



Martin Robert Scalici

November 8, 2000 - May 4, 2022

Scalici, Martin Robert born November 8, 2000, passed away May 4, 2022, in Minneapolis, Minnesota at the age of 21.

As a young boy, it became apparent that Martin had great abilities for reading, art, mathematics, and science. It also became apparent that Martin would have difficulties in certain social situations-he was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

Despite the significant challenges autism posed, Martin excelled academically and in endeavors requiring technical expertise.

In his teens, Martin became an accomplished athlete and musician. He excelled in gymnastics; by age 16 he rose to USAG Level 8 and competed in local and regional competitions. Martin played soccer and basketball in high school and was an avid skateboarder.

Martin learned how to play guitar when he was younger but dramatically elevated his abilities as a teenager, learning complicated chord structures, lead solos, and improvisation at a highly technical level in multiple styles of music, including blues, rock, and jazz. Martin also wrote lyrics and recorded original songs, and was adept at recording techniques and engineering. He was a natural musician; although he took some lessons, he was mainly self-

taught and learned and played by ear. He worked on his craft daily often for hours on end to achieve his technical skills. He also learned to play bass guitar, keyboard, and drums. Martin played in numerous bands, including the jazz band in high school at St. Louis Park, and rock bands with friends.

Martin met many musicians and new friends in his senior year when he attended Perpich Arts High School in 2018-2019. Martin loved being able to practice music while at school, but, perhaps most importantly, he found a genuine group of friends. After years of struggling to fit in, the environment and students at Perpich was perfect for Martin. It was a comforting relief to his family to see Martin happy, growing with a network of friends who accepted him.

In the fall of 2019, Martin began the Construction Electrician program at Anoka Technical College. Martin's technical prowess made studying electricity easy, and he was an honor roll student. Unfortunately, in 2021 Martin was not able to finish his two-year program-he had become addicted to opioids, and his studies, and life, were derailed by the disease.

To be sure, Martin could be quirky, but that often was part of his appeal. He was a practical joker in his own offbeat way and brought laughter to his friends and family. Martin sometimes became obsessed to collect certain things-this driven focus is common in people on the autism spectrum. Most recently, this led him to own dozens of high-end raw denim jeans and jackets. Martin had a sense for style in his dress. Martin had a beautiful, alluring smile; with his handsome looks, intelligence, and talent, he was popular, even if he did not appreciate that fact.

Martin had a passion for fishing, and the outdoors. He and his family had many fishing trips to Northern Minnesota. Martin was always up for fishing with his brothers. He often kept fishing on the dock after hours of fishing on

the boat. Martin's persistence paid off-he often caught the most fish!

Martin also loved animals and animals loved him. The family pets (over the years, including cats, dogs, and a bird) always intrigued Martin and he shared affection with them.

Martin was unique, complex, and loving, and often misunderstood. Although he experienced the world differently than the non-neurologically divergent population, he was a vital part of it for all of us that were privileged to know him.

Martin's mother advocated for him fiercely and unconditionally all his life. Martin's father always reached out to Martin to lend his support. Martin's sister was his closest friend and confidant. He will be dearly missed by all his family and friends.

Preceded in death by grandfather Osvaldo Scalici; step-grandmother Mae Sheehy, her son, John Patrick Sheehy, her daughter, Nythar (Katherine) Sheehy, her grandson, Christopher Halle, and her son in law, Lyle Wittsack. Survived by his father Bruno Scalici (Anne Burnett); his mother Leah Sheehy and stepfather James Sheehy; sister Audrey-Anna Scalici; brother John Francis Sheehy; step brothers Emmett and Robert Sheehy; grandparents Robert and Marcia Erickson; grandmother Cristina Torres; cousins Grant and Curt Erickson, Gioia and Gloria Scalici; nephew Sergio Scalici; uncles Dave Erickson (Katherine), Giovanni Scalici (Katerina), and Guglielmo Scalici (Concetta); and many, many more cousins, aunts and uncles of his step-family.

Funeral service will be held on May 16th at 11:00 a.m. at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, with visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. with interment at

2:00p.m. at Lakewood Cemetery Memorial Mausoleum. Donations to Fraser Child and Family Center (<https://www.fraser.org/donate>) in lieu of flowers.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)
5025 Knox Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419

Memorial Service

MAY 16. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (So. Mpls)
5025 Knox Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419

Graveside Service

MAY 16. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)
3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Tribute Wall

EM

“ *A beautiful tribute. The kids would have loved to know Martin and play with him. Holding you in prayer.*

Emily - May 16, 2022 at 09:21 AM

GD

“ *From afar I send my greatest sympathies to Martin's family. As a friend of Bruno's when I lived in Minneapolis from 2006-2010, I had the pleasure of knowing Marin as well. My favorite moments personally were the occasions I got to take Martin to the Metrodome for Twins games. The loss of Marin to his family I can barely imagine but I certainly am sharing in the grief. Gary Drake*

Gary Drake - May 16, 2022 at 01:00 AM

BG

“ *I had the pleasure of being his soccer coach his senior year and he was absolutely amazing. He was so kind, fun, humble and had a very infectious personality. He had a winning goal from a come from behind victory against a higher division team. He was such a great player and man. We love him so much and was so lucky to experience that year with him.*



Beau Geer - May 15, 2022 at 11:57 PM

SS

“ *Wishing we could be there to comfort you as you grieve the loss of your beautiful Martin.
All our love, the Stoeters*

Sarah Stoeter - May 15, 2022 at 06:36 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Martin Robert Scalici.*



May 13, 2022 at 02:29 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Martin Robert Scalici.*



May 13, 2022 at 05:15 AM