



## George Richard Proffitt

May 9, 2019

George Richard Proffitt, 20, of Lancaster, passed away peacefully last week at home. He was the beloved son of Trex and Beth Proffitt. While he struggled with depression and anxiety for many years, his journey appears to have ended through an accidental drug overdose.

George was always passionate, honest, and direct, speaking his mind on issues he cared deeply about, like politics and social justice. He loved reading, crafts, puzzles, hiking, and climbing trees. He appreciated art, music, literature, anime, and musical theater, particularly *Les Misérables*, *Rent*, and *Wicked*. As a child, his favorite stories were *Pinocchio* and *Peter Pan*.

George was active in the LGBTQ+ Community and was a support for many who struggled as he had. He loved his family fiercely, especially his sister and brother, and they all loved him dearly, too. George was both gentle and gutsy, a kind soul who appreciated kindness in others and had a huge heart for both people and animals. He enjoyed exploring new places, near and far, natural and urban, especially with his friends.

One of his special talents was his ability to find four-leafed clovers wherever he went—he was adept at finding treasures in unlikely places. George was a brilliant young man who will be missed deeply.

In addition to his parents, George is survived by his sister, Lauren Proffitt, and his brother, Eddie Proffitt. He is also remembered by grandparents, Judith Dozier Hackman (Bethany, CT) and Elizabeth Jameson (Honolulu, HI), Robert Hines and Elizabeth Board (Washington, DC), and Winfred and Lorna Proffitt (Las Vegas, NV); eight aunts and uncles, and three cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, John Richard Hackman. George was born in Evanston, IL, and lived with his family in Riverside, CA, before they moved to Lancaster, PA, in 2005.

Family and friends are invited to George's Celebration of Life at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at Groff's, 528 W. Orange Street (corner of W. Orange & Pine). Following the service, a reception with refreshments will be held at The Groff Event Center, 234 W. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA. Donations in memory of George may be made to The Trevor Project, [thetrevorproject.org](http://thetrevorproject.org), PO Box 69232, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAY 15. 4:00 PM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc  
528 W Orange St.  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
(717) 394-5300  
admin@thegroffs.com  
<https://thegroffs.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ George Richard Proffitt

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October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ Trex, Beth, Lauren, and Eddie -- Words can't begin to express the sorrow I feel. I heard of George's passing recently and was crushed that such a great soul left us so soon. My favorite memories of George are two fold --first, his ever-active mind and imagination as a member of my Cougarbots robotics team. He was a stalwart team member, always willing to do whatever it took, but never afraid to voice his opinions on how things might be done better. The second one is my first impression of George. I was supervising middle school recess in the gym and got a report that a student had a ball thrown at her by George. I asked him if this was true, and got an immediate "yes". When I asked why, he explained simply, "She was being annoying." That combination of personal responsibility and brutal honesty pretty much sums it up for me.  
Please know that you are in my thoughts at this time.  
"What we have once enjoyed we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us." -- Helen Keller

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**Bob Irving** - May 18, 2019 at 05:20 PM

MC

“ George's fierce advocacy could only be matched by his gentle heart, and a beyond-his-years eloquence.

*During freshman year English class (his first year at McCaskey) I watched George become a leader. His love of reading, and writing made him a natural talent, but it was George's advocacy that truly won the approval of his peers. George's unique understanding of life helped him articulate so many causes in the classroom, and I know he changed and influenced the minds of many of his youthful peers in our class debates. Often times, students would wait, and even ask for George to have the final words. He marveled us all.*

*After school, George and I frequently discussed our love of language, diction, and syntax. George was a student who you learned just as much from, and with. I loved every conversation I ever had with him.*

*After 15 years of teaching 100-150 students each year, I sometimes forget some of my students' names.*

*I will never forget George.*

*Five words for you George.*

*You know how words count.*

*Wherever you are, I hope you're continuing to read, write, advocate, and inspire.*

*I am forever grateful for how you inspired me.*

*Matt Coonan*

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**Matt Coonan** - May 15, 2019 at 10:33 AM

SV

“ *Trex and Beth,*

*My heart aches for you during this very difficult time. I hope you find strength and peace in all the loving memories of your sweet George.*

*Hugs  
Sally Vaquero*

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**Sally Vaquero** - May 15, 2019 at 09:46 AM

BB

“ *Dear Beth, Trex, Lauren and Eddie, my heart is with you today even though I am many miles away. I'll always remember George in my sixth grade class room as engaged in and excited by the knowledge and insightful into the concepts and humanity of our discussions. May the love and support of your family and friends help carry you through your loss.*

*Bunny/Ms. Bromley*



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**barbara bromley** - May 15, 2019 at 09:16 AM

WA

“ Dear Trex, Beth, Lauren, and Eddie, We are so, so sorry for your loss. We love George so much and all the wonderful times our families have shared together. From our first trip to Disneyland in CA, shave ice and snorkeling at Hanauma Bay, to card games, button making, F&M campus walks, and Dutch Wonderland in Lancaster and Settlers of Cattan and dim sum in Kitchener, we have so many wonderful memories of George. Remember when he and Sasha "stayed up all night" in Hawaii? Or when they organized a fun fair for the neighborhood? I remember George's great hugs and genuine kindness. And most recently, his moving words at Volodya's funeral where he also found and gave me a 4-leaf clover. Like all of you, George is part of our family and we will miss him forever and ever. We are sending you love and peace with each breath and every passing day. xoxo Wendi, Sasha, and Sam

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**Wendi Adair** - May 14, 2019 at 06:36 PM

WA

“ Wendi Adair lit a candle in memory of George Richard Proffitt



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**Wendi Adair** - May 14, 2019 at 06:36 PM

MA

“ Margaret A. purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of George Richard Proffitt.



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**Margaret A.** - May 14, 2019 at 03:47 PM



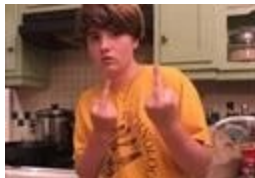
“ *Your Friends at The Graduate Institute purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*



**Your Friends at The Graduate Institute** - May 14, 2019 at 03:13 PM



“ *George and I had some tricky times over the years, but he was always caring and loving in his own special ways. He tried to show me lots of books and music and was never shy about throwing zines at me. These past couple of days I keep wishing I had appreciated these things more when he was telling me about them. In the recent years he started staying inside a lot more than he wanted to, and I know he spent one of his last days with us outside with his friends. I'm glad he spent time doing what he loved even though it became really hard for him to do those things. I love him a lot and nothing I write will ever actually capture how I feel right now, but if you read this please make sure to treasure the people in your life and make sure they know you love them. Even if you think they know, it doesn't hurt to be sure.*



**Lauren Proffitt** - May 14, 2019 at 01:41 PM



*Love you, Lauren. Mom*

**Beth Proffitt** - May 14, 2019 at 04:18 PM

KC

“*Kate and Charleen purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*”



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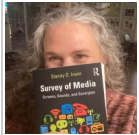
**Kate and Charleen** - May 14, 2019 at 01:06 PM

EL

“*Without having myself known George personally, but knowing him through his English teacher who loved and supported him, I am heartbroken. I keep crying and we are going to plant something for George this weekend to remember a greatly beloved student and a special, wonderful person. We send you love and peace, Proffitt family.*”

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**evelyn lisi** - May 14, 2019 at 11:54 AM



“*Trex and Beth, I remember George being a big part of the action at the store on King Street. He was always part of the activities, planning interesting events, and always a positive influence on those around him. So sorry for your loss.*”

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**Stacey Irwin** - May 13, 2019 at 10:38 PM

ML

“ 4 files added to the album Larson memories



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**Monika & Robert Larson** - May 13, 2019 at 09:55 PM

LW

“ *Lisa and Gordon Washburn purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*



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**Lisa and Gordon Washburn** - May 13, 2019 at 06:42 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*



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May 13, 2019 at 04:41 PM

AS

“ *All of us at Neighborhood Music School purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*



**All of us at Neighborhood Music School** - May 13, 2019 at 04:10 PM

LI

“ *Beth and Trex: Jeff, Timea and I send you our love and our deepest sympathies. We last saw George when he was little and lived in Riverside CA. We keep his memory in our heart, remembering him as a kind, sweet and beautiful soul.*

**Livia** - May 13, 2019 at 02:39 PM



“ *Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket was purchased for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*



May 13, 2019 at 01:40 PM

OB

“ *Our deepest sympathies, Grant Miele & Jen Bauer purchased the Memories 44" Sonnet for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*



**Our deepest sympathies, Grant Miele & Jen Bauer** - May 13, 2019 at 01:39 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*



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May 13, 2019 at 01:31 PM



“ *Ringed by Love was purchased for the family of George Richard Proffitt.*

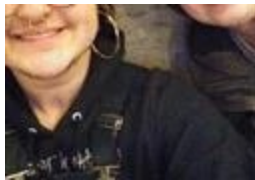


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May 13, 2019 at 12:02 PM



“ *I am forever grateful for all the long car rides, punk rock singalongs, hikes through the middle of nowhere, and late night feelings talks, and intense 4 leaf clover hunts me and George got to share. He made such a huge difference in the world, and the lives of those around him. I will carry him with me. Sending all my love to his family.*



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**Damien** - May 13, 2019 at 11:50 AM

LE

“ One of my favorite memories of George is chatting at the squash courts when he was in middle school about the books he was enjoying. I received some great book recommendations and it was so nice to converse with a teen who loved to read.

Lesley - May 13, 2019 at 11:45 AM



“ Ringed by Love was purchased for the family of George Richard Proffitt.



May 13, 2019 at 10:05 AM

NI

“ Trex & Beth, we are sending love and light to you and your family and holding you all in our hearts. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Matt & Nicole

Nicole - May 13, 2019 at 09:28 AM

GZ

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Gail Zini & Family

Gail Zini - May 13, 2019 at 12:53 AM

LA

“ Beth, I remember conversations we had over the years about how scared and helpless we felt at times trying to support our sons in their struggles. I have no words for this heartbreak. Holding you and your family close in my heart.

*Lani*

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**Lani** - May 12, 2019 at 10:30 AM

DF

*Beth, my heart and prayers go out to you and your family as you go through this very hard time.*

*Denise Freeman*

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**Denise Freeman** - May 12, 2019 at 03:35 PM