



## Dale Thomas McCumber

November 13, 1976 - August 15, 2015

Dale Thomas McCumber was born on November 13, 1974, To his mother Cheryl Ann (Connelly) Graham and Walt Connelly in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. (He was later adopted by step-father Frank McCumber) . He was eagerly welcomed by his big sister Staci, who was caught weeks later with him slung over her shoulder trying to get him out of his crib to comfort him. He grew up in Ft. Collins, Colorado. He was a memorable character at Bauder and CLP Elementary schools. One morning he found a garter snake on the way to school and tucked it in his pocket. When it escaped in class his mother received one of her first calls from a teacher. Not surprisingly, he was always collecting critters. One summer his mother cleared out the collection and found toads, garter snakes, a few bugs and some crawdads living in a stinky bucket in his closet.

Junior High was spent at Lincoln, where he played both football and basketball. It was during a basketball game that he found out his first niece was on her way into the world. Most of the team accompanied him to the hospital to wish his sister well.

Dale attended Poudre High School, graduating in 1995. He played football, and their team made it to a few state championship playoffs while he was an Impala. He had a tight knit group of friends who stayed that way well into adulthood.

Dale lived big. He had a smile that will be remembered by all, a sense of humor that brightened any day, and a desire to do it all. He skateboarded,

rode motocross, loved 4-wheeling in the mountains and camping in the Cherokee Park area.

He was a master of working with his hands. He worked in construction, often framing or roofing, but learned to do just about anything that needed done. Near the end of his life he worked at Ace Hardware, using his experience and knowledge to help others.

In 2001 he was in a serious motorcycle accident. We were thankful to not lose him then, but the damage to his brain never left him. Brain injuries lead to struggles with personality, addiction, memory, managing daily life, and the suicide rates of people with injuries like his are shockingly high. He was too proud to let others know the struggle he endured, but he decided the struggle was too much on Saturday August 15th, 2015.

He will be forever missed by a huge number of friends, some he has held in his heart since childhood. His mother Cheryl Graham has lost a piece of her heart, and his big "sissy" Staci Herrick (husband Dan) will never stop longing for her "brubby". He was a hero to his niece Rebecca Herrick, and nephews Aaron Thomas Graham and Joshua Herrick. He was more than an uncle. He was a friend to them. Dale's Uncle Tom (Thomas Graham) was more than just his namesake. He was a mentor and father figure in many ways.

When Dale left his physical body he was greeted by his grandparents Harriett and Dale Graham who preceded him in death.

Please join his family in celebrating Dale on August 30, 2015 1-3pm. We will gather at the Lions Open Space pavilion, which is located at the intersection of Overland Trail and the Poudre River just outside LaPorte. Parking is limited, but you can also park at CLP elementary or junior high and walk along the beautiful trail. See if you can catch a garter snake like Dale used to in that area.

In lieu of flowers we invite you to consider a donation to help the family pay expenses at <http://www.gofundme.com/dalemccumber> . Any excess funds will be donated towards brain injury support.

The last line of his goodbye note was "Everyone's after me lucky charms!"

LOL”.

He would want you to laugh at that, and keep laughing for him.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG **30**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Lions Open Space Pavillion  
LaPorte, CO

# Tribute Wall



“ Dale Thomas McCumber

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ Mindy Kubo lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



Mindy Kubo - October 02, 2015 at 01:29 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jon Grimm - September 02, 2015 at 11:44 AM



“ Jon Grimm lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



Jon Grimm - September 02, 2015 at 11:43 AM

JG

“ Jon Grimm sent a virtual gift in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber

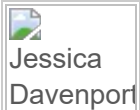


jon grimm - September 02, 2015 at 07:14 AM



“ I meet dale as a young girl. I was swept away by his charisma and contagious laughter. I have so many sweet memories of you. We danced, we laughed, we played, we confided. We stayed close for so many years. And before I left colorado we had a falling out. You just weren't the dale I knew. And we never spoke again. And now I think I understand why... .I'm so sorry I wasnt there for you my friend. I still have your# in my phone after all these years because I knew I could still reach out if I ever needed to. I knew you'd be there. I hope you have peace now my friend. I will always smile at the memories we made. And when I think of my little leprechaun.

Mary Redman-Rider - August 31, 2015 at 09:08 PM



“ So many times we do not see,  
That all of life is but a memory;  
Of days gone past, both bad and good,  
And so we dream, as dream we should.  
But one should always keep in mind  
That memory, is but a day behind.  
So live for today, with all its joy and sorrow;  
For today is the memory, we shall dream of tomorrow.  
~~~Jessica Davenport❤️

Jessica Davenport - August 31, 2015 at 05:05 PM



“ Last night my brother and I were going thru some old pics and I came across this old pic of me and my friend Dale Mccumber. In remembrance of him and to honor his life...today we went fishing!! My heart and mind will be with you all at the park tho! Rest Easy my lil leprechaun! Until we meet again...soar with Eagles and sleep amongst the Angels! -Jessica Davenport

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**Jessica Davenport** - August 31, 2015 at 04:17 PM



“ Brandy Wright lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



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**Brandy Wright** - August 30, 2015 at 09:59 PM



“ Jennifer Carmack lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



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**Jennifer Carmack** - August 30, 2015 at 09:47 PM

LJ

“ I was so sorry to hear about Dale today. I went to Lincoln and Poudre with him. He was a good friend and someone I could always depend on to share a smile or laugh with back then. We lost touch after high school but I would occasionally run into hi and catch up. I have so many fond memories with Dale too many to share here but I will always remember his great kindness to me and his wonderful smile forever. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

*"Dale I have no doubt that you are making my daughter Lauren laugh and smile in heaven as you did me for so many years here on earth and hope that I will see you again my friend. I know that you will be sorely missed."*

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**Lindsay Johnson-Athey** - August 30, 2015 at 09:15 PM

GF

“ Graham Family lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



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**Graham Family** - August 29, 2015 at 11:46 PM

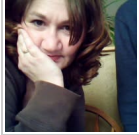
TF

“ The Graham Family lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



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**The Graham Family** - August 29, 2015 at 11:45 PM



“ Please each of you, join our family as we celebrate Dale on Sunday 8/30 from 1-3 pm.

*We will be at the Lions Open Space Pavilion, which can be found at the intersection of Overland Trail and the Poudre River.*

*Parking is limited so consider parking at the CLP schools and walk on the lively trail along the river.*

*We are celebrating, so please feel free to dress casually, comfortably and colorfully.*

*Some of us may play a round of Frisbee golf in the nature center course after we gather. Dale would really smile at that! Bring your disks if you want to throw.*

*We look forward to seeing so many of you, the family of those who love that redhead.*

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**Staci Herrick** - August 28, 2015 at 01:54 PM

JC

“ I lived around the corner from Dale in elementary school. He, Donny, Jesse and Jason were always out riding their bikes and playing in the neighborhood. There weren't a lot of girls my age nearby so I'd sometimes tag along with the four of them. I have so many memories of jumping on the trampoline at Jesse's house, playing football in backyards, riding bikes all the way to the mall. Dale and I have always stayed loosely in touch, we'd run into each other every now and then. We exchanged a handful of emails a few months ago, I wish I had known then how much he was struggling. He was a truly great guy, always smiling and he will be missed.

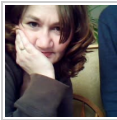
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**Janna Courter** - August 26, 2015 at 01:23 PM

C(

“ I dated Dale in High School. To this day he continues to be one of my favorite people. He had an amazing heart. Just being around him made me feel special and loved. I still smile when I think about how he talked about his sister and being an uncle. At a time when most young men would have been too cool for family, Dale talked about and adored his sister. And he was so proud to be an uncle and treasured those kids.  
It breaks my heart that such a special person, so loved, by so many, struggled with so much pain.  
Good bye good friend you will be sorely missed

Cindy Kelly (Hughes) - August 24, 2015 at 04:53 PM



Thank you so much for sharing that.

Staci Herrick - August 25, 2015 at 02:40 PM

SG

“ I remember having many good laughs with Dale back in high school. RIP buddy.



Steve Green - August 24, 2015 at 12:45 AM

RC

“ I miss those backroom days at ACE unloading freight. I wish things couldd have ended better. I wish I could have seen your pain more clearly & found a way to help. I wish.... Rest in peace, and, shine on you crazy diamond.

Rod Cerkoney - August 22, 2015 at 07:22 PM



“ 1 file added to the album JAA Football '88



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**Jason Miller** - August 22, 2015 at 05:47 PM

WS

“ You will be greatly missed friend. You always brought joy to others.

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**William Steffen** - August 21, 2015 at 10:47 PM

DR

“ Went Moore, Lincoln and Poudre with Dale. So many memories, lincoln football, lincoln and Poudre basketball, lots of hoops in dales driveway on gallop, bowling on Saturday morning league, shared birthdays at show biz, many days fishing and camping around chambers lake, riding our bikes all over town and up horsetooth, good guy, will miss Dale.

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**Donny Reeves** - August 21, 2015 at 10:37 PM

CB

“ Dale, we didn't talk as often as we should have, didn't hang out as much as we wanted, but I am a better person, a happier person, just to have had you in my life! You are missed by many, and truly cherished by a few! Rest now my brother, for your Spirit will be forever with us all.

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**Chris Buchwald** - August 21, 2015 at 07:57 AM

JG

“ I played football with Dale and he brought light to our lives! I was, and still am floored by his departure. It saddens me greatly and has brought up age old questions of life for me. Ultimately, the best anyone can take from this is to REALLY appreciate life, who you have, what you have. All these memes about choosing to be happy, with depression, I don't think you get to choose, because if you could, I know Dale would have chose a happy life.

Joshua Gray - August 20, 2015 at 10:01 PM



Amanda  
Mandy  
Hertzog

“ Amanda Mandy Hertzog lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



Amanda Mandy Hertzog - August 20, 2015 at 08:48 PM



“ Kathy Metcalf Maple lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



Kathy Metcalf Maple - August 20, 2015 at 04:47 PM

HB

“ Holli Beckwith lit a candle in memory of Dale Thomas McCumber



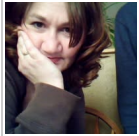
holli beckwith - August 20, 2015 at 03:02 PM

JS

“ I went to Junior high and high school With him. He had amazing smile very kind heart..He will be missed very much so God bless you Dale!!.. You are now in the lords loving arms.. Miss you

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**Jennifer Small** - August 20, 2015 at 01:41 PM



“ I remember Dale at around age 8. It was the era of short jogging shorts. However he insisted on wearing long socks pulled up over his knees still. So imagine his red hair, mischievous nature, huge smile, and a 3 inch wide tanned area between socks and shorts. Oh how I love my brubby.

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**Staci Herrick** - August 20, 2015 at 01:06 PM

K(

“ In high school I dated Dale and and was lucky enough to have him in my life. We enjoyed driving around in his big green truck, listening to buffalo soldier and laughing. I was honored to be his date at prom. Over the years we lost touch but within the last year I have seen him a couple of times and enjoyed our chats at Ace Hardware. He had touched many hearts and lives. I'm still processing this tragic news. I'm sending my thoughts and prayers to your family and hope you find comfort and peace in the days to come.

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**Kaydi Homme (Asa)** - August 20, 2015 at 09:04 AM