



## Zachary Richard Podkul

April 19, 1995 - May 14, 2020

Zachary R. Podkul was born April 19, 1995 and went to eternal peace on Thursday, May 14, 2020. Zachary graduated with Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Michigan Technological University. Beloved son of Richard and Catherine and Loving brother of Gabrielle. Dear grandson of Frank (the late Grace) Castronova and Josephine Bannhard and the late Walter and Nellie Podkul. Dearest godson of Carl and Linda Daleo and nephew of Maria Castronova, Darrell and Pam Harrison, Dolores Missovich, Loretta Francis and the late Paul Podkul. Dear cousin of Robert and David Missovich, Natalie Makowski, Candice and Jewel Grimski and Kristopher and Matthew Harrison and pet companion Buddy.

Zachary shared the loved of cooking, outdoors, nature, writing and poetry. He had a curiosity for discovering how objects worked. His intelligence will inspire us to never stop learning. He had a passion for knowledge that was enriched through his journey with Christ. His laughter, wittiness, and courage will give us peace in moments of sorrow. We all have beautiful memories that we will cherish closely in our hearts forever.

In lieu of flowers, an Education Scholarship fund will be honored in Zachary's name so his memory will not be forgotten. If your wishes desire flowers, please send to Wasik Funeral Home, Shelby Twp., MI.

Following funeral services on Saturday there will be a funeral procession to Resurrection Cemetery for a Committal service and entombment. A celebration of Zach's life will be scheduled at a future date.

# Events

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**MAY 22**    **Visitation**                    01:00PM - 08:00PM

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Fellowship Church  
12875 14 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI, US, 48312

**MAY 23**    **Instate**                    10:00AM - 10:30AM

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Fellowship Church  
12875 14 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI, US, 48312

**MAY 23**    **Outdoor Funeral Service**                    10:30AM

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Fellowship Church  
12875 14 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, MI, US, 48312

# Comments

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“ Rich..... I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your son, Zachary. My heart and prayers go out to you, your wife and your family.  
Colleen (Agnello) DeMaria



Colleen DeMaria - May 29, 2020 at 12:34 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Zachary's Slide Show



Michael Wasik - May 28, 2020 at 02:43 PM



“ In God's arms you can gently rest. Rest in peace  
Ali Alkafawi - May 29, 2020 at 04:04 PM



“ In loving Memory of Zachary Podkul

Gabby Podkul - May 24, 2020 at 02:36 PM

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“ My memories of Zach will have a special place in my heart forever...from "Light On", to his funny response to our question of why college in the UP?... "Alaska didn't make me an offer", to the beautiful dinner he cooked for us that we shared with the whole family - i will never forget that night how clear it was that he deeply loved his little sister!, to some wonderful recent adult Zach conversations...He was kind and loving and quiet and profound...and wicked funny! YOU ARE LOVED ZACHARY PODKUL! And will be remembered...Forever in our hearts...Rest in Peace...xoxo, Aunt Cathy

Cathy Culhane - May 23, 2020 at 05:29 AM

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“ As I learned of the passing of Zach, there just aren't words to express the deep sorrow that resonates from my heart. I met Zach in 5th grade. The first year Beacon Tree Elementary was open. I was the one that was lucky enough to be his teacher. There were so many traits about Zach that made him a wonderful student, respectful, quiet (in a good way), and kind. My favorite memory is during the World in Motion enrichment through GM. Students worked with GM engineers to build a Jet Toy car in teams. I can remember Zach tinkering with his car to make it work better and fix the problems the engineers helped to identify. He never gave up and I think he had fun too. The world will forever be changed by the loss of Zach. When I see all of the memories and pictures of lives that were touched by Zach, it is clear to see the impact just one person can have on so many lives is unmeasurable. May the treasured memories shared with Zach bring some peace to the family. My prayers are with everyone in the Podkul family.  
With love, Mrs. Lovell

Marilyn Lovell - May 22, 2020 at 11:58 AM

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“ I have watched Zach grow up from tying sailor knots in Mr. Tim's yard to high school moment's (and drama). Moving day at Michigan Tech - winter carnival till our last conversation of his tremendous faith walk with the Lord. I was impressed with his knowledge of scripture and how openly he shared his faith walk. Zach was always polite -kind and very respectful. Rest now in peace. Hurt no more. For you walked through heavens gates and one day will welcome us home.

Theresa Staniszewski - May 22, 2020 at 09:01 AM

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“ My heart is so full of sadness for Zach’s family and close friends. You are each in my heart and prayers and I will hold you there forever. I knew Zach as a student at Bracon Tree. Kind. Honest. Quiet. Three attributes that stand-out to me from so long ago. His smile was wide and his intellect deep. The world is forever changed by his life, and will never be the same by his loss. -Ms. Dobis

Janice Dobis - May 21, 2020 at 01:39 PM



“ Very nice Janice. He was a friend of one of my cousins.

richard chouinard - May 21, 2020 at 03:05 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Zachary's Videos



Cathy Podkul - May 21, 2020 at 12:04 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Zachary Richard Podkul.



May 21, 2020 at 09:24 AM

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“ I will truly miss my dear nephew Zach. He was always a joy to have to our home and cottage. Always respectful and loved to just suck in all the good times and fun. We spent many fun New Years Eves with Zach also. There will be a true emptiness in our lives and in future family events. My heart aches in sadness. We loved you so much.



**Pam Harrison** - May 20, 2020 at 09:15 PM

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“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



**Gabrielle Podkul** - May 20, 2020 at 04:30 PM

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“ The news of this saddens me first and foremost. My condolences go out to his family and closest of friends with a heavy heart. I knew Zach from work, FCA. He was our summer intern for a few years. In that time, I got to know him, not just professionally, but personally. I found out he loved to fix and tinker around with things, or just plain out working with his hands. He showed me his home furnace set up for his forging hobby and how excited he was about it. He always made sure to ask for the dad joke of the day and regardless how bad they were, he always appreciated them. It was a joy getting to know him outside the workplace as well. I'm glad I was able to have a beer or tow and cheers with him. He will always be Pod"Kewl" with me. Was an inside joke because he was in fact pretty dang cool, just slang and it fit. He will be missed, and the world is a little dimmer without his brightness... May you rest well and keep an eye over all of us. Farewell buddy, try and keep those wings of yours free from oils and soot, because we all know you forged your own halo....

**Joshua Hall** - May 20, 2020 at 04:03 PM

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“ 104 files added to the album Zachary Memories



Catherine Podkul - May 20, 2020 at 12:45 PM

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“ 38 files added to the album Zachary Memories



Catherine Podkul - May 20, 2020 at 11:16 AM

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“ 41 files added to the album Zachary Memories



Catherine Podkul - May 20, 2020 at 10:56 AM

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“ Zach and I shared some great memories growing up together. We'd ride our bikes around for hours in the summers, we'd play with air soft guns and go explore the woods, we'd play red alert 2 on his computer and eat pizza. I will remember Zach for his strong character, his integrity, and his sense of humor. He was a great and trusted friend, and an exemplary son and brother. My prayers are with the Podkul family.

Ryan Rozwadowski - May 20, 2020 at 12:56 AM

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“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Zachary Richard Podkul.



May 19, 2020 at 11:33 PM

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“ I met Zach earlier in my college career, unfortunately I did not get to spend as much time with him as I would like to have. Through the short time I knew him his kind soul was easily recognized. He was always a welcome addition to our club activities and made us laugh when he would come over and play games. I enjoyed when I'd end up running into him on campus and find out what he's been up to, he somehow made the conversation feel important even if we were just chatting some small talk.

I hope you rest easy Zach, I will cherish the fond memories I have of you and we'll catch up again someday.

**Matthew Bugajski** - May 19, 2020 at 10:27 PM

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“ I will always hold onto the fond memories that I, and many others I'm certain, have of Zach. We met in our first year of college and immediately I found how kind, funny, and relaxed Zach was. He was the person you could easily strike up a meaningful conversation with on nearly any subject, and he was sure to make you laugh. We shared a love of the outdoors, and his heart beat with the pulse of the upper peninsula. His memory will live on, rest easy Zach.

**Cade Bowman** - May 19, 2020 at 08:33 PM

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“ I met Zach my last semester at Michigan Tech. He was a housemate to my boyfriend and we shared a lot of good, fun memories and laughs during his time in the UP. He loved to cook and always made good pizza. I'm really happy I met him, and I'll cherish the memories we had. Rest In Peace, and fly high Zach. You will be missed dearly.

**Katie Draves** - May 19, 2020 at 08:21 PM

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“ I was so saddened to hear the news today about the passing of Zach. He enlightened me with his conversations with every appointment we had together. I always looked forward to seeing him in my schedule and will truly miss seeing him. Such a great person with a big heart and inspiring mind. Thoughts and prayers for the family!  
Sincerely,

Corinne (his hygienist)

Corinne Silvernail - May 19, 2020 at 08:11 PM

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“ Zachary was a thoughtful and kind young man. I have many memories of backyard playdates and breakfasts with Santa, and camping on up to well-deserved graduation parties. He was quiet but you could tell his mind was always working. Our hearts are breaking for your loss and just know that grandma is with him and taking care of him. I hope that knowing he is no longer in pain will comfort you during this awful time. Sending prayers to all of you...Much love, The Fallones

karen fallone - May 19, 2020 at 07:12 PM

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“ My most cherished memories of Zach are our late night conversations, usually by the bonfire. These would often go on for hours, but felt like a flash. I was always excited to see Zach, because I knew I would learn something and share a great discussion with a deeply caring human being. Zach was such a curious and insightful person with an intense interest in the world. Whether it was blacksmithing, history, politics, philosophy, poetry, or religion, Zach was ready to dig in. He was one of those people that when you talked to him, he was truly present and listening. He made you feel understood. Those talks are something I will always cherish and miss dearly. Hopefully, Zach is having a cigar or two with his heroes, they're in good company. - Kris

Kris Harrison - May 19, 2020 at 03:30 PM

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“ Words cannot express the sadness I feel about such a tremendous loss. Zachary was a wonderful and kind young man with a big beautiful smile. Sending many prayers and love to your your entire family. Rose Ann and Vince

Rose Ann Pittiglio - May 19, 2020 at 07:36 AM

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“ So very sad to hear about the loss of your son .I got the privilege to meet him at church he was in my Bible study an we all had lots of laughs with him ,I also got to cook with him in the kitchen he cooked 150 hamburgers that day he did a great job we worked good together,he said he maid one heck of a spaghetti sauce ,he will be missed I pray for your family may u feel God's love an peace at this time as u grieve the loss of your kind caring an generous son

**Tracie monforte** - May 18, 2020 at 11:16 PM