



Jesse Smith

July 9, 2006

Smith, Jesse E. Age 37 Of Minneapolis Professional ballroom dancer and owner of Arthur Murray Dance Studio of Minneapolis/Edina, MN. Survived by wife, Lynda; children, Dayton and Elyse; mother, Mary Louise Bodinski; father, Jesse Smith; siblings, Therese Larson, Stephen Clausen and Nejia Smith; grandmother, Alice Smith; many loving family members and friends. Jesse was born and raised in Sioux Falls, SD and moved to Minneapolis in 1988 where he began his professional dance career. He began dancing competitively with Lynda in 1990 and went on to achieve four U.S. American Style ballroom titles. After retiring from competition, Jesse continued to achieve excellence in the international dance world and was highly sought after as a teacher, choreographer, coach, judge and performer. He was a member of the Arthur Murray World Dance Board and an area Chairman for Arthur Murray International. Although Jesse's professional accomplishments were many, being a loving and devoted husband and father gave him the most joy. Memorials may be directed to the Jesse Smith Miracle Gift Fund. Interment service 9 AM Monday, July 10 at LAKEWOOD CEMETERY CHAPEL, 36th & Hennepin Ave S. Service will follow at 11 AM at HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 7132 Portland Ave S., Richfield. Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall

K(

“ Dear Mary-Louise, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I was looking for your online when I came across this page. I remember "little Jesse" from back on the farm in Fairview. That's such a very long time ago. My hopes were to find you, not this terrible news. It seems that he was a great joy to you all of his life. Rest in peace

~

Kathy Gould (Clifton),

Redondo Beach, California

Contact Me

Kathy Gould (Clifton) - October 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Mary-Louise, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I was looking for your online when I came across this page. I remember "little Jesse" from back on the farm in Fairview. That's such a very long time ago. My hopes were to find you, not this terrible news. It seems that he was a great joy to you all of his life. Rest in peace

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Contact Me

Kathy Gould (Clifton) - October 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ *Jesse was a childhood friend, and I still have many fond memories of him. I just moved to Colorado from Minneapolis after nearly twenty years. I will miss the many times in the last few years which I spent visiting beautiful Lakewood cemetery, where Jesse's memorial is. Stopping by to say hello to my old friend was a comfort to me during many rough times. Jesse's spirit always uplifted me and made me smile.*

~

Tom Geyer,

Arvada, Colorado

Tom Geyer - March 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TG

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Tom Geyer,

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Tom Geyer - March 04, 2010 at 12:00 AM

A.

“ Grateful for your authentic spirit - grateful for your kind heart. We will always remember ...

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A Fellow Dancer Remembering,

Minnesota

A Fellow Dancer Remembering - January 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

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A Fellow Dancer Remembering - January 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ I remember working for Jesse when I first moved to the cities. He brought such joy and energy to the work place. I know he was my favorite boss and I try each day to bring the same energy to my employees now. Thank you Jesse, you were the sweetest man I ever met.

~

anonymous anonymous,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

anonymous anonymous - February 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AA

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anonymous anonymous,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

anonymous anonymous - February 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ *Memories of Jesse: His equanimity under stress (especially when someone sprayed Pledge on the dance floor). His comic brilliance dancing the "Office Chair Waltz" with Debbie to "The Story of Tina", after hours, at the Edina studio (I laughed until I cried). His patience with all of us who couldn't dance the way he could, or teach the way he did. The incredible feeling of being led by him in a foxtrot or waltz. The hard work he did and his dedication to his business. The enormous array of talents he had, and being amazed as he showed evidence of one, then another, then another. The showman, in a tuxedo. The clown, in a brown shag wig. The DJ, smooth-voiced, microphone in hand. The impossibly dashing, handsome, charming young man who had so much to give, and so much love inside of him for his family and friends. I made a puppet of Jesse once. Didn't do him justice, of course. It didn't have feet, after all... This world's loss is the next world's gain. My sincere condolences to all who loved him. He touched and enriched many lives, mine included.*

~

Mollie Kaye,

Victoria, British Columbia

Contact Me

Mollie Kaye - January 12, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MK

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LC

“ Words just seem so feeble when you try to express what someone meant to you. I started teaching at the studio just a few months after Jesse did, and he always had the gift of charm. He was all those things that others have recounted, but I remember him most for his enormous sense of fun. He could give you a glimpse of the cartoons inside his head and they were delightful. He has enriched us all.

~

Lorna (Hegman) Cotner,

Fredericksburg, Virginia

Contact Me

Lorna (Hegman) Cotner - November 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LC

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Fredericksburg, Virginia

Contact Me

Lorna (Hegman) Cotner - November 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ DEAR MARY, I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR SON WELL BUT I DO KNOW THAT HE LOVED HIS MOTHER AND THE TIME'S WHEN I TOOK HIM TO HOSPITAL HE WAS SO QUITE BUT SWEET AND SO PATIENT, WE JUST THANK GOD FOR SUCH A WONDERFUL PERSON, AND GOD WE KNOW YOU ARE ENJOYING HIM.
LOVE PAM LARKINS

~

PAM LARKINS,

BROOKLYN PARK

PAM LARKINS - September 24, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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RG

“ How we loved Jesse! Today is his 38th birthday and it seems a fitting day to finally sign this guest book and honor him.

How truly blessed we were to know him quite well. We will never be the same because of his influence on our lives. What a man of patience, godliness, kindness, courage, intelligence, talent, humor, grace, charm, faith, thoughtfulness, faithfulness, and character he was!

We cherish all the memories we have of him at Arthur Murray lessons, parties, competitions, and elsewhere. He was a delight and joy to us, and we miss him very much. He will never be forgotten and the blessing and memories of his special life will go on and on.

Jesse once said, "Whether I live or die, I know where I am going." He had assurance of salvation through Christ. It is very comforting to know that he is more alive than ever, dancing, and in God's presence for all eternity.

God's grace and comfort to you, his dear family. He adored you all. You meant everything to him, and he spoke of you so proudly. You were the delight of his life. Thank you for your example of courage, grace, love, faithfulness, and support during his illness.

Much love,

~

Rolf and Mary Garborg,

Prior Lake, Minnesota

Rolf and Mary Garborg - September 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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“ Although I didn't know Jesse very well, my daughter Lorna danced with him when they were both new at Arthur Murray in 1988. They often were photographed together for promotion pictures because (in Lorna's words) "they both looked so wholesome!" Both were blond and full of beauty and grace. I just learned of Jesse's death through a visit with my daughter who now lives in Virginia. An enlarged picture of the two dancing has been on my wall ever since the summer of '88 and they are both so beautiful!

I'm sure you all have many pictures, but if you don't have the one of them outdoors before Sommerfest, Lorna in blue and Jesse in a tux, I'll be happy to E-mail it to you.

This picture will always be on my wall; I'm so sorry you lost him. My deepest sympathies. Lorna's mom, Barb Hegman.

~

Barb Hegman,

Sarona, Wisconsin

Contact Me

Barb Hegman - August 23, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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Barb Hegman,

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RB

“ Dear Mary Louise, Lynda, Dayton and Elyse

I am so sorry to hear about Jesse, he was a fantastic person and a beautiful dancer. Being a student year 2000 during a transitional time in my life helped me at so many different levels and i made so many fond memories at the studio, thanks to Jesse and all the teachers and other students, I always felt warmly welcomed and part of the dancing family.

In this difficult time i hope that your friends will be close to you and that you can find comfort in all your happy memories. I know i will go home today and watch my Arthur Murray videos where Jesse is dancing so beautifully. Such a gracious and kind man.

I am thinking of you!

Love

~

Rosita Bangasen-Rott,

Livingston, Montana

Contact Me

Rosita Bangasen-Rott - July 27, 2006 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ Dear Mary Louise, Lynda, Dayton and Elyse

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Love

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Livingston, Montana

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Rosita Bangasen-Rott - July 27, 2006 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ Lynda,

Please accept our condolences on your great loss. You and Jesse touched many lives, including ours on March 17, 2001. On that day you and Jesse performed a pro show at the Washington, D. C. Arthur Murray Spring Freestyles event. We remember the show fondly and are still inspired by it.

You two still touch one of our lives (Fred) indirectly through the exceptional instruction he is receiving from your friend and former Minneapolis colleague, Lori Soderholm.

We look forward to seeing you again in Gaithersburg, Maryland on August 6.

Take care,

Caitilin and Fred Stetson

Students, Gaithersburg MD Arthur Murray Dance Center

~

Fred and Caitilin Stetson,

Bethesda, Maryland

Fred and Caitilin Stetson - July 21, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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“ I was so sad to hear that Jesse had died. I have such fond memories of him when we taught together at Arthur Murray's. He was a good man, with a great spirit, a wonderful smile, and a great attitude.

Please accept my deepest sympathy.

~

Darren Marquardt,

Manassas, Virginia

Contact Me

Darren Marquardt - July 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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Manassas, Virginia

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KW

“ WE met Jessie and his family through our friends Rolf and Mary Garborg. As we prayed for Jessie and now his family, we do sense God's peace for you. During this time of transition, we pray God's peace for each of you.

*Sincerely, Ken & Loretta Wittig
Hubbardston, Massachusetts*

~

Ken Wittig,

Hubbardston, Massachusetts

Ken Wittig - July 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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Ken Wittig,

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Ken Wittig - July 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Lynda ~

From the time Jesse was diagnosed, Richard and I saw a man of such faith, courage, and strength both on and off the dance floor at the Arthur Murray Dance-O-Ramas. What a great example he was for all of us. Our fond memories and our DOR videos will keep him alive in our hearts forever...he was very special. We continue to pray for you and your family.

*With our sympathy and love,
Richard & Marla Grimm*

~

Marla Grimm,

Cupertino, California

Contact Me

Marla Grimm - July 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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CB

“*Dear Friends, We just heard about Jesse's passing and promotion to heaven. We are very sad, yet we know he is in a better place and rejoicing in the presence of His Lord. We know you miss him terribly and we do pray for God's deep and continuing comfort for you. Although we didn't know Jesse personally we came to care for him through our mutual friends, Rolf and Mary Garborg. We have prayed for Jesse regularly for a long time, so this came as a shock. May God bless you and surround you with His great love for you. With sympathy and love,
Harold and Cathy Brokke*

~

Cathy Brokke,

Bloomington, Minnesota

Contact Me

Cathy Brokke - July 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CB

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SH

“ Lynda, I didnt get to know you very well at the family reunion but i know in my heart you are a wonderful person. Im am so sorry about your loss. My thoughts are with You, Dayton, and Elyse.

~

Stephanie Hamilton,

Lancaster, California

Contact Me

Stephanie Hamilton - July 14, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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~

Stephanie Hamilton,

Lancaster, California

Contact Me

Stephanie Hamilton - July 14, 2006 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ Lynda and family:

While I didn't get the chance to know Jesse very well, what I did know is that he was a fine man. I had the privilege of dancing with him on a couple of occasions and it was like dancing on a cloud. It is obvious he influenced many lives during his short tenure on this earth. May your wonderful memories comfort you and bring you joy and may God bless you and your family.

~

Kathleen Pytleski,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Kathleen Pytleski - July 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

FR

“ Lynda, I am thinking of you this day and and pray for your continued strength....I did not know your husband but did compete with Joe Howard against one of his students. He always seemed so gracious and I have heard wonderful things about him through the Alexandria studio. He is highly thought of, making his loss all that more tragic.

~

Faith La Riviere,

Leonardtown, Maryland

Contact Me

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Minneapolis, Minnesota

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KB

“ I was so sad to hear of Jesse's passing - as a first time ballroom teacher at the Edina studio years ago he always gave me a smile and encouragement to work hard and not get discouraged. Jesse will most surely be missed by all.

~

Katie Boarder,

Edina, Minnesota

Contact Me

Katie Boarder - July 10, 2006 at 12:00 AM

S(

“ Dear Mary Louise and family,
I attended Irving Alternative school with Jesse back "in the day". I was stunned and saddened to hear of his passing. I don't believe I had seen Jesse since elementary school and still had in my mind that 12 year old kid. We were partners at the soc hop in 6th grade - Jesse with the slicked back hair and the candy cigarettes rolled up in his shirt sleeve. He was my childhood love. My deepest sympathies for the family but such a blessing to have such a wonderful guy in your lives all these years. Take care, you are in our prayers.
p.s. I think I still have some pix of our days in elementary school if you are interested. just shoot me an email. with love and prayers,
Stasi

~

Stasi Johnson (Jorgenson),

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Contact Me

Stasi Johnson (Jorgenson) - July 10, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JR

“*Jesse's passing is a painful shock. I was a brand new dance teacher at AMDS when he and Lynda came to our studio to work us. Jesse's lessons had meaning beyond the dance floor. His grace, charm, patience, and humility have served me as a teacher and as a human being. He inspired all of us to improve and strive for excellence. I will always treasure the times that he, and Lynda, spent with me, my fellow teachers, and my students.*

~

Jonathan Rivlin,

Baltimore, Maryland

Jonathan Rivlin - July 10, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Lynda and family, I'm so sorry to hear of Jesse's passing. He was a phenomenal instructor whose love and gift of teaching and dance was contagious. I remember him fondly and count my blessings for not only having learned from him, but having befriended everyone at the Arthur Murray family. You and your family have been and will remain in my prayers. May God bless you during this time of mourning.

~

Troy D. Billings,

Chicago, Illinois

Contact Me

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~

Katie Boarder,

Edina, Minnesota

Contact Me

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JK

“ *A teacher to the last--he showed us how to keep fighting and never give up. I learned so much about being a teacher and a dancer from him.*

~

James Krolak,

Buffalo, New York

Contact Me

James Krolak - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ *Jesse,*

We will miss you and your wonderful spirit. Our memories of your dancing, your sense of humor and love for family and friends has enriched our lives.

-Paul Botes and Donna Edelstein

~

Donna Edelstein,

Plymouth, Minnesota

Donna Edelstein - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ Dear Lynda:

I wish for you continued strength as you endeavor through the next part of this journey. I wish for you peace, one day, as you will attempt to put your lives back together. Jesse lives in our hearts and memories of the unique and gentle man he strived to be. We are not born this way - we make it happen by choice. May you rejoice in your children, a testimony of your lives together. Our loss can't compare to yours nor is there anything anyone can say to ease this time. I wish for your continued strength and guidance for your children and the wisdom for them to be authentically themselves as Jesse dared to be. He is here - just believe.

Heartfelt thoughts, Lisa Erickson

~

Lisa Erickson,

Chicago, Illinois

Lisa Erickson - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TU

“ Dear Mary Louise and other family members,

Jesse was that exceptional kid in the neighborhood back in Sioux Falls. He was always kind and especially well-mannered when I knew him. From the accounts here, he obviously turned out to be a great neighbor and caring friend to others throughout his life.

~

Tom Unzicker,

Allston, Massachusetts

Contact Me

Tom Unzicker - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Dearest Mary Louise, Lynda, and family,

Jesse was an extraordinary man and we are all blessed to have known him. I hold many fond and funny memories of him. As I read through the other entries it was confirmed that Jesse only became more compassionate and loving as he continued to live in the Spirit.

All praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the source of every mercy and the God who comforts us. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. 2 Corinthians 3&4

My thoughts and prayers are with you all during your moments of sadness.

~

Tanya (Elg) Rogers,

St Paul, Minnesota

Tanya (Elg) Rogers - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ Lynda, Mary-Louise, and all family and friends,

Jesse was an extraordinary person, and a good friend of mine through middle-school, high school, and beyond.

Jesse was always the epitome of grace, both on and off of the dance floor.

My condolences and love to you all,

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Tom Geyer,

Orono, Minnesota

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Jesse was that exceptional kid in the neighborhood back in Sioux Falls. He was always kind and especially well-mannered when I knew him. From the accounts here, he obviously turned out to be a great neighbor and caring friend to others throughout his life.

~

Tom Unzicker,

Allston, Massachusetts

Contact Me

Tom Unzicker - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ Dear Lynda:

I wish for you continued strength as you endeavor through the next part of this journey. I wish for you peace, one day, as you will attempt to put your lives back together. Jesse lives in our hearts and memories of the unique and gentle man he strived to be. We are not born this way - we make it happen by choice. May you rejoice in your children, a testimony of your lives together. Our loss can't compare to yours nor is there anything anyone can say to ease this time. I wish for your continued strength and guidance for your children and the wisdom for them to be authentically themselves as Jesse dared to be. He is here - just believe.

Heartfelt thoughts, Lisa Erickson

~

Lisa Erickson,

Chicago, Illinois

Lisa Erickson - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ *Jesse,*

We will miss you and your wonderful spirit. Our memories of your dancing, your sense of humor and love for family and friends has enriched our lives.

-Paul Botes and Donna Edelstein

~

Donna Edelstein,

Plymouth, Minnesota

Donna Edelstein - July 09, 2006 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ *A teacher to the last--he showed us how to keep fighting and never give up. I learned so much about being a teacher and a dancer from him.*

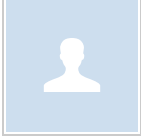
~

James Krolak,

Buffalo, New York

Contact Me

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“ *Jesse danced in and out of our lives with the most amazing grace. What a blessing God gave us all (even for such a short time) by allowing us to witness the life of such a gifted, strong and truly grace-filled man. We will miss you Jesse as you dance in heaven now. It was a privilege to dance with you here on earth. Our love to Lynda and the children. May God continue to hold you and give you strength and peace.*

~

Cindy and Jeff Nehrbass

July 08, 2006 at 12:00 AM

“ *The summer of 1976 doesn't seem thirty years ago. Jesse and I were friends back then during our time of quintessential youth. The Spirit of Seventy Six bicentennial train would roll a crossed Phillips Avenue in Sioux Falls that summer and focus memories of my boyhood shared with Jessie.*

The remembered firsts of events during childhood are further condensed as we grow old to that time of our youth. The memories shared with the people we lived them with will always accompany those stories. Jesse was that friend for me.

Allow me to share some of these boyhood experiences I shared with Jesse. Because we all have of those significant friends from our youth out there - gone but not forgotten. These are just some of those we shared during that short span of life together.

Jesse, you were there for me to grab and pull that block of wood off my foot when I stepped on that rusty nail in my back yard. You brought me along for my first trip to a farm, to a dairy and a junk yard. We skinny dipped in the rock quarry, jump around sand dunes, pulled leaches off each other after swimming in the Big Sioux and poorly fended off an attack from a swarm of wasps.

We pulled our red flyer wagon door to door collecting glass pop bottles for the refund to buy candy. Collecting ten dollars between us both we were in bafflement by the effects of to much of a good thing consuming the whole loot on a picnic table in that park with the cannon in it. Together we shared our first rides and falls with a horse. We participated in the first “Sunday on the Grass” gatherings of art, music, and dance in Sioux Falls.

Twice daily we had to walk a crossed Minnesota avenue to get to school at Erving Elementary. Always on the lookout for each other, one day we were distracted and almost struck down by a police car. I remember how we both grabed each other by the arm.

Another memory was a full add campaign and promotional package for the now history Zip Feeds feed company. Where, the company

gave away sweatshirts and sweatpants to farmers that had bought enough feed. In thinking they'd save some money, Zip had all the clothing manufactured over seas in China. The clothing arrived at the last minute for the promo and to late to do anything about the fact that nobody, especially a farmer from the Midwest, could fit their heads through the opening of the sweatshirts or their feet through the legs of the pants except for kids. That commercial we were in together with us all running down gravel farm roads with these baggy sweats cloths on is probably still out there somewhere. I know I still have the poster of us.

Your Mom took me under her wing to teach, feed, and protect me like I was her own during a time when I was most impressionable. Jesse, you've made quite an impression to me and I wish I could have told you just how much so before left.

Mary Louise, you raised a very talented compassionate boy, thank you for everything. I feel great grief and my heart pours out to you and Jesse's family.

~

Jimmy Unzicker,

Olympia, Washington

Contact Me

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LH

“ Our hearts go out to you at this difficult time. Lynda, you always were a very special influence in my own personal growth. I probably didn't let you know that enough. I am certain your strength and wisdom will carry you and your beautiful children through life in an elegant and magnificent manner. Jesse will watch over you all with a full heart. Leigh Ann and Jennifer, Jessica and Stephanie

~

Leigh Ann Hamilton,

Lancaster, California

Leigh Ann Hamilton - July 08, 2006 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ Although we were separated by distance, we have treasured memories of Jesse as a little boy and then growing into the marvelous dancer and wonderful father that he later became. His Grandma Alice kept his pictures on display & loved him dearly. His father was proud to have him for a son. Our circle has prayed for him for years, but he is at peace at last. Like a star shooting across the night sky, he brightened many lives. He will be missed. Love Aunt Kathy

~

Kathy Thompson,

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Kathy Thompson - July 08, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Lynda, Mary-Louise and Family,
Jesse was at a time my collaborator, instigator and best friend. I will
miss him dearly.
My deepest condolences.*

~

Martin Schmutterer,

St. Paul, Minnesota

Martin Schmutterer - July 08, 2006 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ For Lynda, Mary Louise, Dayton and Elyse:
Jesse was one of the finest people we've ever known.
Even back in 1990, when he was just a young man starting his
career, it was obvious that he was exceptional.
Although he was talented, poised, and accomplished at barely 21,
he already had a way of making everyone he met feel valued and
special.
Jesse had a gift for bringing out the best in everyone around him.
He enriched all our lives with his indomitable spirit.
I know Jesse is shining down on all our lives today, because his
light is too bright to be extinguished even by death.

With love from Ron and Nancy Hafner
Minneapolis, MN

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MW

“ Jesse was so very much more than a dance teacher. He taught us lessons about living. He taught us the value of friendship, integrity and patience. He taught us how to have faith and fight the good fight for the things we want and believe in. Along with grace on the dance floor, he demonstrated daily what it was to be graceful in relationships with others. And in the end, he taught us to make our last dance courageous and beautiful, and how to earn the peace of final rest. I will miss him for the rest of my life, and hold his lessons in my heart.

~

Marsha Wiest-Hines,

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Marsha Wiest-Hines - July 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Dear Lynda, Dayton, Elyse, Mary Louise, and all Jesse's family, I will fondly remember Jesse as a patient teacher, kind person, and encouraging friend. He gave form and foundation to my love of dance; encouraging me to use music and motion to find personal serenity, inner peace, and an outlet for self-expression. On this Earthly plane, we feel the sadness of his passing. I hope you find comfort in the thought of Jesse dancing with the Angels; free of pain and once again full of energy.

Ecc 3: 1&4 "There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven-- A time to weep and a time to laugh; A time to mourn and a time to dance."

~

Anna Jean Kornmann Moxom,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Contact Me

Anna Jean Kornmann Moxom - July 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Jesse...

What can I say? In the eleven years I knew him, I can only recall good things. He was a joy to be around. If you fell down, he'd pick you up (literally and figuratively), dust you off, and keep you going. Always encouraging and supporting with a smile. We'll miss him.

~

Saralyn Romanishan,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Saralyn Romanishan - July 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ Farewell to a good family man, teacher, and friend, a rare person who actively made the world around him a better place. My deepest sympathies to Lynda and the rest of the family.

~

George Price,

Atlanta, Georgia

George Price - July 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM

NE

“ We were very stricken to hear of Jesse's illness and death. We will always remember his cheery demeanor and the fact that he never missed greeting us when we arrived for our lessons. Our deepest sympathies- Nancy Engel and Len Berger

~

Nancy Engel,

Maple Grove, Minnesota

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“ I am very thankful to have known Jesse. He was one of the first people I met when I moved to the city and his encouragement and kindness helped me through a very difficult time.

~

Louis Stoll,

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Louis Stoll - July 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Jesse, I am sure you are already teaching God's angels to dance, and they are as honored and as fortunate as we have been for 12 years to appreciate your great gifts! We miss and love you, as do countless others, and may you now dwell in God's love, forever.

Terri and Dick Bowman.

~

Terri Bowman,

Shorewood, Minnesota

Contact Me

Terri Bowman - July 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ I am deeply saddened by this tremendous loss. Jesse was a very phenomenal man. I loved to hear his dance stories when he would come into the clinic. He even tried to recruit me and my coworker. I am truly blessed to have known such a man as Jesse. May your memories of Jesse lessen your pain and bring the brightest smiles to you. Jesse is forever dancing now. God Bless.

~

Samantha Gonzalez,

MPLS, MOHPA

Samantha Gonzalez - July 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

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~

Tracy & Stuart Palmer,

Rogers, Minnesota

Contact Me

Tracy & Stuart Palmer - July 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ On behalf of myself, the USA Dance-MN Board and from all of our chapter, we offer our sincerest condolences. So many of us have been richly influenced by Jesse as a dancer and as a person. Many wonderful memories will always stay with us.

Mike Jones, Pres. USA Dance-MN

~

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St. Paul, Minnesota

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~

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Terri and Dick Bowman.

~

Terri Bowman,

Shorewood, Minnesota

Contact Me

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MR

“ Jesse
An honor, everyday, being your nurse.
Love,
Mary Ann, RN

~

Mary Ann Vertin, RN,

Bloomington, Minnesota

Mary Ann Vertin, RN - July 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

NA

“ I will always feel grateful for the blessing of having been a student of Jesse's the few years I lived in Minneapolis. Aside from Best In Class and high quality professional dancing partner, he was a genuinely kind human being. The gift of dancing that Jesse taught me will remain with me for the rest of my life. Because of Jesse my life is changed for ever. Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss.

~

Nikki Adams,

Los Gatos, California

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JC

“ Since Jesse started teaching 18 years ago, he has always been consistently kind and fair, but I remember him most, not for this or his great ability in dance, but for his true Christian testimony.

~

Jeff Chinn,

Bloomington, Minnesota

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HC

“ *Our hearts go out to the family of Jessy. We specially knowledge Jessy's mother and our dear friend Marie Louise. We send deep healing to her alma, mente, corazon y espiritu.*

~

Hamsa and Cindy,

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~

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All my love and deepest sympathies,

~

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“ We are so sorry for your loss. I will always remember Jesse fondly. He was always so kind and generous to my brother and to me in the brief instances we were able to be with the family. I only wish I'd have had an opportunity to know him better. I'll never forget your wedding reception in MN. The love and dedication shared between you was so apparent and an inspiration to everyone who was fortunate enough to witness it.

All our love and support.

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