



## Ryan Hopegill

September 21, 2001 - June 26, 2021

Ryan Cameron Hopegill, born September 21, 2001, passed away unexpectedly on June 26, 2021. He was born and raised in Orlando, FL. Ryan was a 2020 graduate of Olympia High School and was currently a student at the University of Florida pursuing a degree from the Rinker School of Construction Management. Ryan is survived by his parents, Lance and Renee Hopegill, sister, Kaley Hopegill, loving grandparents, Terry and Paula Rodgers and Charles Hope-Gill, Uncle Richard Rodgers and Aunt Kim Rodgers, Aunt Heather Edwards and Uncle Robert Edwards and cousins: Kevin Rodgers, Stephanie Rodgers, Emma Edwards, Elena Edwards, Lilah Edwards, and many Great- Aunts and Uncles.

As a young child Ryan was the happiest, sweetest, most loving little boy that a family could hope to have. He filled his home with laughter and spread joy to all he knew. He was silly, loved to wrestle every day when his Dad got home from work, thoroughly enjoyed annoying his sister with his antics, and would randomly climb onto his mother's lap to snuggle announcing, "I need some sugar." He grew up loving the Gators and was rarely seen wearing anything that wasn't orange and blue. As a middle-schooler Ryan was the kid who would split his days between lunch tables to be with his friends that weren't always invited to sit at the "cool table." While at Windy Ridge he earned the school's highest honor, the Silver Hawk Award, and was a teacher favorite. From age eight to fourteen Ryan was a member of the West Orange Bobcats

and football always remained his first love. He and his family have many wonderful memories from that time.

Ryan was the kind of kid that told his family how much he loved and appreciated them through his words and deeds all the time. He never went to bed or left the house without saying he loved them and he would even do it in front of his friends. He kept all of the birthday cards and letters that his family wrote for him over the years in his sock drawer so he could look back on them. Even as a teenager, Ryan enjoyed spending time with his grandparents and always loved the way it made him feel when they needed his help with something. He loved seeing them at his games and always appreciated their support. Ryan's love also extended to his dogs Chloe, Tebow, and Rosie who could always make him smile. He appreciated their unconditional love.

Ryan didn't shy away from trying to make others feel better and humor was his go-to strategy. Ryan loved making people laugh. He also did a great job of cracking himself up as well. Growing up his family used to say he was the funniest person he ever met. He had an entire playbook of impersonations and characters that he could break into at a moment's notice. Oftentimes, whatever it was, it was highly inappropriate. And, if you wanted to take a photo, at least three completely ridiculous ones had to be taken first that would never make it to his Mom's many Facebook posts. Most of all Ryan was kind. He had absolutely no time for pretentiousness and was spot on in his ability to identify others' true character.

Ryan knew all the words to "Jessie's Girl" and even performed it at a karaoke club at the age of four during a family cruise. His love of music never diminished; however, some might say his taste in music did. In his later years Ryan had a passion for lyrical rap music and knew the lyrics, title, and artist to every song in his extensive playlist and never lost a "Name that Tune" battle when challenged by his teammates.

Ryan was known in the community both for his skills as a water polo goalie and for his academic successes. Ryan's favorite thing about playing sports were the friends he made along the way. From baseball, to football, then basketball, and finally water polo, Ryan connected not only with his teammates but his coaches as well. Ryan was described as one of the most coachable kids on every team he played. He was lucky enough, on most of those earlier teams, to also be coached by his Dad, who will treasure those times always.

Ryan was a four year Varsity athlete in both swimming and water polo. He achieved great success playing Goalie for the Olympia Titans helping his team win their first State Championship in 2018. Ryan holds the all-time record for saves at Olympia and was a two-time USA Water Polo Academic All American. Ryan served as Captain his senior year and enjoyed his role as leader and mentor for all of the goalies. Most of his favorite memories are from the team tournament trips. He loved the times spent on the bus and in the hotel room with his boys. Losing his senior season to COVID was hard not only because he had more water polo goals to accomplish, but because he wanted more of those special memories with his teammates and coaches who he loved. It was his mother's greatest joy to get to see him at school while working at Olympia and to serve as Team Mom for the many water polo trips creating special memories and bonds that will never be forgotten.

Ryan's classmates were often surprised by just how smart he was.....something they didn't expect from someone who didn't want to be taken so seriously. While in high school, Ryan served as President of the National Technical Honor Society, was a member of National Honor Society, and graduated 12th out of 797- all while playing year round Varsity sports. Most recently, while at UF, he was a member of the National Association of

Home Builders and represented Rinker for the National Student Competition all while trying to start college during a pandemic. This last semester he created the winning Design-Build Project with his team, as the only freshman, and was so delighted by the judges' feedback.

Ryan's parents would like to thank his wonderful teachers, coaches, and friends for the role they played in his life, and theirs. Ryan was lucky to have a close group of friends who he was able to hang out again with this summer which he very much enjoyed. His family appreciates all of their friends' kindness and understanding during this unbearably difficult time. Ryan will forever be loved and missed beyond measure.

A private family service will be held on July 6, 2021 at DeGusipe Funeral Home in Maitland at 1:30 PM. A Celebration of Life for his extended family and close friends will be held at Tanner Hall in Winter Garden on July 30th from 6 - 9 PM.

The family would like to express that the memories, kind words, pictures, and videos you share on the Tribute Wall are more valuable than flowers or gifts. The Hopegill family has selected Shoes That Fit as Ryan's Memorial charity. Here is the link below:

<https://connect.clickandpledge.com/Organization/shoesthatfit/campaign/ryanhopegill>

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ Our family knew Ryan through Hallie's friendship with Kaley. Hallie knew him as Kaley's funny younger brother. Over the years at Windy Ridge and Olympia, we were privileged to watch his many academic and athletic accolades and awards received. Although we didn't know Ryan well, I feel as if we've come to know this amazing young man through all of these touching expressions of love and friendship. As is evident from them, Ryan impacted so many lives and will be missed by countless. A beautiful soul is never forgotten...we will always remember Ryan. Renee, Lance and Kaley, our hearts go out to you and your entire family. We are praying for comfort, strength and guidance as you navigate these uncharted waters in the days ahead. Know that you have an army of friends you can call for any help. With much love, the Ruffin family

---

**Mary Ruffin** - July 30, 2021 at 04:17 PM

RH

Thank you so much for your kind words and support. ❤️

---

**rhopegill** - August 02, 2021 at 08:44 AM

RL

“ I was Ryan's 6th grade History teacher. Ryan was a great kid. He was polite, well mannered, and wanted to do well. Exactly what you want of a student.

However, the thing I remember most about him was his sense of humor. He would crack me up in class. He wasn't loud or obnoxious. He was calm in his delivery. He was careful not to laugh at his own jokes but sometimes he couldn't help it. Ryan had these eyes that could easily look like he was judging you but his smile showed he was just kidding around. He had this way about him where he could tease you but how and what he said carried kindness as well.

For example, I know I said to him "Ryan you're so much taller than me" and his reply was (while looking down on me) "Mr. Ly you're STILL tall to me." Now I am 5'6" and he was clearly being sarcastic but it was nice to hear and it made me laugh.

Not many people can or want to pull that off but he did so effortlessly because that's the way he was.

We are all lucky to have known him and to see who he was as a human.

Be well buddy and know you are loved, honored, and missed.

---

Refmann Ly - July 30, 2021 at 03:10 PM

RH

Mr. Ly, thank you so much for taking the time to share your memories of Ryan. We actually had a conversation about you earlier this summer. Ryan asked if I knew if you were still at Windy Ridge and went on to tell me what a great teacher he thought you were. He appreciated your sense of humor so much and your ability to make the content interesting. Thank you for being a part of his life and for being one of his many wonderful teachers.

---

rhopegill - August 02, 2021 at 08:42 AM

MB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



---

**Matt Bialosuknia** - July 29, 2021 at 10:46 AM

RH

*Thank you Matt!*

---

**rhopegill** - August 02, 2021 at 08:38 AM

BD

“ *I have so many memories of Ryan going all the way back to our windy ridge days. We used to ride on the bear bus together and just mess around and share laughs as young kids do. He used to show me new music on the bus and we would sit there sharing headphones just enjoying our time together. Ryan also introduced me to shoes which we both developed a deep passion for and I will always remember the day I saw him come to school in his white blue and Orange KD 5s. I thought he was the coolest kid ever. I had classes with him up until our sophomore year, we had mr Craig's class together. He would drop me off every once and awhile towards the end of the year when he got his parking pass and it brought me back to the bear bus days. I used to get to see him everyday I worked at the aquatic center and we'd always say hello and just catch up. Ryan never failed to make me laugh and he had such a positive impact on my life. Love you man.*

---

**Blake Dennis** - July 27, 2021 at 09:45 PM

RH

*Thank you Blake for taking the time to share your memories of Ryan with us. I remember hearing some of those Bear Bus stories and how much he enjoyed having you there. Thank you for being his friend!*

---

**rhopegill** - August 02, 2021 at 08:37 AM

MB

“It’s taken weeks for me to try and find the right words to honor Ryan, and yet words still don’t seem like enough. When I think of Ryan (Rhino to our family) I immediately think of Bobcat football but I actually didn’t meet Ryan (and Renee, Lance and Kaley) through football. Ryan had broken his ankle skateboarding so he didn’t get to play that first year at age 8. We met when Ryan and Hudson ended up on the same Windermere little league team, the Phillies. However, football was Hudson’s true passion and it was the next season with AAU Bobcats where the friendship truly began. We have so so many wonderful memories created during those years from age 8 to 14, both on and off the football field. Ryan was the somewhat quiet one, compared to some of the other boys, but he had a great sense of humor and always got the boys laughing. As one of the team “trainers” I was lucky enough to be on the sidelines for every single game. Ryan was a true teammate and was always encouraging the other kids. He was the most polite young man I have ever met and definitely one of the smartest. I remember the trips we took together to AMI and the boys just being silly (remember the Wonder Pets Renee?) The Disney cruise with the infamous dune buggy excursion in Cozumel requiring Renee to hot wire the car (we never did make it to those stupid caves). At Olympia, Hudson continued to play football and Ryan moved on to water polo, and while they didn’t spend nearly as much time together as they used to, they remained friends. Anytime Hudson was trying to decide which sneakers to get (and you know Hudson can’t make a decision about anything) Ryan was his go to guy. According to Hudson, nobody knew sneakers like Ryan. I remember going to watch the senior olympics, right before Covid ended the boys senior year and when it was over, I was standing in the gym and Ryan saw me, came over and gave me a hug. That was Ryan—such a sweet human being. It seems inconceivable to me that our boys won’t be able to make any new memories together and I’ve stopped trying to make sense of this tragedy because it will never make sense. So instead, I will continue to remember the remarkable young man Ryan was and wish for strength, peace and healing to Renee, Lance and Kaley, whom we love so very much.

*All our love and support,  
Marnie, Matt, Sydney, Hudson, Evan Bialosuknia*

Marnie Bialosuknia - July 25, 2021 at 08:38 PM

RH

*Thank you Marnie for sharing your memories and reminding us of a few we hadn't thought of in a long time. Thank you for everything you have done over these past several weeks. We are so lucky to have you and your family in our lives. Most of all, thank you for loving our son over the years.*

rhopegill - August 02, 2021 at 08:33 AM

CO

*“ Ryan was always a phenomenal kid and friend with outstanding character and charisma. We had a few classes together in high school and also were both NTHS leaders during my senior year and Ryan's Junior year. We would always joke around and try and get a few laughs in every time we had a meeting, and jokingly would see if we could get away with the easy work. Ryan was a outstanding leader and always took on whatever tasks were at hand in stride. I always admired that about him and his willingness to give and to do things for others even when his plate was full. He will be deeply missed and even though I never got the opportunity to spend time with him outside of school, I am proud to call him a friend of mine. My deepest condolences go out to all of the Hopegill family and you're all in my prayers.*

*-Connor Osborne*



Connor Osborne - July 19, 2021 at 09:51 PM

RH

*Thank you Connor for your kind words and for sharing your memories of Ryan.*

**rhopegill** - August 02, 2021 at 08:27 AM

SM

“*Ryan was the hardest working friend I knew. He always inspired me to do better. I remember him loving football at such a young age, and later loving water polo. We shared many classes together through elementary all the way through high school. He was such a positive influence on my life as he always strived to be the best person he could be. My last memory with Ryan was when we were on the same senior olympics team right before the pandemic hit. We had such a great time that day and it reminded me of the elementary school days when we always used to hang out. I’m so heartbroken to hear this news, however Ryan will never be forgotten. Love and miss you.*”

**Sean Mazrawi** - July 18, 2021 at 04:43 AM

RH

*Thank you Sean. You were a big part of the good times Ryan had at Windy Ridge. ❤️*

**rhopegill** - July 19, 2021 at 08:38 AM

JV

“ Ryan or Rhino, as we called him, was such a wonderful young man whom I had the pleasure to coach in Little League baseball. He was the kind of kid who, as a coach, you absolutely wanted to have on your team. He was supportive of others and kept a positive attitude no matter the way the game was going. His smile was contagious and getting him to laugh was one of my favorite things. We were privileged to know him and he will never be forgotten.

*Words seem so insufficient to express both our love of Ryan and the compassion and love we have for your family. We are there for you in anyway that you need.*

*Joe, Karen, Jaret and Brian Vargo*

---

**Joe Vargo** - July 16, 2021 at 04:02 PM

RH

*Thank you for your kind words about our sweet son. ❤️ And thank you for being a part of his life.*

---

**rhopegill** - July 19, 2021 at 08:36 AM

VK

“ Although Ryan and I were never close, we shared classes together during our days at Windy Ridge and in high school. He was always someone us students admired and he is someone I wish I had known better. I remember he was quite the class clown in second grade when we both had Mrs.Peacock. He always had a way of making the class full of seven year olds laugh, and even from that age he was known by everyone as an incredibly smart and talented kid. Praying for you all and sending love. Ryan seemed to be such a light and genuine guy.

---

**Vallerie Kolczynski** - July 15, 2021 at 10:21 PM

RH



rhopegill - July 19, 2021 at 08:30 AM

SS

“ I'm sorry for your loss and extending my deepest sympathy to you during this time.  
Sallie Schattner

Sallie Schattner - July 15, 2021 at 02:28 PM

RH

Thank you for your condolences and for your impact on Ryan. I can't tell you how much Ryan appreciated your knowledge, guidance, and willingness to help. He always knew you would have the answer to his questions about the Rinker program.

rhopegill - July 15, 2021 at 09:59 PM

TF

“ Ryan stood in front of David, when they lined up alphabetically, for 12 years. They weren't the closest of friends but they were friends that shared many conversations. They became even closer when they were both officers for Nat'l Technical Honor Society. This news is both shocking and devastating! I am so incredibly sorry for your loss. Our family has always had tremendous respect for Ryan's kind heart, tireless effort and impressive accomplishments. Ryan was such a bright star with tons of potential. The world is now a bit darker.  
Sending love and support- David & Emily Katz and Jaimie & Michael Goltzman

The Katz-Goltzman Family - July 14, 2021 at 07:12 PM

GD

“ I will always remember Ryan as a kind, intelligent, respectful young man, wise beyond his years. Most recently, during his summer job Ryan would always go out of his way to say “hello”. They say our children are a reflection of ourselves. Renee and Lance should be proud of the person Ryan had become. Renee, Lance and Kaley I had not written anything earlier as I was at a loss for words. Please know how much you are loved. and I have not gone a day without thinking of all of you. Gina Dahlmann

---

**Gina Dahlmann** - July 14, 2021 at 04:27 PM

RH

Thank you Gina for your kind words. ❤️

---

**rhopegill** - July 15, 2021 at 09:52 PM

A(

“ Ryan was the type of kid that every parent would dream to have as their child’s friend. Ryan was my son Robbie’s first best friend. First grade, Ms Lucas’s class at Windy Ridge is where it was solidified, even though I’m pretty sure they knew each other in kindergarten too. They maintained that special bond that only two very matter of fact, sports loving, goofy boys could share. Robbie and Ryan would walk home from Windy Ridge most days because Ryan didn’t want to take the bus home. Robbie would walk Ryan all the way to his house, even though we lived just 3 houses from Windy Ridge and Ryan lived in the neighborhood next to us. They talked about everything. They played baseball together at Windemere Little League and both never really loved the sport because I believe it bores them both! They both switched to tackle football. Ryan, because of his size, went to Bobcats and Robbie went to Pop Warner. But they always shared that football bond. They went to the 8th grade dance together and maybe initially acted like they didn’t want to go, but ended up having the time of their life, as I recall. On to high school, Ryan would convince Robbie to go to the football games. But their activities and social circles changed and they slowly drifted apart like many childhood friends do. But I always knew they kept tabs on each other. They understood each other. I always knew if Ryan was in Robbie’s life, all would be ok. I’ve always loved the pic of them before the 8th grade dance. The other pic, no joke, fell out of one of my albums just 2 weeks ago. It was from their 4th grade class. And yet again, they had Mrs Lucas as their teacher. I am thankful beyond words that Ryan chose Robbie to be his best friend during those elementary school years. And I am so sorry, Renee, Lance and Kaley for your loss. Ryan was one in a million. My backyard has been visited by a beautiful monarch, these last couple weeks. And now I understand why. Ryan was an angel on earth and now he will be Robbie’s guardian angel in heaven.



**Ann Holzer (Biro)** - July 12, 2021 at 10:48 AM

RH

*Thank you Ann for sharing your sweet story of Ryan and Robbie's friendship. ❤️*

**rhopegill** - July 13, 2021 at 09:54 AM

MM

“ Ryan was one of the most positive person I’ve ever met. A bright light of care and kindness. He was on of my best friends in the forth grade. And although we have since then not spoken much, i have never forgotten him and the kind of person he is.

*I will never forget a moment in the sixth grade where I was explaining my poor academic situation at the time, and where most other kids our age would’ve brushed it off, he firmly told me that I should focus on fixing it and that he wouldn’t want to see me get left behind. A small act showing how he cared for everyone around him no matter the situation.*

*It’s been recently in my life that I’ve learned to try to reach out and connect myself with everyone I can. Past or present. And these past months I’ve had thoughts of reaching out to Ryan wondering how he’s doing, knowing he would welcome me with open arms regardless of the time that has passed. I deeply regret not doing so.*

*I’ve always felt drawn to humorous people in my life and Ryan has supported that statement. Being one of the most joyful person I’ve ever met. Always trying to make someone laugh and most of the time succeeding.*

*Although I didn’t know the family all that well my thoughts and prayers go out to all of you. I cant imagine what you are going through.*

*My condolences,  
Miguel Madeira.*

---

**Miguel Madeira** - July 11, 2021 at 07:03 AM

RH

*Thank you Miguel for sharing your memories of Ryan. ❤️*

---

**rhopegill** - July 11, 2021 at 10:00 PM

DS

“ Ryan was a sweet, kind-hearted young man and Ben was privileged to have him as a friend. Our hearts are breaking for your loss and you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Much Love,  
Debbie, Sami and Ben

---

Debbie Schieffelin - July 09, 2021 at 02:19 PM

RH

Thank you Debbie. ❤️

---

rhopegill - July 09, 2021 at 07:11 PM

DW

“ Ryan was such an amazing kid that I had the pleasure of teaching and mentoring for 3 years. I'm still heartbroken to hear that we've lost him. My thoughts are with the Hopegill family during this very difficult time.



---

David Weigle - July 08, 2021 at 04:10 PM

RH

Thank you David for being a dedicated teacher to our Ryan. ❤️

---

rhopegill - July 09, 2021 at 07:12 PM

AH

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Renee first when Mateo was in her 2 year old classroom at St. Luke's... then we meet again...forward to Freshman year Olympia's water polo team Kaley Hopegill, Claire Ewoldt and Marcela Herrera. The boys: Ryan, Griffin and Mateo still middle schoolers played gladiators at the Y and started their water polo sibling journey with the girls... every game, every banquet, they were there cheering their sisters and goofing around :). Ryan and Griffin went into high school and 2 years later, Mateo joined them but throughout those 2 years all Mateo wished for was getting into high school fast to be able to be back with Ryan and Griffin and play water polo together. When Mateo started his freshman year Ryan and Griffin took him under their wing ... he was like their little brother. Ryan drove him most of the time from school to practice to games. Mateo always looked up to him and respected him like a brother. I will be forever grateful for destiny to joining them and for the very special friendship they created.



Mateo's freshman year, I think, one day after practice, Ryan dropped him off at home. Mateo comes rushing through the door to me and tells me... I need to shave, now! Ryan told me my mustache is not looking cool. I look at his mustache and I say oh boy! yes thank you Ryan! Yes Mateo you need to shave now!!

Ryan, our OHS water polo goalie and Mateo starts as his backup. One day at a game, Mateo gets to play goalie and sub for Ryan. Ryan is at the bench with other teammates watching the game. Mateo blocks a goal and I look over, there's Ryan jumping, celebrating Mateo's block. Ryan was soooooo proud of him!!! I wish I had a picture of that moment but I can still run it through my head, it was beautiful!! Ryan was so proud of Mateo!! I thought he was going to jump in the pool and hug him!! That's who Ryan was! Always proud of his teammates and always watching out for them.

It was an honor and a pleasure to have known Ryan and I will be

*forever grateful to him for being such a great friend, big brother, supporter of Mateo. We will carry you Ryan in our hearts forever!*

*Renee, Lance and Kaley love you deeply! My thoughts and prayers are with you everyday, all the time.*

*The Herreras*

---

**Adriana Herrera** - July 07, 2021 at 10:13 PM

RH

*Mateo was the little brother Ryan always wanted. Thank you for sharing that special memory that brought a smile to our faces. ❤️*

---

**rhopegill** - July 09, 2021 at 07:11 PM



“*Ryan Hopegill and his family always inspired me. At school and during sporting events. Kaley and Ryan were probably one of the smartest, hardworking and kind, respectful people. Renee and Lance, so dedicated to their kids, whether in school, SAC or games. Julian and Ryan were in some classes together at Windy Ridge and played basketball together, while Emma and Kaley swam at Southwest Aquatics. With our kids in the same grades and sharing hobbies, we loved it when we got together and went to their 4th of July party. What I mostly remember about Ryan was his captivating smile and humility. What a gentleman. According to Julian's stories, he made everyone laugh with his humor.*

*May God's grace, love and strength envelope the beautiful family 🙏  
Our condolences,  
Troy and Mana Heistand*

---

**Mana Heistand** - July 07, 2021 at 10:03 PM

RH

*Thank you Mana for sharing those memories. ❤️*

---

**rhopegill** - July 09, 2021 at 07:09 PM

JH

“ Ryan was such a great friend at my time at windy ridge. I'm positive if not for switching schools we would've stayed close through our tenure of high school. He was so charismatic and was one of the most gifted and intelligent kids I've known, yet he worked so hard and heavily focused on everything he did, whether it's school, water polo, basketball, or being an all around great person. I have been praying every night for you guys and I know Ryan is at peace. My sincere thoughts and prayers go to the Hopegill's and the Heistand family will always be here for you guys



---

**Julian Heistand** - July 07, 2021 at 09:53 PM

RH

Thank you Julian for your very kind words. ❤️

---

**rhopegill** - July 09, 2021 at 07:08 PM

EF

“ I was lucky enough to have many classes with Ryan growing up, especially during our four years at Olympia. He was insanely smart, but so incredibly humble. His positive energy was infectious and he could make the entire class laugh, including the teacher, even during the most boring lectures.

Junior year, I was in a wheelchair for a couple of months. Navigating the crowded hallways of Olympia High during the few minutes between classes was no easy task, but Ryan would go out of his way to wheel me to every class, open every door for me, and help me sit at my desk while, of course, smiling and making me laugh the entire way. He was so kind and his friendship truly made every day at Olympia so much better.

Ryan will always be a bright light in my memories of school in Florida. For this I am grateful, and sincerely hope his family can find comfort in the memory of such a wonderful son and brother.

Sincerest condolences,  
Ellie Ferguson

---

**Ellie Ferguson** - July 07, 2021 at 02:53 PM

RH

Thank you Ellie for your sweet words and for sharing some of your memories of him with us.

---

**rhopegill** - July 07, 2021 at 09:04 PM

CC

“ We first knew Ryan as Kaley's little brother. He turned into "one of the guys" Jeff loved to feed. He was a part of that amazing Olympia Titan water polo team that was full of personality. From what I knew of Ryan, he was the kind, humble, hard-working, secretly witty one that served as a compass for them. They each served a purpose to create the amazing team they had. Ryan was also always happy to stand by and support his parents who gave everything they had to support those boys and coaches. He was the first to arrive, last to leave, setting up, taking down, etc. That and so much more that is required to build your community. Without Ryan, we wouldn't have Renee, Lance, Kaley and his always supportive grandparents.

Thank you for sharing him with us.

On a side note: I was the Chick-fil-a car wash mom. There were always a select few I could depend on with one of two hoses. It was a big responsibility and sounds silly, until you try and control 60+ kids in a very busy parking lot. Ryan was one of them. He was calming force and made things easier for me and never flinched when I turned into psycho mom. A simple memory that makes me smile.

We love and respect your family more than you know.

---

**Christina Carey** - July 06, 2021 at 10:22 PM

RH

We want to thank you and your family for being a part of Ryan's life. Your kind words are very much appreciated. ❤️

---

**rhopegill** - July 08, 2021 at 09:38 AM

LD

“ I met Ryan at the beginning of my 9 years at Windy Ridge. I have a faint memory of him and Robbie Biro messing around in the 1st-grade hall after coming in from recess. Those two were always wreaking havoc together! 10 years later Ryan, Robbie, and I ended up in 3rd period Digital Video class together at Olympia High. I remember sitting in the back of the room worrying about who I was going to be partnered up with. As I was sitting by myself, Ryan asked if I wanted to be in his group with Robbie. We spent the next year making hilarious videos and skits, one being the infamous "Tortillaphobia", where we drew angry faces on tortilla chips and pretended to be scared of them. I don't think Ryan was too into the idea of making a two minute long video about an angry chip at first, but we found ourselves having to film each scene at least five times because Ryan couldn't stop laughing. He was caring, intelligent, and so incredibly funny. Although we were never very close, I appreciated his calm and welcoming presence. This is just a small example of Ryan's character and the ways he impacted those around him. Sending my deepest condolences to the Hope-gill family 🕊️

-Lauren Dubois

---

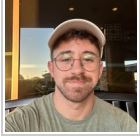
**Lauren Dubois** - July 06, 2021 at 10:19 PM

RH

Thank you so much for sharing those memories with us. ❤️

---

**rhopegill** - July 08, 2021 at 09:37 AM



“ Although I wasn’t very close to Ryan, he was a very memorable classmate. He was someone who knew how to make the entire class laugh with one joke, he was an excellent student, and an even better athlete. Along with our names being the same, our birthdays are only three days apart, which were similarities of our identities. My heart and prayers goes out to the Hopegill family, and I pray that Ryan is in a better place now.  
Much love,  
Ryan Tassi

---

**Ryan Tassi** - July 05, 2021 at 10:35 PM

RH

Thank you Ryan. ❤️

---

**rhopegill** - July 08, 2021 at 09:29 AM

NG

“ We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your son. I had only met Ryan briefly when he came to visit at the office. He was polite and sweet and I wish I had known him more. You are in our hearts and we pray for you and your family to find some comfort in this difficult time.

---

**Nora and Greg** - July 05, 2021 at 06:55 PM

RH

Thank you for your kindness. ❤️

---

**rhopegill** - July 08, 2021 at 09:30 AM

SN

“ We are so deeply saddened to hear about Ryan’s passing. Ryan was a leader in many aspects. Most importantly he led by example when it came to building up those around him. He was warm, loving and caring be it with his friends or teammates on the sports teams. He has certainly touched the lives of my children, Saahil and Riya in a genuinely sincere way. Ryan will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time - Seema, Manoj, Saahil and Riya Naik

Seema Naik - July 05, 2021 at 06:03 PM

RH

Thank you so much for your beautiful comments. Your children were wonderful friends to Ryan - something for which we will always be grateful.

rhopegill - July 08, 2021 at 09:36 AM

FK

“ My family is so sorry to hear about Ryan’s passing. He surely impacted people’s lives beautifully, including my daughter Gabi, who admired his character and considered him a great friend. Here’s a picture I found on my phone of their senior year at Olympia.



Flavia Kaiser - July 05, 2021 at 04:17 PM

RH

Thank you for sharing this memory. ❤️

rhopegill - July 08, 2021 at 09:32 AM

TL

“ Ryan was an amazing person. He was so super smart and such a genuine and sincere person. I was super blessed to have taught him twice. He set the standard for excellence and it was an honor to know him. Renee, Kaley and Lance, I am so very sorry. My heart goes out to you and I share in your grief. Sending hugs and prayers.

Tiffany Lohman - July 05, 2021 at 01:18 PM

RH

Thank you for your kindness. We will always appreciate your dedication to both of our children. ❤️

rhopegill - July 08, 2021 at 09:34 AM

GF

“ Ryan was such a genuine kind friend at all times. Becoming friends with him throughout junior and senior year was such a blessing. I am so sorry for your family's loss. Sending many prayers your way.

gabriela kaiser and the kaiser family - July 05, 2021 at 11:56 AM

RH

Thank you Gabi. ❤️

rhopegill - July 08, 2021 at 09:32 AM

DA

“ Mrs Hopegill, Lance, Kaley  
Thinking of you constantly....  
Ryan was such a smart ,talented, handsome young man.  
Renee, You talked about him with such pride!  
I don't think you could've asked for a better son .

You are in our hearts,  
Love Florence, David &  
Isabella

---

David - July 05, 2021 at 12:57 AM

RH

Thank you for your thoughtfulness - and you're right, I couldn't have asked for a better son. ❤️

---

rhopegill - July 08, 2021 at 09:31 AM

AI

“ For someone that I had only spoken to a few times I could tell that he was a good person and had made an impact on many just from being around, he was one of those people that everyone loved and had something good to say about. We will all miss his presence and sense of humor.

---

Aiden - July 04, 2021 at 10:26 PM

RH

Thank you Aiden for your kind words. ❤️

---

rhopegill - July 06, 2021 at 09:07 PM

RC

“ I had AP Biology with Ryan our junior year of high school, we sat side by side. I just remember how smart he was and how he always knew the answers. We were never really close but I am glad I knew him and that we became bio buddies :). I pray for God’s peace for the Hopegill Family.  
-Rainey Carter

Rainey Carter - July 04, 2021 at 10:25 PM

RH

Thank you for your kindness. ❤️

rhopegill - July 06, 2021 at 09:03 PM

PM

“ How I enjoyed following Ryan's water polo matches while he was at Olympia. Without knowing it he always made me smile. He was a beautiful soul I will miss seeing him around our neighborhood. To the family I send loving hugs and to all those knew Ryan pay it forward to those in need he would like that.

pamela Mcauley - July 04, 2021 at 08:45 PM

RH

Thank you Pam for your kind words and thoughtfulness. ❤️

rhopegill - July 06, 2021 at 09:03 PM

TJ

“ Ryan Cameron HopeGill

*I have so many memories of Ryan. From baseball at Windermere LL with Ryan on the Dodgers team (We kept that team picture) until water polo with Orlando Thunder and Olympia Titans. He was the consummate team player. Always did his best and was focused on results not stats.*

*His team's best games in middle school and freshman year were against Gladiators and DP. One year at Sunshine State Games they got into a shootout and Ryan shined under the pressure as goalie to stop the free shots and win the game. I liked to yell positive comments throughout the games and he would always thank me (even when my wife was elbowing me for yelling). The DP and Olympia players had the most fun and frustration at those games and enjoyed each other outside of the water.*

*His sophomore year was a struggle that he excelled through to play his best game to win the state high school championship. Then after his Junior year I believe he played his best game in California against one of the best teams from Huntington Beach.*

*Ryan played with great emotional balance but loved to get emotional on big plays ! He was an “ old soul” who could talk with ease to any generation. He told me after a game that he loved when I yelled “Release the Kraken “ before the start of a Titan game. I choose to be blessed for the time I was gifted to spend with Ryan and he will be with me until I pass.*

*“Boom Boom Thunder” Ryan !!*

*Tom Johnson*

---

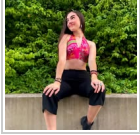
**Thomas L. Johnson** - July 04, 2021 at 01:27 PM

RH

*Thank you Tom for such a lovely tribute and for being a special part of Ryan's life. ❤️*

---

**rhopegill** - July 06, 2021 at 09:01 PM



“ I remember Ryan was one of the first people I met at my new school when I moved to Orlando, and I have so many memories of cracking jokes and laughing till we cried on the Windy Ridge Bear bus throughout elementary school. No one could make me laugh like him and he was always someone I could count on for a smile at the end of my day. Although we grew in different directions throughout middle and high school, he was always a friendly, familiar face and always held himself with such a calm, down to earth demeanor. He was always so incredibly smart and humble throughout his accomplishments and he will be deeply missed by many. Sending so much love to the Hopegill family.

♥ Riley Kennedy

Riley Kennedy - July 04, 2021 at 10:54 AM

RH

Thank you Riley for your sweet words. ♥

rhopegill - July 06, 2021 at 09:00 PM

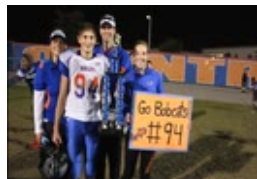
KR

“ We love you Ryan. We love you Renee, Lance and Kaley. ♥  
<https://youtu.be/5WfeL1U43IY>

Kathi Riddle - July 04, 2021 at 10:34 AM

KR

“ We love you Ryan. We love you Renee, Lance and Kaley. ♥



Kathi Riddle - July 04, 2021 at 10:12 AM

RH

*Thank you Kathi. This is beautiful and filled with wonderful memories we will cherish forever. ❤️*

rhopegill - July 06, 2021 at 08:59 PM

JC

“ *I was blessed to be Ryan’s teacher when he was 3/4 years old at St Luke’s CDC. Teachers love and care for all of these students but there are a few children that grab a piece of your heart and stay forever. Ryan was one of those children. He was kind, smart, funny and too stinking cute!*

*We had a little guy in our class that was having a hard time adjusting and fitting in. During free play Ryan would always make sure to include him so he’d be apart of a group. During one particular circle time we were re-enacting a trip to outer space, music, props the whole nine yards, right in the middle of our play Ryan stopped and asked, “PLEASE can we do this again tomorrow when Jack’s back ( his absent buddy) he’d love this!”...& yes we did.*

*I can vouch for his love of music too...while lining up to go on the playground Ryan burst into song, “ I wish I had Jessie’s girl, I want a woman like that”... I looked over at that beautiful, sweet round little face and lost it! 😭*

*This is just wee bit of the reasons I love Ryan.*

*I would always tell his parents, oh I would so be Ryan’s friend!!! To watch him grow from that precious child to an amazing young man has been a gift. God put Ryan on this earth to help make it a better place to be, and he did do that...it just wasn’t long enough...❤️🙏*



Janet Cortellini - July 03, 2021 at 11:20 PM

RH



rhopegill - July 04, 2021 at 10:42 PM

RH

*Ryan loved every minute of being in your class! Thank you for your being part of his life and for loving him.*

---

**rhopegill** - July 06, 2021 at 08:58 PM