

Shaun M. Zickafoos



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Class of 1988

It is with deep regret and sorrow that I must inform you of the death of Brother Shaun Zickafoos '88. Shaun died Wednesday, March 16, 2005 at his home from apparent pulmonary complications which led to coronary arrest. Shaun was on the phone with 911 when he died. It's my understanding that Shaun suffered from severe pulmonary problems for some time. Shaun was 40 years old.

The following is from Brother Tim Adams:

"As an explanation, in recent years Shaun had developed conditions which caused his breathing to sometimes be quite labored, requiring a host of medications, inhalers, nebulizers, etc.

While readying himself for work a rather severe breathing situation occurred, at which time he called 911. When they arrived at his house and broke in the door, they found him on the floor of his foyer, already gone. He had tried to unlatch the door for the squad and still had the phone in his hand. This time, the situation just physically overwhelmed him. Usually people in that condition develop cyanosis - I was told by those attending him that when they found him, he was an "unusually deep purple." I thought to myself, 'buddy, you have no idea how true that is....'

The Centerville Police called me at about 8:45am, trying to track down family contact information. My phone number was the last of several calls on his cell.

I spoke to Shaun Tuesday night just before 9pm, and he was looking forward to us meeting up Wed for a live music show in the Oregon District in Dayton. On Monday night he spent the night at my house in Columbus, with his brother Scott who will soon be moving to Tokyo. At that time he was in high spirits and seemed as healthy as normal for him. We had talked a lot that night about the usual Spring OU Fiji get together - I can't begin to express how much he was looking forward to seeing and spending time with everybody. The friendships he developed through the vehicle of Alpha Omega meant the world to him. You were all a great wellspring of pride, inspiration (sometimes consternation) and strength in his life.

Shaun's family did not specify a charitable organization in lieu of flowers, but I'm sure there would be no objection to that being our Chapter's Scholarship Fund".