



Derek Roy Blankenship

March 8, 1997 - April 25, 2016

Derek Roy Blankenship, age 19, passed away April 25, 2016 at his home in Monitor, WA. The tragedy of his death was in stark contrast to the gentle kindness he profoundly touched so many with.

Born March 8, 1997 to Bart and Leslie Blankenship at Central Washington Hospital, Derek was gifted with a beautiful smile that reflected from his eyes and could reach right in and touch your heart. Special and full of potential, Derek was known to be clever, and although the quiet one in his group of friends he was also a great conjurer of fun. Physically talented, Derek was admired for his strength, fast reflexes and ability to catch on quickly when trying something new. Riding his motor dirt bike, hiking in the mountains, fishing, camping and floating the Wenatchee River were his passions. Derek stood for always putting others first and an unconditional love for all animals and his family. His laugh would make you laugh and he was known to never have said an unkind word against anybody.

Derek was contagious and touched people with genuineness no words can truly capture. It has been said sometimes it rains the hardest on those that most deserve the sun. Despite the anguish of a condition those that loved him could not save him from, Derek will only be remembered for his brilliant light and when we are hiking and run across a morel mushroom, float by the rock cut or see the perfect skipping rock on the river, when we catch the perfect air on a motor bike jump or when it snows unexpectedly on Banks Lake, in the smell of a new born puppy or in the design of a cool Fox Racing sticker, we

will only smile remembering how he uplifted us with his unconditional love and we will know he is at Peace.

Derek is survived by his parents, Leslie Blankenship and Bart and Marea Blakenship, his brother Kyle, his grandparents Doug and Louise Eisenrich, Ed and Sue Schmidt and Monie Blankenship, his Aunts Jamie (Ryan) Vanden Bos, Trisha Johnson, Jordyn Ferguson, Brenda (Derek) Beach, Nicole (Tyson) Schmidt- Henry, and Cathy Collins and his Uncle Jon (Jordan) Schmidt, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his Grandfather, Roy Blankenship.

A graveside service, officiated by Pastor Sal Dimare of the Praise Center will be held at Cashmere Cemetery, 1pm Friday April 29th with a reception following at Grandma Weezies house 3554 Bridge St, Monitor, WA. Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at jonesjonesbetts.com. Arrangements are by Jones & Jones – Betts Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR **29**. 1:00 PM (PT)

Cashmere Cemetery
Evergreen and Pioneer
Cashmere, WA 98815

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Derek Roy Blankenship



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - May 02, 2016 at 12:25 PM

KM

“ To the Family: We all grew up together in Monitor, our kids grew up there too. Our deepest condolence to Leslie, Bart and Kyle in their time of sorrow. We are gonna miss just seeing Derek next door, riding the lawnmower around the yard, riding his motorbike, or on the river floating with his mom and the dog. Hugs and Prayers to you all!



Kathy Matney-Harris - April 29, 2016 at 10:00 AM

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“ Bart and Leslie no words can ever express to a parent who has lost a child I am so so sorry for your loss for you both as well as your entire family and all his friends... It's so hard to lose a child who had so much more life to live.. I lost a son in 2011 to a horrible tragedy at 21 and my heart just breaks for all of you through this horrible time my deepest sympathy... I'm so sorry... May he rest in peace now ...

Stacy brocker (cull) - April 28, 2016 at 11:52 AM

DE


“ My prayers go out to the family. My heart aches for them. I remember Derek's smile that would light up a room. RIP Derek

Deanna - April 27, 2016 at 09:34 PM

CR


“ I always remembered Derek as a the kind of man that friends and family came first to Him he loved to have fun he was always a laid back kinda a guy I respected him deeply he was family I am sorry for your loss if I could take all your pain and put it into me I would

camron regan - April 27, 2016 at 09:11 PM

 Michelle Lindsey

“ Bart, Leslie and Kyle- I am so sorry for your loss. I will always remember Derek for his sweet, kind, gentle demeanor, and his smile/laugh. He was a good kid. I pray you all can find strength and comfort in the days ahead.

Michelle Lindsey - April 27, 2016 at 09:04 PM

 Diane Austin

“ My funniest memory with Derek was when he was trying to teach Donald how to ride his Rip Stick. R.I.P. Derek.....
Hugs , Diane

Diane Austin - April 27, 2016 at 07:22 PM

TJ

“ Leslie and I grew up as close friends as pre-teens. We made a lot of adventures that I cherish in Monitor. Reading of her son I'm reminded of that innocent time, and of her. I'm truly sorry for your family's loss. Sending love and prayers during this time.
Terra Jolly

terra jolly - April 27, 2016 at 07:16 PM