



Trevor Watson Eulogy

2 OCTOBER 2021

*"The flame that burns twice as bright burns half as long."
- Lao Tzu, Te Tao Ching -*

As friends and family we gather in the memory of Trevor Earl Watson. Together we can acknowledge the beauty of his life and the sorrow his passing brings. In sharing the joy and the pain together, we lessen the heartache and remember more clearly the gift he was to each and every one of us.

Trevor's love was the universal kind; it spread to all walks of life and he was adamant about always putting the needs of those he loved first. He was a social justice warrior, hated power without limits and anything that subjected others. Knowing him was learning how to love with integrity through his example. His caring heart touched us all and will continue to do so beyond the veil. We are all forever grateful.

Trevor was born on July 14th, 1985 to parents Ali and Bob in Ashland, Oregon. He was the second youngest brother to six siblings all of whom loved him dearly. Trevor was a quiet and mischievous boy that loved to smile and laugh with his siblings. We remember his curiosity always getting the best of him. As a young boy, there were many opportunities for unsupervised outdoor adventures, across a small-town network of friends and cousins. He had free range access to acres of woods, fields, streams, and tools. Hay forts were built, Power Wheels were stripped and turned into race cars, and makeshift home explosives were made. He swam in irrigation ditches, which were used as a transit route from one friend's house to the next. He rode horses, resulting in a broken arm. He once was electrocuted and projected from the rooftop onto the carport while holding a power cable! Endless hours were spent trying to defy the laws of gravity with hopes that this time would be his eureka! moment. He could convince anyone around to join in his efforts to jump from the barn roof top, or the edge of his house onto the trampoline; using a makeshift trash bag parachute to satisfy eager attempts to soar through the sky. All of which was inspired by his favorite movie, *Top Gun*, and his ambition to become an air force pilot.

As a young teenager in Middle School, Trevor was always immersed in sports, full of true grit, tenacity, and fearlessness. When asked about playing sports he would say, "I just had to catch the ball, make the goal, or jump the jump." Trevor was never scared to take a hit. He would take all the blows and go up against all the bigger guys with intensity and courage.

Trevor excelled at every sport he attempted. In his middle school days he played in a premier soccer league and during his track and field days he was “insane at the long jump.” He was also one of a few that played football for the Ashland Grizzlies Varsity team, in the playoffs his freshman year.

Even then, Trevor was a musician in the making. He started playing the guitar in middle school but by the time he reached high school he started mastering multiple instruments. He quickly realized his new direction in life. He started his professional music career at a young age and was signed to a record label in his early twenties. He played in many bands, most notably *The Better Half*, *The Heck*, *New Idea Society*, and *Golden Idols*, and toured 18 countries. Trevor spent most of his young adult life living in the Pacific Northwest and Brooklyn, New York. He loved the adventure of traveling and meeting new people and experiencing their culture! He absolutely fell in love with Spain!

When Trev moved back to Portland from New York, he jumped into a love affair with restoring and riding BMW motorcycles. His vintage 1975 BMW motorcycle “Rose” was his latest endeavor. “It’s an amazing way to travel and see the countryside” he would say. He inspired the same love for motorcycles in his brother Jared and helped him get his first real motorcycle. Through their shared admiration for their two wheeled machines they were able to reconnect after the many years Trevor was on the road. They would spend countless hours in their garage talking about life while working on and polishing their bikes.

Trevor then headed north to Seattle, Washington and became an audio engineer for Microsoft Production Studios. He brought style to the mundane, and charisma to the tedious nature of “corporate”. He was supported, loved, and cultivated an impact in the media space. Trevor was also the ultimate Oregon Ducks football fan and very proud of musical scores he created for the football team's commercials.

Trevor also developed a love for astrophotography and used what he would call “my rad telescope” to take breathtaking photographs, capturing Nebula and galaxy images. His enthusiasm for discovering space led him out into the darkness to find the light in our vast universe. A close friend said, “I think he loved the way stars and the night sky were an amazing combination of science and romance.” Trevor spent countless hours procuring images so that he could share their spectacular beauty with all of us.

Most recently Trevor revived a recording studio in Medford, Oregon, called Sullivan Studios. His reputation as a music producer drew bands from all over the world. Trevor reopened the studio for musicians in July of 2020. In addition to updating to digital recording from tape machines, he also renovated and redecorated the studio, giving it a cooler vibe, filling it with vintage posters, his sisters artwork, records, and photos, and in the words of his colleague, Josh Gross, “making it as much a clubhouse and shrine to Southern Oregon music of days past as it is a place to make more of it.” Trevor said, “I want this to be a space for self-expression”. He wanted to create a space and opportunity like he had, for youth to make music. His passion for ushering new music forward was palpable, and contagious. Trevor once said, “I love the magic of making something new that doesn’t exist, it’s exciting. Recording is an essential component of that. There’s a million techniques to use. How they come together can make all the difference. And it’s a great feeling when you’re recording something and everybody feels it all at once. Like. Yeah. That’s it.”

Trevor’s love for family was unwavering. He once wrote, “We are all close and weird and zany. We have the best times when we all get together...especially for kickball games!!” Trevor was able to coerce most family members to do his bidding, especially Jared. The two fabricated a wild story of a hit and run that spiraled and landed them in the local news. The result was a 13 year secret kept from the family, a master plan forged in brotherhood all to keep Trevor from taking a test at school that day.

Trevor would often push the people that he loved. Teaching his loved ones to live free, to love completely, and throw caution to the wind. “Be something real,” he would say. Trevor was so proud of his family. The family tree Melissa created for his tattoo was a strong symbol of his love and commitment to his family. He once said “Sister! Do you know that every-time I look at my left arm I see a drawing of yours! Not only does it signify our family but it’s always been a rune, like a sacred text of support, encouragement and a knowing that I am loved by the most amazing people on earth!”

Trevor also enjoyed game nights with friends and spending time with his dog Loki. He loved staying in on rainy days to read a good book or comic, watch a cheesy 80's movie like Legend or just hang with a buddy to cook great food and have great conversation. Trevor enjoyed the simple things. These were just some of his life's little pleasures. Trevor is such a unique person to describe. Friends and family would say he was mythical, rad, classy, talented, a great friend and comrade, welcoming, beautiful, inspiring, and awesome. Trevor is described best by the feeling he gave you when you were with him. It was a feeling of total acceptance and understanding. He simply knew who you were. He made a lasting impression on so many people, and had true friendships all around the world. He loved to be around those that shared in his passion for music, the universe and all things mystical. He was an amazing friend, and maintained deep and lasting connections with people from all the different phases of his life. His realness made him easy to connect to, and his depth made that connection so valuable.

Trevor made our lives richer and fuller. Now that he has passed, the gift of Trevor's life is here with us in many ways. He lives in our memories, our stories, and what all of us have become. There were wonderful aspects of our beloved brother's life, and he touched our lives in many ways. He always reminded us to honor our connection to ourselves and to each other. Even in the most ridiculous moments, his sense of humor brought people back into connection. Since his passing, there have been many synchronicities, far beyond coincidence, still forging new friendships, new pathways, and new growth. It seems as if he is working from the other side to keep us spiritually progressing, while remaining deeply rooted in that special kind of connection he championed so well.

Trevor's mantra will live on, reminding us of the way he lived his life, "Good Times all the Times"! His life was so full of love and laughter. We will all miss the long talks, embracing hugs and silly times that he gave to each and every one of us, just the same. He will be remembered as a wonderful brother, a great friend, a loving uncle, cousin, profound musician, a wizard of the moment, and a mystical magical human being. Trevor's life was precious here on this earth, but beyond this world there is peace for him among the stars.

We encourage you to share your special memories of Trevor in the years to come. In this way we will keep the gift of Trevor's life alive. Mahatma Gandhi said, "There are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will always be in my heart."

The man, the myth, the legend. Sing for us in the stars little brother and continue to shine brighter than ever before. Forever in peace.

We love you!