



Jacob Allen Laber

June 15, 1986 - August 14, 2016

Jacob Allen Laber, cherished son of Deb and Ken Laber, was born on Father's Day, June 15, 1986 in Fargo, ND. He was recently diagnosed with cancer and had finished his first week of treatment before passing away on August 14, 2016.

He attended Washington and Horace Mann elementary schools, Ben Franklin Junior High and Fargo North.

Jake had many baseball accolades and led a storied career, beginning with American Legion Post 2 and Fargo North, where he also played basketball. He then went on to play baseball all four years at NDSU. Jake also played two summers of baseball while in college, one with the Northwoods League in Thunder Bay, Ontario; and, the other in the Cal Ripkin SR. Collegiate Baseball League, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

He first pitched for the Redhawks in 2008; and, then spent a year with River City of the Frontier League, finishing his seven year career with the Redhawks in 2014. At the time of retirement, Jake was the F-M franchise leader in wins, games started, innings pitched and strikeouts.

Jake currently worked as an Auditor at Noridian Healthcare Solutions, where he received several promotions.

He was an intelligent, caring, strong, dedicated and talented man, who loved the Lord and put all his trust in Him. He also loved sports, working out and professional wrestling.

He is survived by his parents, Ken and Deb Laber, his fiancé and love of his life, Karisa Gullickson, grandparents George Petrich and Lois Laber, and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Jake will be missed by all.

We would like to thank everyone for their love and support.

Events

AUG 20 **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

Salem Evangelical Free Church
1111 30th Ave S, Moorhead, MN, US

AUG 20 **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

Salem Evangelical Free Church
1111 30th Ave S, Moorhead, MN, US

Comments



“ Ken and Deb- So sorry to hear about Jake. It was so fun to watch him grow as a little toddler at the CDC with the sweet smile and curly hair! I remember him well! Then later when he played basketball at North High with my nephew, Nick. We also followed his stellar baseball career too. Outstanding! Know that my thoughts are with you now and always. Cindy Ham Bernstein

Cindy Ham Bernstein - August 19, 2016 at 06:39 PM



“ Sending love & prayers to your family, God bless.
Cindy, Scott, Bre & Thea Werlinger

Cindy Werlinger - August 19, 2016 at 11:43 AM



“ Ken,
Deepest sympathy to you and your family. So sorry to hear about the loss of your son.

Melanie Correll

Melanie Correll - August 19, 2016 at 11:37 AM



“ Our sympathy Jeff, Cassie, Kevin and Kim Kylo purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



Our sympathy Jeff, Cassie, Kevin and Kim Kylo - August 19, 2016 at 11:21 AM



“ Jake was an all-time great. Not only was he one of the most incredible athletes that I had ever seen...but he was the funnest person to be around and a great friend to me on and off the baseball field at NDSU. His will and determination in all facets of life were always envied and unmatched. He never minded much what people thought of him however he was highly, highly respected...and simply an incredible guy who was always out to fulfill his own potential, while helping other achieve theirs. I would do

anything to have another conversation, a vegetable/protein filled lunch, a strong left-handed handshake (this was our thing...and it always lifted me up), or watch him take (and own) the pitching mound just once more - it truly was like watching art when he threw. It will always be an honor to have considered Jake a friend of mine. I will forever be inspired by Jake and the way he lived his short but full life.



Billy Gazich - August 19, 2016 at 10:04 AM



“ I didn't know Jake personally, but I always saw him at work and I could tell he loved life and lived it to the fullest, without even knowing him. I will miss seeing his infectious smile throughout the halls. Prayers to his friends and family.

Paige Nordman - August 19, 2016 at 07:14 AM



“ 70 files added to the album LifeTributes



Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home - August 19, 2016 at 06:38 AM



“ We didn't know Jacob, but we worked with Deb at Merit Care/Sanford hospital in food service. Our condolence are with Deb and the family Judy Staab, Jennifer Smith and Klinda Kinzler. Your in our thoughts and prayers.

Jennifer Smith - August 19, 2016 at 06:18 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



August 19, 2016 at 01:15 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



August 18, 2016 at 06:04 PM



“ Ken and Deb,
I'm so sad to hear of the loss of Jake. I hadn't seen in him many years but from all of the comments below he was quite the kid!!! Just know that you both. Karisa and Auntie Lois are in my thoughts and prayers.

Please take care of yourselves and each other!!

Love to you both,
Connie Jo Richter

Connie Jo - August 18, 2016 at 05:54 PM



“ Dave and Joanne Doran purchased the Garden Accent Stone - Our family chain... for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



David K Doran - August 18, 2016 at 05:52 PM



“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes





“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



August 18, 2016 at 10:18 AM



“ Ken and Deb ~ we are so sorry to hear about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Dawn & John Brobst

Dawn Brobst - August 18, 2016 at 09:17 AM



“ Deb, Ken, and Karisa,

I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers go out to you all. God bless.

Judy Gruenberg
Vocational Training Center

Judy Gruenberg - August 17, 2016 at 09:08 PM



“ Deb. & Ken, My prayers go out to both of you. It just broke my heart when I heard the news about Jake! You all have held a special place in my heart. Can't imagine the heartache you are going through. God will guide you to follow the right path. Love you both!! Lynette Anel

Lynette Anel - August 17, 2016 at 07:56 PM



“ Deb and Ken, We remember Jacob well from the preschool class at the Child Development Center. Jacob was such a sweet little guy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Anita, Scott, Liz and Sean Brandenburg

anita brandenburg - August 17, 2016 at 02:21 PM



“ Deb, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your precious gift Jake. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Amanda Voss

Amanda Voss - August 17, 2016 at 12:56 PM



“ Deb, Ken, and Karisa,
I am so sorry for your loss. I attended NDSU with Jake and we had several classes together over the course of a few years. I was lucky enough to partner with him on a few projects and always sought him out when it came time for group projects - he was one smart guy! I enjoyed getting to know him a bit, and although we did not keep in touch after graduation, I now live in the Twin Cities area, I was lucky enough to see him pitch a game against the St. Paul Saints several years ago. I wish we would have had the opportunity to reconnect at some point.
My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. I know it doesn't need to be said, as you already know this, but please find comfort in the fact that Jake was an outstanding person who had a positive impact on my life and countless others.

Joe Scheidecker - August 17, 2016 at 12:43 PM



“ California Healthy was purchased for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



August 17, 2016 at 12:32 PM



“ 170 files added to the album LifeTributes



Hanson-Runsvold Funeral Home - August 17, 2016 at 11:50 AM



“ Ken and Deb, So sorry to hear about Jake. Thoughts and prayers to all. Jolene Swenson and family



Jolene Swenson - August 17, 2016 at 11:24 AM



“ Dearest Deb & Ken,

Our family is so deeply shocked and saddened at Jake's passing. We were so thoroughly enriched sharing him with you for an entire summer when he played for the Thunderbolts and lived with us in Maryland. And, delighted to get to know the two of you as well. We came to love and respect your son, and see him as you and everyone did -- kind, good, thoughtful, decent ... an extraordinary young human being that has now been called to watch over us all. Such an honor to know him. He, and you, and Karisa, are in our hearts and our prayers.

Love, Robin & Stuart Sorkin and Zack & Madeline Feierstein

Robin Sorkin - August 17, 2016 at 11:01 AM



“ Ken and Deb, So sorry for your loss. Prayers and comfort to you during this difficult time. Jolene Swenson and family

jolene swenson - August 17, 2016 at 10:42 AM



“ Deb and Ken,
Sherri and I are sorry to hear of the passing of Jake. We are thinking of you and the whole family. We continue to pray for you.
Love,
Jim And Sherri Bellefeuille

Jim - August 17, 2016 at 09:01 AM



“ I had the chance to play basketball against Jake whenever Valley City went up against Fargo North. Of any player I played against Jake was my favorite. He was competitive and would do anything to win yet still play fair and within the rules. And it was always a challenge guarding a really quick lefty. I always hoped to run into him around Fargo so I could tell him this in person but unfortunately that chance is gone. I was sad and shocked to hear of his passing and Jakes family have my thoughts and prayers.

Mark Ranum

Mark Ranum - August 17, 2016 at 07:54 AM



“ Deb and Ken As we have all heard of your loss of your beautiful son your pride and your joy, we are all just overwhelmed with sadness for you knowing how hard this is for you , please know that your fargo public school nutrition service dept.will keep you in our thoughts and prayers and pray you will find comfort and peace in the days to come
With deepest sympathy
Jan Tronnes
And your secondary staff

Jan tronnes - August 16, 2016 at 07:57 PM



“ I never got the chance to meet Jake personally, but being from Winnipeg and watching the years of rivalry with the Redhawks I knew of him. Boy could he ever pitch against us! Reading all the social media posts about Jake, how all his teammates absolutely loved him, I wish I had the chance to meet him while he was playing. I was in complete shock and disbelief when I heard yesterday of Jake's passing. Still today it just doesn't seem real.
To Mr and Mrs Laber and to Jake's fiancée, my heart is breaking for all of you as you grieve a life taken too soon, too young. May you find strength in your faith and your memories of your dear son and fiancée. The fans of the Winnipeg Goldeyes share in your grief and are keeping you in our thoughts at this time.



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



August 16, 2016 at 03:55 PM



“ Deb, Ken & Karisa:

Becky and I were so privileged to know Jake as a friend of Andrew's and the rest of the WWE group. He was smart, considerate, funny and a perfect gentleman at every moment. Hearing that he was diagnosed with cancer was a terrible thing to hear, but we knew that he would attack that disease that he went after every challenge - and that he would beat it.

I told Andrew on Sunday evening that there is no "flow chart" that describes how life is supposed to unfold. We can't know how or why your wonderful son and husband-to-be was taken from you. Difficult, and unfair, things happen to very good people. We need to accept them the best way we are able and then to be stronger for having gone through times like this.

Please know that you have our deepest sympathies and our prayers. There is probably nothing that can console you at this awful time, but do understand that we and lots of other people are thinking about you.

David & Becky Berg

David Berg - August 16, 2016 at 02:42 PM



“ NDSU Purchasing Office: Stacey Winter, Casie Ewalt, Jane Busko, and Kim Howard-Brasel purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



at 11:54 AM



“ Henry and Randi Jangula Williston ND purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



Henry and Randi Jangula Williston ND - August 16, 2016 at 11:18 AM



“ Ken and Deb,
We were so sad to hear the news about Jake. Our prayers are with you as I am sure you will need to lean on God in the days ahead. We followed Jake's career over the years and have such fond memories of watching POST 2 games with you guys. Jake was one of Caleb's favorite teammates.
Lenny and Kathy Jo Luecke

Lenny and Kathy Jo Luecke - August 16, 2016 at 11:01 AM



“ Luedtke, Smith, Vicknair, Linn, Larson, & Liesener Families purchased the Basket of Joy for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



Luedtke, Smith, Vicknair, Linn, Larson, & Liesener Families - August 16, 2016 at 10:30 AM



“ A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Jacob Allen Laber.



August 16, 2016 at 10:13 AM



“ To say learning of Jake's passing came as a shock would be a monstrous understatement. This just doesn't seem real. Ken, Deb, Karisa - we are so incredibly sorry for your loss and are keeping you in our thoughts. While I didn't know Jake as well as my husband did, he was always sure to say hi to me in passing. I know Andy loved to chat with Jake when he could and baseball and wrestling were common topics. When I think of Jake, I think of a kind, humble gentleman with a radiant smile. Please know the Fargo North, Post 2, NDSU, and RedHawks communities - the FM community in general - are praying for Jake as well as his family and friends.
- Andy Giddings & Natalie Wolff

Andy Giddings & Natalie Wolff - August 16, 2016 at 08:22 AM



“ I am so incredibly sick to hear about Jake! I loved being his teammate and friend! He was the most stand up guy and everyone that knew him looked up to him! I ate lunch with Jake everyday for 2 years at the union dining center and I have never seen anyone peel their chicken nuggets breaking off or eat salad with no dressing. He was the healthiest guy I have ever been around. In baseball at NDSU, he could run! I don't know if I have ever actually seen him tired. He was an absolute great competitor and student of the game and life. we had many classes together and he was always one of the smartest guys there! I'm going to miss our casual encounters, alumni games, and witnessing his and Jeff Kyllos counting game. I'll always remember his smile and laugh! You never think your going to lose a teammate and friend this early in life. It puts a lot of things into perspective! Lastly my heart goes out to Ken and Deb! You raised a fantastic gentleman! He was the best and I'm sure you are proud! My deepest sympathys to you! To Karissa, he loved you! I remember sitting at the alumni game and him telling me how great and wonderful his then girlfriend was! I'm sorry for your loss! I can't imagine your grief and I hope you can find peace! Jake was the man! I haven't been able to get him off my mind all day, and I would do anything to be on the diamond with him again! Rest in Peace Jake! Your teammates/friends/family love you and will miss you greatly!

Matt Watson - August 15, 2016 at 10:44 PM



“ Sorry about your loss

Ricky Berg - August 15, 2016 at 10:14 PM