



Kayden Michael Strong

February 14, 2006 - May 15, 2025

On a crisp February day in 2006, the world was blessed with the arrival of Kayden Michael Strong in Clinton Twp, Michigan. From the very start, Kayden's life was a testament to bravery, strength and resilience. At just 68 days old, Kayden underwent a heart transplant, a milestone that marked the beginning of a journey filled with love, faith, and unyielding courage. On May 15, 2025, at the tender age of 19, Kayden left this world, leaving behind a legacy that will forever be cherished by all who had the privilege to know him.

Kayden's life was deeply rooted in faith, as an active member of the Trinity Lutheran youth group, where he found joy and purpose in community and spirituality. His belief in Christianity was not just a part of his identity, but a guiding force that influenced every action and decision. Kind, caring, compassionate, and incredibly giving, Kayden's warmth touched everyone he met.

In 2024, Kayden proudly graduated from Anchor Bay High School, an achievement that was celebrated by his close-knit family and friends. He was also an enthusiastic participant in the TFR airsoft team, where his humor and strategic thinking was admired by teammates and competitors alike. Kayden has had a long-time love for building Legos and his recently found passion of acquiring die cast and Hot Wheels cars has led to an impressive and vast collection.

Kayden's family was the cornerstone of his life. He leaves behind a family that adored him: his father, Mike Strong; mother, Belinda Strong; stepmother, Jenny Strong; siblings, Keelie (Brad) Rots, Kyle (Emily) Cottick, Karynn "Kai" Strong, Jackson Strong and Sophie Strong; grandmothers, Kim "Gma" Wise, Renee "Nae Nae" Manchik, and Reannie May (Selzler) and Gladys Garten (Calvert); and grandfather, Greg "Papa" Manchik; uncles, Jason "Uncle Buttwipe" (Teresa) Garten, Aaron (Kristina) Garten and Matthew (Courtney) Manchik; aunts, Katie (Steve) Herrick and Emily (Josh) Schweiger. He is also a loving uncle to Paityn, Lylah, Parker, Lily and Logan. He is predeceased by his grandfather, Bob Garten, who surely welcomed Kayden with open arms.

The family will receive friends at Wasik Funeral Home, located at 35259 23 Mile Rd., New Baltimore, MI 48047, on May 19, 2025, from 3-8pm. A memorial service of Kayden's life will be held on May 20, 2025, at 12pm, where we will gather to honor a remarkable young soul who enriched our lives beyond measure.

Although Kayden's journey may have been brief, his impact was profound. As we bid farewell, we carry forward his spirit of kindness, bravery, and unwavering faith. Rest in peace, dear Kayden, knowing your love and light will continue to shine in our hearts forever.

In lieu of floral arrangements, please consider a memorial donation to Donate Life www.michigan.gov or The House of Hutch www.thehouseofhutch.com or Leukemia and Lymphoma Society www.givenow.lls.org

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 19. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel
35259 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Visitation

MAY 20. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel
35259 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Funeral Service

MAY 20. 12:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - Gendernalik Chapel
35259 23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Tribute Wall



“ *Wasik Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Kayden Michael Strong*



Wasik Funeral Home, Inc. - May 20, 2025 at 11:57 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.*



May 20, 2025 at 05:56 AM

LC

“ I had the privilege of caring for Kayden when he was admitted to Children’s Hospital NICU before he received his heart. He was one sick little boy with very concerned parents. We never know God’s plan for us, but looking at the pictures of Kayden and family and friends, you can see the love and lasting legacy Kayden will have on all of you, especially all the young children and that could have been God’s plan for Kayden. You can see in those pictures that he was special, even with his last illness. I want to thank Phillip for letting me know of Kayden’s passing, I cannot make his visitation but I want to send my condolences and prayers for all of his family and friends. He is in your memories, talk about him frequently, especially with the kids, laugh, cry and share stories, that’s how he will live on. Bless you all. Linda Cotsonika

Linda Cotsonika - May 19, 2025 at 06:35 PM



Thank you Linda! I couldn’t agree more!
Belinda

Belinda Strong - June 06, 2025 at 09:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

May 19, 2025 at 06:24 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



May 19, 2025 at 04:00 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

May 19, 2025 at 04:00 PM



“ Mike and family, I wish you strength and the fondest of memories as you celebrate Kayden's life. Thanks to all who posted photos...they tell a wonderful story of an amazing young man.

Chris Ham
General Motors

Chris Ham - May 19, 2025 at 02:36 PM



“ 1167 files added to the album LifeTributes



Wasik Funeral Home, Inc. - May 19, 2025 at 12:16 PM

TT

“ Triumph SLT & the Radnor, PA Team purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



Triumph SLT & the Radnor, PA Team - May 19, 2025 at 11:56 AM

TT

“ Triumph SLT & the Radnor, PA Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

Triumph SLT & the Radnor, PA Team - May 19, 2025 at 11:56 AM

NO

“ Norgren purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



Norgren - May 19, 2025 at 09:39 AM

YF

“ Your Fort Trodd camping family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



Your Fort Trodd camping family - May 19, 2025 at 09:23 AM

KM

“ We are forever grateful for God letting our paths cross! It was a strategic design only He could do. Our family is forever changed after meeting & getting to know sweet Kayden! He will be missed, but he will NEVER be forgotten!! His legacy will make waves in this world for years to come!

Love,
Tate Moran and family



Kathy Moran - May 19, 2025 at 07:22 AM

MF

Deepest condolences. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
- Mindy, Frank, Emma & Maggie

mindy fors - May 19, 2025 at 08:51 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

May 19, 2025 at 04:47 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



May 19, 2025 at 04:47 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

May 18, 2025 at 09:15 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



May 18, 2025 at 08:39 PM



“ The Locricchio's Matt & Frank and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

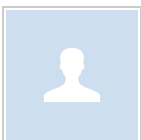
The Locricchio's Matt & Frank and Family - May 18, 2025 at 08:36 PM



“ The Locricchio's Matt & Frank and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



The Locricchio's Matt & Frank and Family - May 18, 2025 at 08:36 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

May 18, 2025 at 06:35 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



May 18, 2025 at 12:27 PM



“ Jonathan and Dana Burleigh and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



Jonathan and Dana Burleigh and family - May 18, 2025 at 11:08 AM



“ Love Kevin Hatcher and Connie Kolp planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

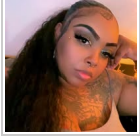
Love Kevin Hatcher and Connie Kolp - May 18, 2025 at 08:34 AM



“ Love Kevin Hatcher and Connie Kolp purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



Love Kevin Hatcher and Connie Kolp - May 18, 2025 at 08:34 AM



“ I heard so many good things about you Kayden! Eventho I didn't get a chance to meet you I felt like it met you...You were so strong and a great kid! I pray that God has some cool cars up there in Heaven for you! I was recently in the hospital and you told your grandma(Kim Wise) that you were praying for me! That touched my heart so much because I prayed for you everyday! Your grandma (Kim)love you so much! And to the family you guys are in my prayers and thoughts, God bless you all

Takira Hatten - May 17, 2025 at 07:24 PM



“ Kayden was a good friend of my son's. Luke and Kayden were in the youth group together. I would often see Kayden in church, he always had a smile on his face. I am grateful to have known him and will be praying for his family. Rest easy in the arms of Jesus Kayden, you fought the good fight and earned the prize.



Jodi Pace - May 17, 2025 at 04:38 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



May 17, 2025 at 03:06 PM

LS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Larry M Strong - May 17, 2025 at 02:04 PM

LS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Larry M Strong - May 17, 2025 at 01:55 PM

WC

“ William and Jennifer Cottrell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kayden Michael Strong.

William and Jennifer Cottrell - May 17, 2025 at 01:37 PM

WC

“ William and Jennifer Cottrell purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



William and Jennifer Cottrell - May 17, 2025 at 01:37 PM

KW

“ I am going to miss watching football with you Kayden. Go Blue Go lions 🍷💙💛💙👍



Kim Wise - May 17, 2025 at 11:52 AM

CT

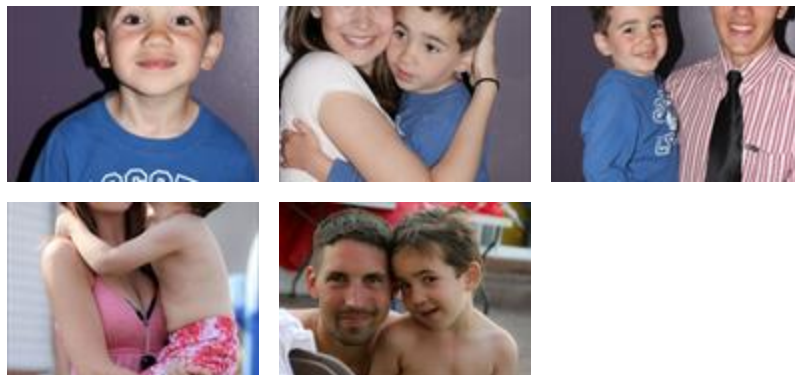
“ CHM Cardiac Transplant Team purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



CHM Cardiac Transplant Team - May 17, 2025 at 11:24 AM

AN

“ 26 files added to the album Kayden



Anne Nicolazzo - May 17, 2025 at 11:17 AM

GF

“ Greg Rinaldi and family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



Greg Rinaldi and family - May 17, 2025 at 10:52 AM

RE

“ Rachel Blissett & Tyler Everett purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kayden Michael Strong.



Rachel Blissett & Tyler Everett - May 17, 2025 at 10:49 AM