

Hannah Lockyer

From: Agenda
Subject: FW: Reese Meyer

From: Stephen Penfound [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 3:31 PM
To: Laura Hall <laura.hall@caledon.ca>
Subject: Reese Meyer

Hi Laura

I received an email from a family friend, Karen Martin-Robbins, suggesting I add my two cents to the possibility of naming the new outdoor ice rink in Caledon East ... Reese's Rink.

For the record, I admit to being somewhat biased so I may as well get my full disclosure over with at the get go. I am Jen Meyer's father and was fortunate to live a five minute walk from Reese's house for pretty much the entirety of his short life. This gave me ample opportunity to not just hear about his 'growing up' but to participate directly. And participate my wife, Wendy, and I did. We have no end of stories and memories of Reese starting soon after he was born. They had already gotten the first child jitters behind them and, as Reese was just such an easy little guy, we had many an evening at our house looking after Avalon and Reese.

We enjoyed the cottage, adventures in the badlands, any number of parties, dinners out, taking him to and from school, school concerts, piano, bass and of course his years with the Hawks. What a beautiful skater ... I can still see him. I often thought he could skate better backwards than forwards!

I was at Sick Kid's the night the Doctor asked me about our family's history of cancer. I knew that night ... Jen some days later. As for Reese ... he kept trying to the end. I will always marvel at his bravery, his acceptance ... he never once said 'why me'. He set the bar so high ... I can't even see it.

He asked me to build him a set of stairs so that he could get into the lake that last summer. He asked me to build him a railing as he was having trouble managing the stairs to the driveway. He used them both once. He sent a text thanking me for each. He was always so polite, so appreciative.

I've lost grandparents, parents, family, friends ... but never a grandchild. I thought the worst days would be the anniversaries ... Christmas, birthday, end of school, start of school, Thanksgiving, change of seasons ... but I was wrong as it's every day. Pictures pop up on my phone courtesy of Amazon or Apple or Google. I thought of scrapping all those apps but, as time progressed, I now look forward to what memory is going to appear today. Maybe there is some progress after all.

So, if you want to name a rink after my grandson ... please do as he was one helluva kid. He had a great future. The sky was the limit. And he would appreciate it!

I'm not sure if you ever met him but I'll share today's photo with you. May 21, 2015 ... the first time he rode his bike over to our house on his own. And this year I was going to help him learn to drive, just as I did for Avalon. You sure have to grab the moment.

Thanks Laura,

Stephen

