



Jeff Gattorno

Died Age 23

Heroin

Jeff lost a valiant battle against addiction at the age of 23. He was very bright and creative, but depression and social anxiety made him feel like he was incapable of achieving what he thought society expected of him.

In my feeble attempts to help him and to understand what was happening in his world and mine, I learned a great deal. Jeff was addicted to heroin in his late teens. He traveled the road that many addicts travel. With the help of a wonderful psychologist, legal troubles and health issues he was clean for approximately 2 yrs. He tried hard to get on track. He registered for college, had a job, a car and plans for a future. But he still knew that the place heroin takes you would probably pull him back again one day.

He always felt he did not belong here in this world and he knew he would never see his 30th birthday. At times it was so tough to watch how his mind questioned everything—the reason for his existence—life after death—good and evil—religion—what normal really was.

As his mom I saw past the addict and into his tortured self trying to make sense of a world full of contradictions. I'm so grateful for the things he taught me.

I MISS YOU SO MUCH JEFF!!!

~ Brigitte Gattorno



Remembering Lost Promise