



ELIJAH MOONEY

July 15, 1980 - January 29, 2015

Elijah died peacefully in his sleep on Jan. 29, 2015 at his home in Grass Valley, CA. He was 34 years old.

Memorial services were held in February in Goleta, Calif., and Stanwood, WA to celebrate Eli Mooney's life.

Eli was born July 15, 1980 in Nashua, New Hampshire. His love for family and friends motivated him to reconnect with many of them before his death, and for that we are very grateful. Eli's gift was to find fun in life, and he always spread laughter with his wonderful stories.

Eli grew up in Santa Barbara and Goleta, Calif., skateboarding, surfing, and playing seasonal sports. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 2005 and proudly served before he was honorably discharged with a permanent disability retirement in 2011. He served as an engineman, EN2 on the USS Ingraham FFG-61, and USS Shoup DDG-86 out of Everett, WA. Eli moved back to California to be near family in 2013.

It is a common and understandable phrase to hear at this time, "Sorry for your loss." Yet a stronger phrase keeps rising to the forefront, "Grateful for the gift," the gift of his presence, his infectious smile, the mischievous twinkle in his eyes, his vast trivia knowledge, and loving heart. When people inquire how to

contribute, we ask that you reach out to love a family member or friend to keep that spirit alive. Everyone can be a candle.

Eli is survived by his parents, Kelly (Burke) Spaulding and Stuart Mooney Jr.; siblings Luke and Christian Mooney, Megan (Mooney) Peterson, Sierra Spaulding, Aimee (Spaulding) Borneman, Bart Spaulding, and Catlin Peterson; stepfather Blair Spaulding, stepmother Betsy Mooney, grandmother Gail Rhodes, and best friend Skye Bryand.

He was preceded in death by his oldest brother Josh.