in knowing how much her life, her story and now her organs are helping others. Bless Casey and bless you.

colleen k - January 31, 2017 at 11:54 PM



“ To the family of beautiful Casey, I am sorry for your loss. I lost my beautiful mother when I was 30 to addiction. Know you are not alone.

jen t - January 28, 2017 at 11:22 AM



“ Linda Hilbert lit a candle in memory of Casey Marie Schwartzmier



Linda Hilbert - January 24, 2017 at 08:41 PM



“ My heart aches for you. I am a mother of an recovered addict. I lived your life, my son was your child. I applaud you for your honesty, and hope that your words help one family.

If anyone takes anything from this, It is not a dirty little secret to keep hidden, or ashamed of. It could happen to any family and anytime.

Get these kids the help and support they need. Don't judge them or their families. By the grace of god my son is 3 years and 6 months good.

I pray for you and your family and hope you know you are not alone in this struggle

sherri - January 24, 2017 at 02:53 PM



“ I have read the beautiful tribute to your daughter. What a remarkable life! My daughter, Emma Franchek died from an overdose on September 12, 2016. The loss of these daughters and sons is incalculable. It is right that we celebrate their successes, joys and triumphs as well as casting aside the stigma of this disease. My daughter, like yours, was a terrific human being and a joy to be around. Your obituary speaks volumes about the hero and warrior that she was. I am deeply sorry for your loss.

-James S. Franchek
Wayland, Massachusetts
jsfranchek@gmail.com

James S. Franchek - January 24, 2017 at 11:59 AM



“ To Casey's Family,
I am so sorry for your loss. The fact that she was so close to rehab must be especially difficult to deal with. Our daughter is an alcoholic who prefers to keep her struggle private. We understand the fear that you have been living with.

I applaud your bravery in telling Casey's story. As you say, if one person is helped then Casey's sacrifice won't have been totally in vain.

Words are so inadequate, but I hope you can find some comfort in knowing that your beautiful daughter is finally at peace.

Name Withheld

Susan - January 23, 2017 at 11:13 AM



“ Share a memory of Casey Marie Schwartzmier or send condolences to the family.



carol young - January 23, 2017 at 10:54 AM



“ Schwartzmier Family,
I lost my daughter to this horrific struggle 12 weeks ago. I'm truly sorry for your loss and honestly understand your pain. There is no other pain like it. Thank you for your strength and courage. I wrote a letter to my daughter and am sending it to all of our rehab facilities. Something must change, the abundance so strong and the help so weak.

God love you all and give you strength in the coming days and weeks.

Mendy Wright, Dayton Ohio

Mendy Wright - January 21, 2017 at 08:17 PM



“ Debbie Kennedy lit a candle in memory of Casey Marie Schwartzmier



Debbie Kennedy - January 21, 2017 at 08:34 AM



“ I am sooo sorry for your loss of your beautiful girl! My middle son is struggling hard with addiction I know the heart ache, the highs and lows, the hopes that they will turn around and get the help they need. You know what they are capable of, their talents and gifts, know I will be thinking about you all, saying some prayers, sending hugs! May you always remember the joy! Much Love,
Debbie

Debbie Kennedy - January 21, 2017 at 08:36 AM



“ May your son find peace and recovery.

Jessica - February 01, 2017 at 03:54 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with Caseys family and especially her mother. She was a beautiful girl. I commend you for her obituary. The struggle of addiction is something that every family deals with but doesn't want to discuss. It takes a lot of courage to open up and let out the real story. I am truly sorry for your loss and I hope the good memories will forever live in your heart and bring you strength.

jessica - January 21, 2017 at 07:35 AM



“ I'm so very sorry for you loss. My step son overdosed on herion in February 2016. He was so much like your daughter. Such a likeable, polite, respectful person in bondage to the addiction. He was in and out of rehabs and he wanted to quit so badly but 30 days doesn't cut it when you're dealing with herion. I will be praying for your family because the next year will be really hard and I don't know if it ever gets better. Thank you for your courage to get the message out.

benay nachin - January 20, 2017 at 09:48 PM



“ We also lost a child to this horrific disease on Jan.10th. We now know he is in a much better place. The mental pain that these children go thru is much more than we could ever imagine. No more pain or tears for them. "God blesses those who morn ". We will morn all children's deaths not just our own. God bless your family.

Dan and Beverly - January 20, 2017 at 03:25 PM



“ Schwartzmier Family,
I did not know your beautiful daughter, sister, granddaughter, etc., Casey, but was so moved by the way you honored her in the obituary. We have a young addict in our family as well, who struggles every day and has literally been brought back to life twice. We know her story and live it.
May you all find peace in the beautiful memories Casey created with you. Thank you for sharing her story with us all. Sending up a special prayer and wishing you strength at this most difficult time.
Sincerely,
Gina

Gina - January 20, 2017 at 10:22 AM



“ I did not know Casey but her obituary touched me so much that I had to offer my condolences. I lost my sister to a heroin overdose 3 years ago and I know the pain you are all going through right now. I am so sorry that the world has lost another bright, shining soul to this horrible drug. I will keep your family in my prayers as you deal with the pain of losing someone so suddenly.

lisa - January 20, 2017 at 09:14 AM



“ You are in our thoughts and prayers. My father had a friend whose son struggled with addiction. He would often be out at night searching for his son when his whereabouts were unknown. It was a gut wrenching routine that was often unsuccessful. His son also lost his battle with addiction at a young age, it was a devastating loss for the entire family. Sometime after the funeral my dad was speaking to his friend about the loss of his son and the man said simply "I will always miss him but at least I know where he is and know he is at peace and no longer at war with his demons. May you too find some peace in knowing your daughter's struggle is over. Thank you for sharing her story.

Sue - January 20, 2017 at 04:20 PM



“ The Heeter Family (friends of Kimber Waldorf) purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Casey Marie Schwartzmier.



The Heeter Family (friends of Kimber Waldorf) - January 20, 2017 at 09:00 AM



“ I never knew Casey, but I was so moved by the story of her life. What a sad loss for this world, and how brave of Casey and her family to share her story. I can't imagine the struggles she has gone through, but her story has opened my eyes and my heart

Shelly Muhlenkamp - January 20, 2017 at 04:44 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Casey Marie Schwartzmier.



January 20, 2017 at 01:01 AM



“ Susan Lindeborn lit a candle in memory of Casey Marie Schwartzmier



susan lindeborn - January 19, 2017 at 11:24 PM



“ My heart is saddened for your loss. Casey's bravery in sharing her story and encouragement with others is admirable. It is obvious what a lovely young lady she was. She said it so perfectly: Addiction does not discriminate. It touches the lives of every one of us in some way. If her words help just one person, they are worth it to keep someone else from the heartache you are going through. You have my sincerest condolences and love for your loss, and my gratitude for being able to share Casey's story with us. You should be very proud of her selflessness. Just a touched reader, Noreen



Noreen - January 19, 2017 at 10:02 PM



“ I am a stranger to you, but wanted to extend my deepest sympathies to your family. Thank you for sharing your daughters struggles with addiction. My daughter is 25 and has struggled with addiction for the last 4 years. She has been to rehab 4 times in the last two years. I am grateful to say she is 7 months clean and continues to work hard every day to maintain her sobriety. I pray Casey has found peace now and I hope her story will inspire others struggling with the grips of addiction to find sobriety "Just for today". May God bless you and give your strength and comfort in the days ahead.

A caring Mother.

Caring Mother - January 19, 2017 at 07:25 PM



“ Thank you for sharing Casey's story, may God bless you and your family, you were so brave to tell us Casey story and keep her memory alive. Heaven received another angel much too soon! An addicts mom

Sandee Grossi - January 19, 2017 at 07:34 PM



“ Papa purchased the Written in the Stars for the family of Casey Marie Schwartzmier.



Papa - January 19, 2017 at 01:55 PM



“ Sending love and hope to all of you. As a mother of an addict who died of an accidental heroin overdose 3 years ago this month, my heart goes out to you and know you must be so proud of Casey. Addiction is a terrible disease and our children try so hard but many cannot beat it. I am so sorry.
We started Bryan's Smile to do the same thing that Casey wanted. bryanssmile.com
Hugs,
Melanie Gullett

melanie gullett - January 19, 2017 at 11:46 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Casey Marie Schwartzmier.



January 19, 2017 at 08:56 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Casey Marie Schwartzmier.



January 18, 2017 at 07:02 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of deep sorrow make you take comfort in your family and friends... Rest in Peace Casey

Seville VFC

Seville VFC - January 18, 2017 at 11:57 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Casey Marie Schwartzmier.



January 17, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ The Schwartzmier Cousins purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Casey Marie Schwartzmier.



The Schwartzmier Cousins - January 17, 2017 at 02:38 PM