



Joshua Ryan Baker

With “Unstoppable God” blaring through his phone, Joshua Ryan “Meatball” Baker, age 37, of Moorefield joined his friend, “Kowboy” Kyle Helmick, among the heavenly stars. Josh passed away from natural causes at his home at Arlington Manor in Moorefield on January 30, 2020.

Born on March 13, 1982, Josh is survived by his mother, Kim Mills Markwood of Moorefield, and his father and momma, Rick & Patti Baker, of Old Fields. In addition to his parents, Josh’s sister, Ashley Baker and brother Tyler Hicks of Moorefield survive. His brother Ricky Baker and wife, Danette, reside in Kentucky, and brother Ross Sherman and wife, Ashley, live in Maysville. Also surviving are sisters Kerri Raikes, Danielle Smith, and Ciara Smith as well as brother, Heath Baker. Josh took great pride in his nieces and nephews, especially Aubrey, Natalee and Eli. Special “family” members also include Jamie Hedrick, Shayna Vetter, and Janet Feaster.

Being an avid, die-hard Orioles fan, Josh had brainwashed Aubrey and Natalee into believing that there are no other baseball teams that come close to his Birds of MLB. Everlasting memories were made when Josh would journey with his family to Camden Yards a few times per season. Josh was Moorefield’s own Wikipedia. He could give team updates and stats for all the Orioles players, WVU basketball and football players, Lakers basketball, and Penguins hockey. If you wanted to know who was “in” and who was “out” for this week’s game, you could just ask Josh. No one could have mourned the loss of Kobe Bryant more than Josh Baker.

Josh was a huge influence in the lives of Aubrey and Natalee so when Aubrey was old enough to swing a ball bat, one could often find Josh in the yard with her practicing for her batting skills as well as her pitching skills for when she’d be old enough to be a Lady Jacket softball player. Until that time, Springtime would find Josh at the t-ball field, cheering on his little spitfire of a ballplayer.

Josh has been fortunate to have a couple large families. His grandfather, Melvin Baker of Moorefield, recently passed away. He is survived by his grandmother, Juanita Baker, uncles Melvin “Bud” Baker (Judy), Chris Baker (Angie), Mike Mills, and aunt Barb Haggerty (Jerry), and many cousins. He considered Norma Markwood to be his grandma, and the Markwood family to be his forever family as well. His grandmother, Pat Cave, also preceded him in death.

Friends may call at the Elmore Funeral Home in Moorefield on Saturday, 4:00-8:00 pm. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 pm at the Moorefield Assembly of God Church. Never one to be alone, Josh had hundreds of friends. His 10-minute trips to Wal-Mart turned into hour long trips because there was always someone to talk to. Some of those best friends will carry him to his final resting place on Sunday. Those gentlemen will be Rocky Crites, JR Shockey, Jason Hinz, Ben Vance, Jackson Vance, Ross Sherman, Derek Flinn, and Ross Sherman. Honorary pallbearers will be Greg Armentrout, John May and Kyle Baker. Wade Armentrout will officiate the funeral. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the family.