

**SCOUTING**

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**DEATH OF AN  
EAGLE**

**& REACTIONS TO  
OTHER TRAGEDIES**

Date: Thu, 26 Oct 1995 09:43:46 -0500  
From: Marc Solomon <msolomon@TEK1.TEKNIQ.COM>  
Subject: Re: Bus crash in Illinois

At 04:37 PM 10/25/95 -0500, Kathie Cerveny wrote:  
>Wow, what a nice message to come across, while I cried for the loss of  
>a friend's child. I guess this school bus accident fell a bit too  
>close to home, so to speak. I join you in praying for those children  
>who were killed and who are hurt.

Kathie -

For me it's a little too close to home. I live in Fox River Grove. One of the young men that died was a Life Scout in our troop. His father is the Scoutmaster of that troop. The son's name is Jeffrey Clark. His father is Dennis Clark. I served as an ASM for this troop before becoming a Unit Commissioner.

Jeff was a quiet determined young man who was well on his way to becoming Troop 166's next Eagle Scout. I am still grappling with the idea that I won't see him at the next district event or the next time the troop marches in town. It seems so implausible. I remember him preparing for Philmont two summers ago and him at the camporee just a few weeks ago.

Fox River Grove is a small town of under 4000 people. Last night we held a memorial service for the five young adults who died in yesterdays tragic accident. It seemed that most of the town showed up. Our little church was too small for everyone to fit inside so we split the service into two parts. This will be a scar that will take some time to heal in our little town.

I am sure your prayers are with us. If you wish to send any condolences to the Clark family, e-mail them to me and I will make sure they get delivered.

Yours in Scouting,

+-----+-----+  
| Marc W. Solomon | Unit Commissioner |

| msolomon@tek1.tekniq.com | Sycamore District |  
| marcsol@aol.com | Blackhawk Council, IL |  
+-----+  
I use to be a wise old owl . . . Now I am just old

**Date:** Thu, 26 Oct 1995 11:15:25 -0500  
**From:** Marc Solomon <msolomon@TEK1.TEKNIQ.COM>  
**Subject:** Re: Bus crash in Illinois

At 09:16 AM 10/26/95 -0600, Cyndi Castro wrote:

>I, and many other, fortunately received a message from  
Used2bBear@AOL.COM  
>and he let us know that Jeff Clark, the scout that died in the train crash,  
>passed his Eagle board the night before the accident. Bear also said there  
>were several other scouts injured from Jeff's troop one is still critical.  
  
>Bear also stated he would pass on messages to the Clark family.

I also just heard that Jeff had passed his Eagle Board of Review the night before the accident. Here is a clip from the local paper about Jeff:

>For nine years, Jeff Clark, who turned 16 two weeks ago, worked his way toward  
>his dream of becoming an Eagle Scout. Tuesday night, he achieved it.  
>  
>Typically, his father and scout leader, Dennis Clark, was at his side.  
>"He's really a family kid," Clark, 47, said outside his home Wednesday night.  
>"When asked at various points in his life what was the most important thing to  
>him, his family was always at the top of his list."  
>  
>His son, who with the family moved to the area from Seattle seven years ago,  
>was just beginning to enjoy his life as a teenager. He got his driver's license  
>this month and had just landed his first real job: working at McDonald's, his  
>father said. Before then, he did yards in the neighborhood.  
>

>Tuesday night, after getting off work, he watched a couple of innings of  
the  
>World Series game with his father. He was rooting for the Braves. They  
talked  
>about preparing for his college entrance exam, and about a scout trip that  
was  
>coming up.  
>  
>"He was basically a good kid," Clark said of his son, a tall and slender  
>sophomore who prized his collection of 75 Ken Griffey Jr. baseball cards.  
>"He'd never been in trouble or stuff like that. He was always an upbeat,  
happy  
>kid."

P.S. Used2bBear is a woman and she would know about Jeff passing his  
Eagle  
Board of review since she is the Advancement chairman for out district.

Yours in Scouting,

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+-----+-----+
| Marc W. Solomon      | Unit Commissioner  |
| msolomon@tek1.tekniq.com | Sycamore District  |
| marcsol@aol.com     | Blackhawk Council, IL |
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I use to be a wise old owl . . . Now I am just old

Date: Fri, 27 Oct 1995 08:24:04 GMT  
From: Rodger Morris <rodger@FISHNET.NET>  
Subject: Re: Death of Jeff Clark, Injuries to Scouts

Michael Bowman said:

...  
>The impact of the tragic accident in Fox River Grove didn't really hit me  
>until I read USA Today earlier today and learned that Jeff Clark had just  
>completed his Eagle Scout the night before his death. I finished reading  
>the story in stunned silence with tears.

...

"They shall not grow old,  
As we who have known them grow old,

**Nor shall the passing condemn them,  
At the coming up of the sun in the morning,  
And at its going down at night,  
We shall remember them."**

**Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers  
Edinburgh, Scotland**

**Yours in Scouting,**

**Rodger  
Rodger Morris <rodger@fishnet.net>  
Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 852, Camarillo, CA  
Ventura County Council, Boy Scouts of America  
National Woodbadge 416-18, Philmont, 1973  
"I used to be a Beaver..."**

**Date: Fri, 27 Oct 1995 15:18:47 -0500  
From: Marc Solomon <msolomon@TEK1.TEKNIQ.COM>  
Subject: Re: Jeffery Clark**

**At 08:18 AM 10/27/95 EST, TERRELL wrote:**

**>  
>Marc,  
>I would like to know where my Post could send a card, flowers or some  
>other memorial.  
>David Terrell, Post 356 Advisor, Keller, Texas  
>  
David,**

**The Clark family is suggesting donations be made in lieu of flowers to the "Jeff Clark Memorial Fund, c/o Harris Bank-Cary Grove at 122 W. Main St., Cary, IL 60013. You can also make donations to the "Cary-Grove High School Disaster Relief Fund" at the same address. Other relief and memorial funds that have been set up are the "Cary-Grove Bus Disaster Fund" at Northern Federal Savings Bank, 407 Lincoln Ave., Fox River Grove, IL 60021 and the "Michael Hoffman Memorial Fund" at Wonder Lake State Bank, Wonder Lake, IL 60097.**

**I presume that cards and other memorials for Jeffrey Clark can be sent to the Cary United Methodist Church, 500 First St., Cary, IL 60013. Good**

Shepherd Hospital is accepting cards and gifts for the three patients who remain there. Any greetings should be addressed to: The Cary Grove High School Students, Good Shepherd Hospital, 450 W. Hwy 22, Barrington, IL 60010-1901.

I am sure that all cards, memorials and donations will be greatly appreciated. Thanks to all that have sent condolences and kind words. They have been greatly appreciated.

Yours in Scouting,

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+-----+
| Marc W. Solomon      | Unit Commissioner  |
| msolomon@tek1.tekniq.com | Sycamore District  |
| marcsol@aol.com     | Blackhawk Council, IL |
+-----+
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I use to be a wise old owl . . . Now I am just old

Date: Fri, 27 Oct 1995 02:17:24 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
Subject: Death of Jeff Clark, Injuries to Scouts  
In-Reply-To: <9510261448.AA00466@tek1.tekniq.com>

Marc,

The impact of the tragic accident in Fox River Grove didn't really hit me until I read USA Today earlier today and learned that Jeff Clark had just completed his Eagle Scout the night before his death. I finished reading the story in stunned silence with tears.

Whether from near as are you and Kathie or farther away as I am here in Virginia, each of us feels a sense of loss when we learn of such a tragedy and as people committed to helping youth, we all can feel the suffering of the family of Jeff Clark and the pain of the other parents as they struggle with their losses or the injuries of their children.

As we sit around this virtual campfire may we all take just a moment each in his/her own way to join in prayers to ask that Jeff's and each of the other families be comforted in this time of loss and sorrow and for the speedy recovery and healing of those who were injured. And perhaps in Scouting tradition we could in spirit join in a round of the

first three verses of Kum By Ya (Kum By Ya, Crying, Praying).

And as we file away from the virtual campfire, we can take some solace in knowing that in his life, Jeff exemplified the best in Scouting.

If it would be of comfort to the family, please be aware that Jeff's Eagle can still be forwarded to National and upon approval of the Board, the award can be presented posthumously to the family.

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG

From pfarnham@ASBMB.FASEB.ORG Wed Nov 22 09:55:05 1995  
To: mfbowman@capaccess.org  
Subject: Vince's Funeral

Mike,

Well, I went to Vince's funeral yesterday. Very moving ceremony and service. Well over 100 district scouts and scouters were there. The scouts did all the talking at the funeral and the graveside service--as it should have been--and there wasn't a dry eye in the place by the end.

The boys in particular were absolutely distraught. Poor Brian Goldsmith could barely get through his eulogy; had to be propped up by Vince's brother. Nick Cavalero started weeping when he recounted how Vince had promised to make him a costume if Nick did the beadwork.

As

Nick said, somehow he never got around to doing the beadwork, and now

has learned a lesson about never taking people's presence for granted. Patrick Montemerlo showed up in the Meteu costume Vince made for him

after Patrick did the beadwork. As Patrick very accurately pointed out, Vince's Native American costumes are "masterpieces" and the Chapter is very fortunate to have them.

The most poignant scene for me was after the service, when most of the older scouts in Vince's troop stood around his casket weeping

uncontrollably in each other's and their parents' arms. This, from older teenagers who would rather die than display that kind of feeling in most circumstances. I had to fish out the Kleenex at this point myself. I had been to Lenhok'sin with some of these guys, and know how upset they must have been.

Vince was a very complicated man and a difficult one to get to know in some ways--but it was very clear to me from the reactions of the many scouts who attended that he had a magic touch with boys. He obviously touched the lives of hundreds of them during his 40 years as a scouter. I would be very honored if half as many scouts showed up at my funeral and reacted to my departure in that way.

Anyway, just thought you'd like to know.

Pete

Date: Wed, 1 Nov 1995 02:04:52 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
Subject: New South Wales Prayer

Last Saturday night as the white candle burned low in memory of Jeff Clark, I ran across this prayer and thought it should be shared. It was posted to the list several months ago and so my thanks to our fellow Scouts and Guides in Australia for sharing it:

#### A SCOUT'S PRAYER

We have hiked along life's pathway,  
Our packs upon our backs,  
We have pitched our tents and rested  
Here and there along the tracks.  
We have used our compass wisely  
To guide us on our way  
And hope to reach the campsite  
Of our Great Chief Scout some day.

We have tried to be trustworthy -



Kept our honor high and clean,  
We have been as loyal as any  
To our Country and our Queen.  
We have done our best at all times -  
Kept our Promise - been prepared,  
And hope our good deeds please Him  
When at last our souls are bared.

We have lightened others' burdens,  
With our smiles along the way,  
We have kept our hand in God's hand,  
Walked beside Him day by day.  
And when our span of life runs out,  
We'll make this gentle plea -  
May we sit around His Campfire  
At the Final Jamboree.

From Scouting in New South Wales

Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG

From mfbowman@CapAccess.org Wed Nov 8 02:46:33 1995  
Date: Wed, 8 Nov 1995 02:46:31 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: Alan Jones <alan@sawasdi.apana.org.au>  
Subject: Re: Sad notice

Alan,

We too have known the sorrow of losing a young man to suicide. One of our Scoutmasters has a venture crew that went bicycling every other weekend and the lad was full of enthusiasm and enjoyed Scouting more than most. Unfortunately his home life wasn't so good and he had trouble in School. One night after a bike ride, he ended his misery. Took a long time for folks to get over it. It makes you stop to think of how good you have things and how lucky you are, then you begin to think of ways to work harder with the Scouts hoping to give that extra spark to prevent another somewhere down the line from getting that low.

**BTW, I have to compliment you on your graphic depiction of the Enterprise class starship in your signature block. Looks great!**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**Date: Thu, 9 Nov 1995 01:42:10 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: Mia Rink <mia@DOVE.MTX.NET.AU>  
Subject: Re: Introduction**

**Mia,**

**Welcome to Scouts-L. Hope you enjoy and contribute to the discussions. Sorry to hear of the tragedy you have experienced with the loss of a Venture Scout to suicide. I wrote to Alan to let him know that you are not alone in having such an experience. In our District we lost a Venture Scout to suicide about a year ago. The Venture group from his Troop used to go bicycling about every other weekend and he particularly enjoyed and was quite popular with the other Scouts. Unfortunately things weren't so good at home and he had problems at School that nobody would have guessed. After one of the bike treks, he ended his misery. It took a long time for folks to get over it and some still aren't. Makes us realize how lucky we are to have a good life and how important it is to go on and do our best with each Scout, hopefully providing that extra spark to someone in need to avert the same sort of tragedy later.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**Date: Fri, 17 Nov 1995 01:31:57 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Helping a Scout w/Tragedy**

**It is wonderful to see such an outpouring of caring helping hands for a Scout in difficult circumstances.**

**For this young man it is so important that he be treated the same as before and that nothing appear to have changed. Scouting may be his last refuge against a hard life made more complicated by this act of violence.**

**As caring leaders helping the family learn about community resources that can help is also important. You may want to check with your local Government to find out what sort's of victim assistance programs are available and whether any victim support groups are operating in your area. These may be a valuable source of support in addition to the other resources others have suggested.**

**While you should try to prevent Scout leadership from being the source of information to fellow Scouts about this terrible crime, I suspect that sooner than later some of this Scout's friends are going to hear about what happened. Some less mature of these friends/Scouts may make an inappropriate comment at some point. Should this happen, as leaders, this is a time for personal coaching and counseling with the Scout whose comments are not appropriate. Here I would suggest a questioning discussion with the "mouth" about how he would feel if it were his own mother, how does he think his comments made the other Scout feel, how would he want to be treated, how does he think the other Scout would like to be treated, etc. until the idea sinks in that he should not repeat the offensive behavior.**

**While our prayers go out for this individual Scout, perhaps we should broaden the circle to include all Scouts who are the victims or in the families of victims of crimes of violence. And as we give this our prayerful consideration, we perhaps should also pray for ourselves that we may continue as leaders to provide a refuge, opportunity, and a star of hope to these young people who struggle amid such adversity.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
DDC-Training, GW Dist. Nat Capital Area Council  
mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG**

**Date: Sat, 27 Jan 1996 03:51:07 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: Pat <pmp643@vera.nwscs.sea06.navy.mil>  
Subject: Re: Death of a scout**

**Pat,**

**Your Scouts make us all proud to wear the BSA uniform. They have demonstrated the best in Scouting and should be commended for their Scouting spirit in the face of tragic adversity. They started on a rough road with a problem campout and learned from their mistakes, growing in the process. It is evident that they grew stronger and more determined along the way. And now with the tragic loss of a friend, they are an inspiration to others.**

**When you posted the sad news of the loss of one of your Scouts, many of us on the Scouts-L list were saddened and joined in prayers for you, your Troop and the family. Please share with these Scouters the wonderful story of how these Scouts tried to see whether a posthumous Eagle could be awarded and when they learned this was not possible, immediately shifted gears to create a last memorial to their fallen brother by continuing his Eagle Project with an appropriate memorial to his memory.**

**As a Scoutmaster, you have every right to be extraordinarily proud of each of these wonderful Scouts.**

**As they finish the project, please take pictures and keep notes of all that happened. Consider writing a story of the event and what happened and sending it on to Scouting magazine. This is a story that should be shared with Scouters everywhere. Your Scouts are an inspiration and their actions are what makes Scouting worth that hour a week. :-)**

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**From: Djh.Wilson@ee.qub.ac.uk  
Date: Tue, 19 Mar 96 09:12:25 GMT  
To: mfbowman@CAPACCESS.ORG  
Subject: Re: Tragedy in Scotland, Death of an Eagle**

**Michael,**

**The verse you're thinking of is:**

**"They grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning  
We will remember them."**

Sorry, it's not actually ancient Celtic. It's from a poem (I forget the name) by Rupert Brooke, an English poet who was killed at Gallipoli in World War I. It's used at Remembrance Day services throughout the UK every year, at which the words "We will remember them" are repeated by everybody after the reading. I can't think of any more appropriate passage for the tragedy referred to.

Yours in Scouting,

David Wilson. <djh.wilson@ee.qub.ac.uk>  
(SL, 1st Saintfield Scout Troop, Co. Down, N. Ireland)

Date: Sat, 6 Jan 1996 11:50:14 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Death of an Eagle

As folks returned from the holidays little notice seems to have been paid to the death of Eagle Scout Trevor James Aurand, of Poulsbo Wa, a small waterfront town in one of the most beautiful parts of the Puget Sound area.

Wherever we are whether it in New South Wales, the suburbs of Chicago, the streets of Detroit, the scenic water country of Washington State, a rural county in your area, we all over time find ourselves touched by the lives of these young people who have died in tragic circumstances whether murder, suicide or accident. Many leave a legacy of memories, some scars, many tears and all an empty spot as we are all diminished by one who we might call brother or sister in our global campfire with a light that never dies.

In the United States the Boy Scouts of America will soon be celebrating its 86th anniversary with a week of activities, including Scout Sabbath and Scout Sunday observances. In my own faith in the Order of Prayers for the People we have a time for the congregation to offer prayers. In other faiths similar opportunities exist or can be made with the help of clergy. Maybe as part of our celebration, we could also take a moment to remember those whose lives are still with us, but alas only in spirit by offering our prayers of comfort for those who have lost a Scout over the year as well as for those Scouts who face difficulties and need help in surmounting challenges. Perhaps similar opportunities exist in the cycle

of other Scouting and Guiding Associations to remember as well.

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle  
Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**Date: Sat, 27 Jan 1996 03:51:07 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: Pat <pmp643@vera.nwscs.sea06.navy.mil>  
Subject: Re: Death of a scout**

**Pat,**

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**As a Scoutmaster, you have every right to be extraordinarily proud of each of these wonderful Scouts.**

**As they finish the project, please take pictures and keep notes of all that happened. Consider writing a story of the event and what happened and sending it on to Scouting magazine. This is a story that should be shared with Scouters everywhere. Your Scouts are an inspiration and their actions are what makes Scouting worth that hour a week. :-)**

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle**

Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training,  
G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

Date: Sat, 16 Mar 1996 16:55:21 -0500 (EST)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <Scouts-L@tcubvm.is.tcu.edu>  
cc:

Multiple Recipients of the List SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-  
L%TCUBVM.BITNET@PUCC.PRINCETON.EDU>

Subject: Tragedy in Scotland, Death of an Eagle

Whenever a child is taken from this life, whether by a terrible tragedy or an accident, we each can feel a bit of the grief the child's family must surely suffer. This is because we too have children and know how much we love those children and just how much we would be saddened at their loss and the unspeakable pain we would endure. Sadly each day the news seems to have more stories about children who have died in accidents, been killed or who have succumbed to illness. And when we know it was a Scout, it seems to touch us just a little closer because we are all here because of our desire to see these same Scouts grow and enjoy life.

When we hear such news our hearts go out to the families that must cope with grief and somehow go on with their lives. My prayers are with the families of the children killed in Scotland, the family of the Eagle Scout who died in an accident, and the families of all of the other children who have died.

Rodger Morris in discussing a similar death offered an ancient Celtic epitaph that has been adopted in Scotland and placed on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers in Edinburgh, Scotland that I think worth reposting:

"They shall not grow old,  
As we who have known them grow old,  
Nor shall the passing condemn them,  
At the coming up of the sun in the morning,  
And at its going down at night,  
We shall remember them."

In remembering the young people who have passed on, we can realize that each of our Scouts deserves the best we can offer them during their lives today. These things remind us that life is fragile and that there

are no guarantees for tommorrow, making it all the more important that we do all that we can to give these youth experiences that will help them enjoy life and the tools to meet the challenges they will face. As much as I am saddened by the recent news, I am happy to know that so many of you generously give of your time and talents to enrich the lives of young people.

In prayerful reflection, I am

Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training, G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org

Date: Wed, 22 May 1996 09:04:47 CST  
From: MARK A WILBUR <wilbur-ma@CLAVIN.MED.GE.COM>  
Subject: Scout Memorial for Brian C. Merk  
X-To: jolonoff@gate.net  
To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>

Friends,

With Memorial Day coming up I have forced myself to sit down and finally compose a memorial for a Scout we lost back in September. I tried to start one a few months ago, but, my emotions could not tell me if I was typing the right things.

I would like to thank all of you who helped me make my decision to do the Slide Show Tribute to Brian last February. It was the right thing to do.

Anyone that would like to reply to the family (or to Brian's younger brother Todd) I will forward any messages. I feel that the family is getting by, but it has to be difficult. I know that it has been for me. I know that I think about Brian at the strangest times.

TRIBUTE ATTACHD

-----  
Fifteen year old Boy Scout Brian C. Merk, joined Our Lord Wednesday, September 20, 1995, loving son of Marilyn A. and Ronald L. Merk, dear brother of Todd Merk, dear grandson of Lucius Huber and Dorothy Merk, dear nephew of Ken and Mary Merk.



**Brian was an active member of Boy Scout Troop #374 sponsored by Friedens Chapel North St. Louis County. Brian spent a lot of his time with the regular troop as well as the older boy Venture program. He was an honor student at Hazelwood East High School.**

**Brian was riding a 4-wheeler with Scout friends near his house. Brian was an experienced rider, wearing protective equipment, but was fatally crushed when the 4-wheeler turned over. Friends administered CPR and he was transported via helicopter to Children's Hospital where he was pronounced dead.**

**The color guard and Paul bearers for the funeral were members of the Scout Troop. Nearly 100% of the troop attended the viewing and all were in full uniform.**

**One of his classmates, Melanie P'atty wrote the following poem:**

#### **A Memory of Brian**

**A Life is gone, we all wonder why.  
We reflect on the memories,  
We laugh and we cry.**

**He was our loved one,  
That we held dear to our hearts.  
But we were not yet prepared,  
For the day he would part.**

**He was much too young,  
But it was his time to go.  
And if everything happens for a reason.  
This reason we neither understand or know.**

**We remember his voice,  
His smile we'll never forget.  
His funny, mischievous grin,  
That little pep in his step.**

**His ingenious mind,  
His way with comedy,  
How he'd make friends,  
With everyone he'd see.**

But one thing is for certain,  
And will always remain that way.  
It's that we must keep him in our hearts,  
Where forever he will stay.

We must water the flower,  
That he placed in our soul.  
We must prize it as a treasure,  
Worth much, much more than gold.

Brian is no longer with us,  
But his spirit we must embrace.  
And with his love beside us,  
A new day we can face.

Submitted by:  
Brian's friend  
Melanie P'atty

It is now Memorial weekend and several months have passed since the funeral. Every week, even during the snow, there have been multiple visitors to the grave site. Some leave a note or card and sometimes they leave a little present for Brian.

The Troop had accumulated a large number of slides of Brian over the years, so we did a tribute Slide show to Brian at February Court on Honor. It was tough to watch but everyone had a good cry!

Brian's younger brother, Todd, continues to be a member of the Troop. He got his 1st Class on October 3rd 1995.

We shall all miss Brian... very, very, much...

---

Mark Wilbur	wilbur-ma@clavin.med.ge.com	/\mmm/\
SM: Troop 374	Ceremonial Team Advisor	Owl (o) (o)
St. Louis, Mo.	Vigil: Allogagwa	NC-516 \ v /
Eagle Scout	Shawnee Lodge #51	>>>++++->
Ham: NOUII	"May God Bless... (Red Skelton)"	

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Date: Tue, 28 May 1996 09:34:02 -0500  
From: Kathie Cerveny <kathie@DELTA.EECS.NWU.EDU>

**Subject: Posthumous Awards**

**To: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**

**It is quite AMAZING what one learns, when keeping pace with our literature, etc.**

**In the 1996 printing of the ADVANCEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

**GUIDE, no. 33088, page 7, column 2, paragraph 5, we find:**

**POSTHUMOUS AWARDS**

**If a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Explorer has met all of the requirements for a rank, including age and service requirements, before his death, he MAY receive an award posthumously. If he had met all of the requirements, but a board of review had not been conducted, the review by the council advancement committee can be conducted posthumously. Application should be made to the council advancement committee within SIX months after the boy's death. The application may be made ONLY by the chairman of the unit committee or the boy's unit leader.**

**Thought, since this question came up a while back, it might be worth putting into a file for your future reference.**

**Kathie Cerveney**

**Date: Sun, 9 Jun 1996 00:18:41 -0400 (EDT)**

**From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>**

**To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**

**cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>**

**Subject: Re: Death of a Scout in the Grand Canyon**

**Ron,**

**Dexter's reference to the URL**

**<http://www.sltrib.com/96/Jun/08/TCI/01420403.htm>**

was correct and works. You may want to check with your IP to find out why you are unable to get through. At that site you will find a copyrighted news story from the Salt Lake Tribune detailing the circumstances leading to the death of Scout David Phillips and the rescue of the seven other Scouters and Scouts involved. The story relates that David died of dehydration and heat exhaustion in 112 degree heat. It appears that the group may not have taken enough water with them and that

after they ran out of water, the three adults collapsed. The five boys were headed towards the Colorado river to get water, when David collapsed. The other Scouts got water and brought it to him, but it was too late. For those interested in additional information, you'll have to take a look at the Web page.

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training, G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**Date: Tue, 2 Jul 1996 00:54:22 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
cc: Multiple recipients of list SCOUTS-L <SCOUTS-L@TCUBVM.IS.TCU.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Pray for Scout**

**In reverance:**

**Around this virtual campfire spanning the continents we find Your children of many faiths, each hearing the simple request of a mother filled with love for her child, Alex Coad, that he might do well in his upcoming surgery. Oh Great Scoutmaster of all Scouts, please watch over this family and extend your comforting hand to them in healing. And help them to gather the courage to face what lies ahead. Amen.**

**Speaking Only for Myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman a/k/a Professor Beaver (WB), ASTA #2566, OA Vigil Honor '71, Eagle Scout '67, Serving as Deputy District Commissioner for Training, G.W.Dist., Nat. Capital Area Council, BSA - mfbowman@capaccess.org**

**Date: Sun, 15 Sep 1996 00:10:46 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Michael F. Bowman" <mfbowman@CapAccess.org>  
To: SCOUTS-L - Youth Groups Discussion List <Scouts-L@tcubvm.is.tcu.edu>**

**Subject: Tragedy and Fellowship, Aftermath of Fox River Grove bus-train , accident**

**The summer edition of "Eagletter" just arrived. As I was leafing through the articles, I came across one that will mean something to those of you who were on the list last October when we learned about the tragic death of Jeffrey Clark in the Fox River Grove bus-train accident. BSA reprinted Mr. Clark's January 4, 1996 letter in its entirety in "Eagletter."**

**Mr. Dennis Clark wrote:**

**I am the father and Scoutmaster of Jeffrey Clark, who was a member of Boy**

**Scout Troop 166 in Fox River Grove, Illinois. Jeffrey was tragically killed on his way to school, in a school bus-commuter train accident on October 25, 1995. Along with Jeff, six other high school children were killed when a train hit their school bus, which was sitting on the tracks waiting for the traffic light to change. Jeff, who had turned 16 two weeks earlier, completed his Eagle Scout board of review the day before his death.**

**The media made this accident front-page news around the country, and thus**

**many people heard the story of how Jeff had just made his Eagle rank. Although Jeff didn't live to see it, some of our local Scouting friends worked miracles with the district, council, and national offices and had Jeff's Eagle Scout Award delivered and displayed at his wake, which was three days later. Also at Jeff's wake, over 150 Arrowmen from the Wulapeju Lodge (Kishwaukee Chapter), Order of the Arrow, came and participated in the "broken arrow" ceremony.**

**The tremendous impact of Scouting brotherhood was felt almost immediately**

**after the accident by many people who previously had no idea what togetherness and spirit are shared by all of us in Scouting. Our family received many cards and letters from Scouts and Scout troops all over America; some were even sent on the Internet. We heard from many troops**

**that lit candles and said prayers in their court of honor in memory of Jeff. Other Eagle Scouts invited us to their Eagle Scout court of honor, or mentioned Jeff during their ceremony. At Christmas some troops sent us donations to a Troop 166 memorial fund rather than give gifts to their own Scouts.**

**We found comfort in knowing that there were many other Scouts and Scouters around the country that took the time to share their sympathy with us. The true meaning of brotherhood and love was felt by our troop, many of Jeff's friends, and his family. Jeff was an excellent Scout who helped many younger Scouts progress; he lived by the twelve points of the Scout Law, and as an Eagle he reached one of his goals in life.**

**Our family would like to thank all of the Scouts and Scouters who helped us in our time of grief. You have helped keep Jeff's Eagle spirit soaring high.**

**Signed by Dennis J. Clark.**

**Many of you who were here a year ago responded quickly and with compassion when this tragic accident became known. Just thought you might want to know that your warmth and friendship was felt in a time of need. It is our kinship in thick or thin as brother Scouters living the oath and law that makes Scouting so very special.**

**Peace.**

**Speaking only for myself in the Scouting Spirit, Michael F. Bowman  
Dep. Dist. Commissioner-Training, G.W. Dist., NCAC, BSA (Virginia)  
U. S. Scouting Service Project FTP Site Administrator (PC Area)  
ftp1 or ftp2.scouters.com/usscouts E-mail: mfbowman@capaccess.org**