



Ethan Thomas Wootton

June 8, 1999 - February 22, 2019

THE BOY WHO WANTED TO BE A FIREFIGHTER

At T-ball game the boy watched a fire truck go by. He turned and said “I want to be a fireman when I grow up, Grandpa”. His grandfather said “You need to play sports because firemen must be strong and agile”. “Okay” the boy said. And his grandfather smiled.

When in school the boy questioned “Why do I have to study, Momma?” His Momma said “A firefighter must be smart and have much knowledge.” “Okay” the boy said. And his mother smiled.

During his firefighter training the boy asked “Why do I have to study to be an EMT, Grandma?” His grandmother said “Because firefighters have to help sick and injured people.” “Okay” the boy said. And his grandmother smiled.

At his graduation ceremony his Mom pinned his firefighter badge on. He said “Look Mom I am a firefighter now.” And his Mother smiled.

Forty-two days later on February 21, 2019 a fire went out. And his Momma cried.

In a far distant place and time an alarm sounds and the huge doors open as the fire engine rolls out. On the back of the truck, in full gear, rides the boy who wanted to a firefighter and is a fire fighter. And the boy smiles.

Ethan was born on June 8, 1999 in Athens, Georgia. He grew up first in Stone Mountain and later in Lawrenceville, Georgia. He attended various grade schools and graduated from Brookwood High School where he played baseball and ran cross country.

Ethan always wanted to be a fire fighter and studied firefighting part time at Maxwell High School his senior year. He was a member of the Gwinnett County fire cadets program. During his summers he usually spent a couple of weeks in Montana and eventually became a member of the Cascade County Volunteer fire department where he learned to

fight grass fires. After graduation he joined the Gwinnett County fire department and became an EMT. He finished his training with the DeKalb County fire department and graduated in January, where he was assigned to DeKalb Fire Station 20.

Ethan played baseball from the time he was five years old until he graduated high school. He devoted himself to pitching and was well respected by both his teammates and his opponents.

Ethan loved the outdoors and he loved video games. He liked listening to and sometimes creating music. He was always ready to play basketball or a game of football with his friends. He loved animals, had a dog at his mother's house, two dogs and a cat that he had rescued at his grandparent's house and a horse that he claimed as his own in Montana.

Ethan is survived by his mother Stacey Wotton, his father Joseph Palmer, grandparents James and Susan Wootton and Ben and Billie Palmer, British brothers Jackson, George and Frankie, uncles Matthew Wootton, Rob Hartman, and William Palmer, aunts Jessie Palmer-Micklewright and Susie King, Ruth Hartman, Jan Wootton and Patricia Pettapiece, great grandmother Lucy Pettapiece and cousins in both England and Colorado. He is also survived by a large group of friends, fellow firefighters, neighbors, teammates and others who knew and loved him.

The Memorial Service to honor and celebrate the life of Ethan Thomas Wootton will be held on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 7:00 PM at Tom M. Wages Snellville Chapel. The family will receive friends on Thursday from 6:00 PM until 7:00 PM at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers we would request donations to National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Here is a link to their page. <https://www.firehero.org/>

Condolences may be sent or viewed at www.wagesfuneralhome.com. Tom M. Wages Funeral Service, LLC, A Family Company, 3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA 30039 (770-979-3200) has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Events

FEB **Visitation** 06:00PM - 07:00PM

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Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville
3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

FEB **Memorial Service** 07:00PM

28

Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - Snellville
3705 Highway 78 West, Snellville, GA, US, 30039

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - February 26 at 01:52 PM



“ Thoughts are with all of <3

Cindy - February 28 at 09:55 PM



“ Shawn Smith - Man Cant Believe your gone
Seems Like yesterday we were playing some good old A3PL
Rest Easy Sir we got the watch from here!

Center Fire department EMR
GOLD CROSS EMS EMR

Shawn Smith - March 06 at 09:44 AM



“ Stacey and Family -
When something this sad happens, there are no answers. But there are countless reasons why we will remember Ethan who was taken away so unexpectedly and much too soon. I can still see him sitting at the table with Ryan on our BAAB trip to Albany, GA. They connected much like we connected - instantly recognizing a similar soul. I will always see his sweet smile while on the pitching mound and his love of the game. I'm sure he's teaching the angels some fast ball techniques and sharing his joy of achieving his goal of becoming a firefighter.

May God offer you comfort. You're in our prayers.

The Esping Family
Jeff, Jennifer
Ryan and Erin

Jennifer L. Esping - March 05 at 11:06 AM



“ Dear Stacey -

My sweet 90 year old father, even with Alzheimer's, still proclaims every day "One day at a time, sweet Jesus, one day at a time". My heart simply breaks for you and your family. You are in my thoughts & prayers.

Shawn Toney

"Unable are the loved to die, for love is immortality" -- Emily Dickinson

Shawn - March 01 at 09:38 AM



“ Gary Williamson lit a candle in memory of Ethan Thomas Wootton



Gary Williamson - February 28 at 06:17 PM



“ Sadly, we never had the pleasure of meeting Ethan but Joe and his family are very very important to us, and we extend love to everyone who mourns Ethan's passing. We have been honoured to donate to the Fallen Firefighters Foundation in his name. We hope your memories comfort you and that his memory will be a blessing for all who mourn him. The world is a colder, sadder place without him. Melanie & Howard Robinson

melanie & howard robinson - February 28 at 02:03 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ethan Thomas Wootton.



February 28 at 10:08 AM



“ Sharon Hogan lit a candle in memory of Ethan Thomas Wootton



Sharon Hogan - February 27 at 02:41 PM



“ I do not know this lovely man, but I lost my son Harris, over 42 months ago and it absolutely kills a mother's heart!!!! You think you are going to lose your mind, but here I am and I still cry everyday, but I am stronger than I knew. You will Never get over this, but you must get through it. listen to Willie Nelson sing Getting Thru It and the Oak Ridge Boys sing Brand New Star and know that there is another mother out there that knows your pain and wishes you comfort in all the Happy Times. Jan Snell Houston - Harris' Ma

Jan Houston - February 27 at 11:07 AM



“ KERKER & FLEISHER P.C. purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Ethan Thomas Wootton.



KERKER & FLEISHER P.C. - February 27 at 10:09 AM



“ It was an honor and privilege to have know Ethan. I had the pleasure of coaching him for several baseball seasons at BAAB. Ethan loved the game of baseball and was always first to show for practice or games. I could always rely on Ethan when it came to pitching. He loved to pitch and was happiest when on the mound. His Mother and Grandfather were always there to support him. Ethan definitely made me a better coach and a better person. I'm pretty sure all of us can say that about Ethan. ... Coach Hudgins

Jerry Hudgins - February 26 at 09:53 PM



“ We had some great times when we were small up until when we were bigger. Really sorry we won't be able to have more growing older. Seems unfair he was going to grow up saving lives but instead his was taken early. Love Jonah



Jonah Palmer - February 26 at 06:58 PM



“ 3 files added to the album LifeTributes



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - February 26 at 12:42 PM



“ Dearest Susan and Family: My dad, Jack Kerker, and I know this heartbreaking journey of losing family. This journey becomes a mental, emotional, physical and very personal path that each of us take in life. We pray that, surrounded by the love of family and friends, you will come to know how many people's lives were changed because of Ethan's goodness and love. Hearing all these stories that people will be so eager to share, will lift your spirit as you come to realize this special, young man, was your son, brother, grandson, cousin and friend. Susan - we surround you with our love, Jack, Cindy, Jeff, and Lisa Kerker

Jack and Cindy Kerker - February 26 at 10:21 AM



“ 60 files added to the album LifeTributes



Tom M. Wages Funeral Service - February 26 at 09:17 AM



“ "Rest easy, sleep well my brother.
Know the line has held, your job is done.
Rest easy, sleep well,
Others have taken up where you fell, the line has held.
Peace, peace, and farewell..."

EMS LT Peter "Doc" Wight (retired) - February 26 at 06:34 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



EMS LT Peter "Doc" Wight (retired) - February 26 at 05:33 AM



“ I remember Ethan sitting in my chair at the Dentist office as a young boy. He captured my heart with his sweet smile, his kind heart and good manners. Over the years I watched him grow up to be such a fine young man. We were all so proud of his choice to be a firefighter. It suited him and he seemed perfect for the job. He was one of those patients that touched my heart and I can't express the sympathy I have for his family and friends. May God give you strength and peace.
Donna Izer

Donna Izer - February 25 at 10:45 PM



“ So extremely sorry for your loss. I have donated in Ethan's name to the Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Sending love and prayers to all of those affected by this tragedy.

Eddy Sato - February 25 at 09:41 PM



“ Dear Stacey,
My love and prayers are with you and your family.
Michael Doyne

Michael - February 25 at 09:14 PM



“ Captain Isaac Robinson lit a candle in memory of Ethan Thomas Wootton



Captain Isaac Robinson - February 25 at 07:52 PM



“ Stacey... My all time favourite memory would be Ethan and Jonah having such a cute, happy play in the bath when they were really little... Until Jonah pooped in the bath and Ethan freaked out and Jonah screamed because Ethan screamed and there was water and bubbles and bath toys flying around the bathroom and we were trying to grab slippery, soapy kids out of the tub amidst the chaos... But we were laughing so hard we couldn't take any control of the situation whatsoever! So there you go... My favourite memory is about poop! Love these memories to hold and love you xxx

Jessie Palmer-Micklewright - February 25 at 07:12 PM



“ I also loved hearing his sweet little singing voice... How he sang his address and his rendition of God Bless America was so adorable xx

Jessie Palmer-Micklewright - February 26 at 09:24 AM



“ ... But he was fairly predictable at hide and go seek... That time he they hid under the table where we could see them as soon as we walked in the room and they his there every single time, giggling because they were so sure we couldn't see them x

Jessie Palmer-Micklewright - February 27 at 06:18 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ethan Thomas Wootton.



February 25 at 03:39 PM



“ Stacy you are in our prayers and praying for your strength at this time.

Gary Williamson - February 25 at 11:22 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ethan Thomas Wootton.



February 25 at 06:58 AM



“ Can remember going on runs with you after school and cutting through Brookwood Manor with the other guys having a blast. You always had something funny to say and I really appreciated having you around as a runner and as a friend. Rest in peace, friend.



Luke Rucker - February 24 at 03:15 PM



“ I am Eric Sheets' mom. When Ethan was in grade school he would sometimes come to Eric's house after school. He would do his homework and was such a nice boy. We were impressed with him. We're so sorry for your loss.

Linda Sheets - February 24 at 07:38 PM



“ I still remember Ethan sitting in my office one day as we were getting to know each other right before he started our recruit program. My heart goes out to the family. We lost a great young man. Russell GCFES

Russell - February 24 at 01:26 PM



“ So sorry for your loss, Stacey. Our daughter, Adrianna, was born 1 day later than Ethan and they grew up in their high school years right down the street from one another. He was a wonderful young man with a kind heart. We are praying for you many times a day- that you would feel the loving hands of Jesus embracing and comforting you during this unimaginably difficult time. We are praying for you to never feel alone as family and friends surround and support you and the knowledge that God is always there for you. Please let us know if there is anything at all we can do to help. Love and Blessings, Tisha, Neal and family

Tisha Hadaway - February 24 at 12:24 PM



“ The Regency Church Of God will be offering special prayer for Ethan Wootton's family. The Prayer will be led by his connected friend from the Gwinnett Co. Fire Department, Steve Martinez. We are so sorry for your loss!

Dr. Terry Reece - February 23 at 05:24 PM



“ Stacy, I am so filled with sadness and compassion for you. When we last spoke, you talked about how excited he was about his budding firefighter career. My prayers and thoughts are with you.. E.P. Jacobs

E.P. Jacobs - February 24 at 11:30 AM



“ didnt know the young man but from all the comments i am sure he would have been a asset to the fire dept. T.L.BOOTH 1964-1996 RETIRED.....IT IS A SHAME HE IS GONE.

Tommy - February 25 at 08:36 AM



“ I remember Ethan from Brookwood Baseball. Our son's played together. Ethan was a very nice young man. We are so sorry for your loss. God Bless your family.

S. Dwyer - February 25 at 01:37 PM



“ With Distinction was purchased for the family of Ethan Wootton.



February 23 at 07:45 AM