



George H. Cornelius, IV

September 23, 1982 - August 21, 2015

George Cornelius, IV,

Lived for 32 years with the challenge of Spinal Muscular Atrophy. He was given a life expectancy of two years. He fought a courageous battle with the degenerative disease and thrived against all odds to graduate from Carmel High School in 2001 and from the prestigious University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts in 2006. His inspirational story was featured on PBS Television in an episode of *Across Indiana*. A creative, funny and talented filmmaker and owner of Gimped Productions, LLC, George never let his disability get in the way of his pursuit, living eight years in Hollywood, California after graduating from USC before returning to Central Indiana to be closer to his family.

George passed away on August 21, 2015 in his home in Fishers, Indiana. He is survived by his parents, George H. Cornelius, III and Victoria Cornelius-Phipps; sister, Carley Cornelius; stepfather, Richard Phipps; step-siblings, Catherine and Michael Phipps; grandmother, Hazel Phipps; and several aunts, uncles and cousins, including Tim, Ann, Nick and Ben Tully. A brother, Michael Cornelius, preceded him in death.

Visitation will be Saturday, August 29, 2015 from 2:00 p.m. until the time of the tribute celebration at 4:00 p.m. at Shirley Brothers Fishers-Castleton Chapel, 9900 Allisonville Rd., Fishers, IN. Memorial contributions may be made to the George Cornelius Filmmaking Scholarship Fund in care of Shirley Brothers Mortuaries.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **29**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Fishers-Castleton Chapel
9900 N. Allisonville Road
Fishers, IN 46038
(317) 841-7878
info@shirleybrothers.com
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

Celebration of Life

AUG **29**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Fishers-Castleton Chapel
9900 N. Allisonville Road
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Tribute Wall

JR

“ I had the pleasure of being George's physical therapist when he was under 2 years old. I loved him from the first day I met him and we shared so many wonderful memories throughout the years I worked with him. It never seemed like work with George though and we read books, observed nature, and played games all in the name of therapy. I have shared his favorite Bernstein Bears Spooky Old Tree book with my now 3 grown up boys and it still remains the family favorite. Can't wait to read it to my grandchildren and I will tell them the story of George as I did to my kids. He taught me the call of the cardinal bird and I still point that out to others. He taught me to enjoy each day whatever life throws at you and I will be forever grateful. I remember when I received his graduation announcement in the mail and was filled with dread about opening the envelope thinking I knew the news it would contain. My fear turned into elation as I read he had graduated from high school and was heading to California for college. I'm sure he was an inspiration to all he met and made a difference in the world in his all too short life. God Speed George with love, Jamie

Jamie Roach-Decker - September 08, 2015 at 12:55 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of George H. Cornelius, IV.



August 29, 2015 at 11:43 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of George H. Cornelius, IV.*



August 28, 2015 at 03:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of George H. Cornelius, IV.*



August 28, 2015 at 07:57 AM



“ *What an inspirational young man. He was a student of mine in my English class here in Indianapolis. I wrote him a letter of recommendation, which I recently located. Thoughts are with the family at this time. Mike Wilson*

Michael Wilson - August 27, 2015 at 05:53 PM



“ *Knowing all that George managed to accomplish in his "compromised" state warms my heart. George truly made the most of life and inspired many others to do the same. He will always be remembered in my heart! What a great son, brother and friend! May God Bless your family, always!*

Karen Lochard (Mother of Aaron Lochard)

Karen - August 26, 2015 at 03:09 PM



“ Our condolences from our family to yours...our son Jordan Xanders was born with the same disease and we met George and his mom when Jordan was alive, they came to our home in Carmel In...our Jordan lived almost to his fifth birthday...our hearts were touch that day meeting George, what a blessing , he lived that long...you are in our thoughts and prayers...

Sincerely, Paul and Verona Xanders and family

Verona Xanders - August 26, 2015 at 12:46 PM



“ Garden of Serenity Bouquet was purchased for the family of George H. Cornelius, IV.



August 24, 2015 at 10:07 PM



“ David Stanley Johnson purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of George H. Cornelius, IV.



David Stanley Johnson - August 24, 2015 at 09:40 PM



“ Audrey sent a virtual gift in memory of George H. Cornelius, IV



Audrey - August 24, 2015 at 08:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of George H. Cornelius, IV.



August 24, 2015 at 06:03 PM