



Nathan Michael Harpe

April 13, 1991 - September 28, 2025

Nathan Michael Harpe passed away suddenly and peacefully on September 28, 2025 in Corvallis, Oregon. Nathan was born April 13, 1991 in Plainwell, MI to Scott and Michelle Harpe of Portage, MI, who survive. He is also survived by his sister Lydia P. and her husband A.P. of Las Vegas, NV, and sister Abigail Harpe of Eugene, OR. Surviving grandparents are Marvin and Patricia Warnez of Shelby Township, MI. Surviving aunts and uncles are Michael Warnez of Shelby Township, MI, Robin and Daniel Nicholson of Rochester Hills, MI, Renee Turner of Norton Shores, MI, and Kristi Harpe of Muskegon, MI. Also surviving are 8 cousins, many of whom were very special to Nathan. Nathan was preceded in death by his grandparents Lawrence and Peggy Harpe and uncles Craig Harpe and Paul Turner.

Nathan spent a large part of his childhood growing up in Bangkok, Thailand with his parents and sisters. Nathan's compassion for those in need was evident early. He developed an interest in medicine and became well known for always carrying a backpack full of medical supplies just waiting for the opportunity to help someone in distress, which he did on more than one occasion. Nathan excelled early in his academic pursuits. He read at a fast speed at an early age and consumed books at a rapid rate. Weekly visits to the local library always included a significant number of books for Nathan. He was ahead of the curve on grasping and using emerging technology and enjoyed online group gaming and forums. He was a good writer with a quick

wit who always had an epic pun at the right time. Nathan was also blessed with a fantastic memory which he put to good use in school and in his work life.

Nathan graduated from high school as a homeschool student before studying at Western Michigan University. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2013. Nathan started his career at Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo, MI before moving to Florida in 2014 to work at Shands Hospital at the University of Florida. He held many fond memories of nurses there who took time to train him properly. Nathan developed a teaching spirit at Shands and mentored young nurses far and wide in his nursing career.

Nathan eventually relocated back to Michigan, bought a house, and built a farm with his long-term girlfriend. They had many dogs and cats, inside and outside. They also had many sheep and goats and their shepherding dogs. After working at Henry Ford Hospital in Jackson, MI, Nathan switched over to a travel nurse career and worked at many hospitals across lower Michigan. Nathan's years in Thailand gave him a sensitivity and love for colleagues and patients from countries outside the U.S. Nathan was a classic patient advocate and had no patience for workplace politics, poor doctoring, or overpaid CEOs. He received several Daisy Awards for nursing excellence as nominated by his grateful patients.

COVID brought several challenges into Nathan's life as he travelled and worked five or six 12-hour shifts per week for many years while commuting lengthy distances each day. Farm chores at both ends of the day complicated his life. Nathan cared deeply for his patients and was very distressed by the limitations placed on medical professionals during that time. These issues contributed to an aggravation of his mental health issues which plagued him from a young age. A move to Eugene, OR earlier this year to be near his beloved sister Abigail and start a new job was an attempt at a fresh start. This

ultimately proved unsuccessful, but he was able to enjoy many beautiful days in the Oregon forests with his sister. Most people who had the pleasure of knowing Nathan or working with him will be surprised at learning of his struggles because he was always upbeat, positive, and the first to volunteer to teach or help someone in need. Nathan leaves a legacy of deeply loving his friends and family. Nathan received and felt the love of many but often felt unworthy. His family wants to sincerely thank all of you who loved Nathan and showed him kindness over the years. We feel your pain and we grieve with you.

No public service will be held.

Tribute Wall



“ I didnt get enough time to really know Nathan, we were robbed of him too soon. You know those rare, sudden, effortless friendships that blossom out of nowhere? Thats what happened with him and I. I looked forward to the infrequent nights I'd get to partner with him on a difficult patient. He was an exceedingly kind soul; talented, caring, and a nerd through and through. He would spot me from across the icu and flag me down, looking stressed, just to lay an epic dad joke on me. I will miss you my friend, thank you for coming into my life, even for a little while.



Samantha Simpson - November 04, 2025 at 07:05 PM

CK

“ Growing up with Nathan as my cousin means I have many memories of spending Christmas, Thanksgiving and Easter together. Nathan would sing Christmas Carols like Joy to the World and knew all the verses by heart! While Nathan was younger than me he was reading a level (or two) ahead of me and was so intelligent. I'm so glad we got to celebrate grandpa's birthday together last year and take our famous staircase picture.



Cousin Kelsea - October 19, 2025 at 05:00 PM



“ It’s been a while since I’ve talked to Nathan, but to little kid me, I remembered him as *THE MOST* brilliant human ever!! He read the biggest stack of books and I admired how smart, witty, and intellectual he was. I remember learning he earned a perfect SAT score and was like omggggg he’s gonna go places and he DID!!!! I always followed his Facebook posts—his deep care for his patients and colleagues and how much I was able to see the beginning of his passions igniting when I was growing up. I remember he was the first to help my grandpa Clair when he broke his arm during badminton and whipped out a whole elaborate first aid kit in his backpack he always carried around. I was sad to hear Nathan was going to stop coming to Thailand, which I understood but I loved seeing him and truly having the FUNNNNNIEST relationship ever (please see the media attached of me calling him Pooh Bear lol what?) and his endearing “kiddo” he called me (sobs!). Every Songkran *TO THIS DAY* I think of Nathan and hope he’s having the best day. I know his spirit will continue to re-awaken in me in the Songkrans to come. Rest easy Nathan. Sending love to Scott, Michelle, Lydia and Abbi □□□



Charissa Cable - October 12, 2025 at 08:55 PM



“ Nathan was the kindest and most impactful nursing preceptor I ever had. Such a sweet, gentle, and caring spirit. I am heartbroken for his entire family and will think of him often with very fond memories. Praying fervently for the entire family and loved ones.

Aida Rawe - October 12, 2025 at 08:09 PM

SS

“ I don't have a memory but more of a feeling to share about Nate. Whenever I would arrive to the floor he would spring to life walking down the hall in his bouncing spirited way and say, "Thank goodness you made it!" Like me just being there was a big thing. That is just who Nate is and will always be in my memories. A feeling of being welcomed and appreciated, which I know he made many people feel. Thank you to his family for sharing his light with us. -Scarlet HF Jackson

Scarlet Shaffer - October 11, 2025 at 08:39 PM

MK

“ I wish I had gotten to know him better. I remember going over to help him with his motorcycle, and stood there the whole time, he had it all worked out down to the finest detail. I remember Abigail and my sister Annie making fake radio broadcasts on tape, good times

Matthew Kloosterman - October 10, 2025 at 12:50 PM

GA

“ When I was a brand new OT working at the hospital, Nate helped me feel comfortable and confident in my skills and was always a fearless advocate for his patients (and for therapy). I admired him so much and was sad when he moved on from HF Jackson. He was such a beautiful person and was my favorite nurse.

Gabrielle - October 09, 2025 at 10:39 PM

HH

Nate was an amazing human. I looked forward to working with him on 6T. Nate was forward thinking about an interdisciplinary team effort in caring for our highly acute care patients at Henry Ford Jackson. He was highly intellectual yet had the best bedside manner. Everyone in the room felt more at ease as he was a leader without arrogance and brought a calmness in the seriousness of patient bedside care. Nate the Great has been missed since the day he left HF Jackson. He will always be my favorite.

Heather Hause - October 10, 2025 at 05:11 PM

EL

“*Nate and I met at St. Joes (now Trinity Health) Ann Arbor. He was my go-to partner whenever things got tough. The one person I could count on to handle chaos with calm and a perfectly timed sarcastic comment. His humor carried us through countless difficult shifts, and his presence made even the hardest days feel lighter. I’ll miss his wit, his teamwork, and the way he could make everyone laugh when we needed it most. Rest easy, my friend. Work hasn’t been the same without you.*”

Ella - October 09, 2025 at 08:32 PM

JS

“*I worked with Nathan at Shands and adored him as everyone did. His quick wit, scrambled with intellect and sarcasm always humored me. Above all else he truly cared for his patients with every fiber of his being. It saddens me that his mind did not allow him to see the wonderful person he was. Fly high Nate Nate. -Joyce*”

Joyce Svorinich - October 08, 2025 at 09:54 PM

SA

“ I worked with Nathan at St. Joe’s in Ann Arbor. One specific memory I have is when I was pregnant and assigned to a particularly agitated patient. He had my back the entire day. It seems as though the second the patient would start to escalate, he was right there in the doorway. His calm, steady, lighthearted presence was always a welcomed relief in those situations. Even when he would show up covered in cat hair.

There are no words to express how much of a loss Nathan’s passing is. To his friends and family, to the nursing profession, to the world. But I hope that he’s found the peace he always deserved.

My deepest, sincerest condolences to the Harpe family.

Sarah - October 08, 2025 at 09:06 PM

NH

“ You were a wonderful friend, ever kind and helpful, full of wit and wisdom. You brightened and brought to tears others through your amazing stories, you made them groan and laugh through some absolutely dreadful puns, and you managed to lift others as they were struggling.

The world will be poorer, dimmer, without you.

I regret to have never gotten to meet in person, but even from afar you remained a steady and solid presence for me and many. With much love, and my most sincere condolences to your family.

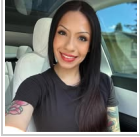
Nicolas Henriques - October 08, 2025 at 05:50 PM

VG

“ *I did not have the pleasure of meeting Nathan however have known Abigail for years. She is loving, caring and authentic and I'm sure Nathan shared those valued qualities. My deepest condolences to your family. Valerie Gansen* 💜



Valerie Gansen - October 08, 2025 at 01:58 PM



“ I met Nathan for the first time ~2 months ago. I was giving him report on the patient with a “different” story and complicated personality, so I knew it would take a special nurse to understand them. By the middle of report, I knew that Nathan was one of the good ones. The type that leads with empathy and compassion and would still be kind to those in situations that may not make the most sense to the general public. I talked to him a little about how it was interesting we were just now meeting, asking if he was a traveler. Found out he was staff and I told him we were lucky to have him. I got to see Nathan in passing a few times after, but never for long durations, as it was shift change. But his positivity and kind energy stood out. I remember thinking that the NOC crew was lucky to have him.

I had no idea that he was Abigail’s brother. But knowing that makes him make so much sense. Abigail is an amazing person, a good human through and through. While I didn’t get to know Nathan as well as I’ve known Abigail, that same essence came through. The type of person that can be the positive light in any situation. Not in a show-y, loud way. But through one-on-one interactions and meaningful conversations. The type of person that leaves others feeling better than they started. The type of person that has touched countless lives in both minor and major ways, but may never receive accolades for it. Good people like that are rare. Abigail is one of them. And, from what I briefly saw, Nathan was too.

The loss of Nathan is a tragedy. Words can’t convey my sympathy appropriately, but I am so sorry. Sending the Harpe family all the light and love from afar. □

Elena Alvarado - October 08, 2025 at 12:06 PM

RN

“ *It was always a joy to have Nathan at family gatherings. His quick wit and sense of humor always brought smiles to his cousins, aunts, uncles & grandparents. We miss him tremendously and will treasure these memories.*



Robin Nicholson - October 08, 2025 at 08:10 AM

LD

“ *Mr. Nathan, you will truly be missed because you were a bright and vivid person. Your presence brought so much joy to the unit. Your family of Unit 54 will truly miss you. We send our love and condolences to your family! Rest well, Mr. Nathan.*



Letricia Davis - October 08, 2025 at 07:25 AM

AD

“ I met Nathan on fan forum for warrior cats in the early 2000s. People would write stories together, and his writing was so fun and silly and inspiring to me as a kid. I remember being excited to read his posts. He was a really core part of the community and many of us looked up to him. I'm very happy to have known him in the heyday of the forum for the brief years that I did, and the now adult and still connected community of that forum has been chatting. We miss him and we celebrate him. My warmest regards to his family and loved ones. ❤️



Adele - October 08, 2025 at 12:08 AM

JS

“ I have a solitary, yet very positive and memorable experience with Nathan. In fact, the very photo accompanying Nathan's obituary page is from the only hike he and I shared.

It was to the iconic Blue Pool (Tamolitch Falls). His sister, Abigail, and two other friends were there, too. I was instantly drawn to him. Somewhat reserved, he let the conversation come to him, and when he spoke, his intelligence, humor and warmth shone through. We ended the day with me hopeful and eager to see him again--to share another outdoor adventure and further forge a close friendship. And it is with tremendous sadness that that opportunity will not come to be, but I'm forever grateful he and I at least shared a special day at one the most beautiful places on Earth.

Jefre Schmitz - October 07, 2025 at 11:48 PM

MC

“ Dear Harpe Family, I want to give my deepest condolences to each of you. Nathan was one of the most remarkable human beings I have ever known. We will never forget him.

Marcia Cudney

marcia cudney - October 07, 2025 at 08:00 PM

AD

“ Nathan was beloved by his family and always brought his quick wit and sense of humor to family gatherings. He could make all his cousins laugh (aunts & uncles too). He was a wonderful nephew, cousin & grandson. He will be greatly missed. We love you Nathan!



Aunt Robin & Uncle Dan - October 07, 2025 at 06:48 PM

NK

“ Nathan and I spent a couple of summers working together at Nagel's Gladiola Farm. Nathan was one of the only people in the community Kalamazoo who I could talk to about all the fantasy and scifi stuff I loved so much at the time. He was always immensely personable and friendly. I remember once after a long day he drove his motorcycle out through the warehouse on his way out of work, past everyone else who was also leaving. <3

Neil Kloosterman - October 07, 2025 at 06:48 PM

JN

“Nathan was one of those people who could not help but spread love wherever he went. Whether it be in person or online, his infectious laughter and love of silly little medical puns spread joy. I considered Nathan a very good friend despite the distance between us and will miss him terribly. He leaves behind a legacy that will endure amongst his friends and memories that will stand the test of time. Thank you, Nathan, for sharing your time on this earth with us.

Josh Novajosky - October 07, 2025 at 05:40 PM

BC

“We didn't know Nathan persay, but we knew his parents Scott and Michelle. We worked with them 1 summer in Thailand. They talked of their love of their family and of coarse that included Nathan. We pray that God would bring the whole family closed to each other and to God through this difficult time. Our deepest blessings go out to the whole Harpe family. God be with you.
Byron and Wendi Curtis

Byron and Wendi Curtis - October 07, 2025 at 04:04 PM

GK

“The Cassiday family has many fond memories of friendship and homeschool activities with the Harpe family. Michelle took Nathan, Lydia, and Abigail and our two girls to an Amish school supply store in Indiana but warned that they sometimes close without warning. We were disappointed when we pulled up because it was so dark in the store but then realized they had no electric lighting and were open! We thank God for our friends!



Gary & Kileen - October 07, 2025 at 02:23 PM

DW

I remember a time when Nathan was really into making Chainmail metal armour. Our sons borrowed the well-made, very heavy outfit. Nathan's creativity brought fun and learning to others. Hugs to all of you.

Deb Withee - October 07, 2025 at 10:14 PM

MD

“ *You were one of my oldest friends, and by far one of the kindest souls. I love you so very much. You were always funny, supportive and caring. I'll miss you forever. May the Force be with you my sweet Nathan* 💜



Meghan Doll - October 07, 2025 at 02:19 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Nathan!*



DeMoss-Durdan Funeral Home and Crematory - October 07, 2025 at 11:29 AM

LM

He always called me his big sister at work and always had so much love and respect for me. He was a good good man.

Lisa Mason - October 08, 2025 at 02:41 PM