



## Mr. Ryan Duran Turney

June 18, 1997 - September 23, 2018

Ryan Duran Turney, 21, passed away Sunday, September 23, 2018, in Hanoi, Vietnam. He was born on June 18, 1997, to Eric and Crystal Turney.

Ryan adored his younger sister, Anne Marie Turney, and cherished his grandparents, Stuart and Dolores Ahrens of Greensboro, N.C., and the late Jack Turney and Gwen Turney Tuchek (and her late second husband Richard Tuchek), of Salisbury, N.C.

His love extended to his aunts and uncles, Greg and Kathy Turney, and John and Kerry Ahrens. He equally treasured the time spent with his cousins Holly Turney Carpenter, Justin Turney, Jackson Turney, Caroline Ahrens and Hunter Ahrens. Simply said, Ryan loved and was loved by many more aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and devoted friends.

Ryan attended Beverly Hills Elementary, Shive Elementary, and China Grove Middle schools. He graduated with honors from Carson High School in 2015. While at Carson, Ryan proudly served as student body president and swam on the 200-meter freestyle relay that went to the State Championship in 2014. Ryan continued his education at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, where he was a senior. By majoring in International Studies, Ryan intended to use his degree, his gift of communication and his passion for travel to make a difference in the world. This semester, he was studying

abroad in Bangkok, Thailand.

Ryan had an insatiable desire to see the world and learn about other cultures, both domestically and abroad. He traveled to 48 states, as well as five continents. From Iceland to Australia and from the Galapagos Islands to the Great Wall of China, his travels ignited a fire in his heart for human rights and the humane treatment of animals. This fire now burns bright with all those who remain behind to cherish his memory and be inspired to live their best life, just as Ryan did.

We will celebrate Ryan's life at the Gold Hill Historic Park, 35 St. Stephens Church Rd, Gold Hill, NC 28071 on Sunday, September 30, 2018 at 2 p.m.

Ryan's passing will not be in vain. The doctors believe methanol poisoning may have caused his death. We are learning that this is a silent epidemic in Southeast Asia and Mexico. We hope by sharing this and bringing awareness to it, someone else's life might be saved.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Ryan's memory to the Clooney Foundation for Justice, the charity chosen by the Turney family to reflect Ryan's passion for social justice work. There is also an organization dedicated to spreading awareness, named for a young man who died: <http://liamcharity.com>. They have partnered with the Methanol Industry and a hospital in Hanoi to develop an education program in Vietnam. A scholarship in his name will be established soon and will also accept contributions in his memory.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **30**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Gold Hill Historic Park  
35 St. Stephens ChurchRd.  
Gold Hill, NC 28071

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ Please accept my condolences on the loss of your loved one. I find great comfort in the promises at Isaiah 25:8: “He will actually swallow up death forever and he will wipe the tears from all faces”.

*Grief over the loss of a loved one is normal. Jesus gave way to tears at the death of his friend Lazarus. (John 11:35)*

*I hope these few words about the hope of the resurrection bring you comfort and hope in your time of grief.*

*Candy Wood  
Liberty, NC*

---

**Candy Wood** - October 06, 2018 at 11:17 AM

LL

“ I will forever remember Ryan as a hardworking, sweet, smart, and happy young man. The world has lost a precious jewel with the real potential to change the world. Let's pray that his passing will save others from a similar tragedy. I would also like to send my love and prayers to his family, especially to his mom with whom I had the honor of working with for several years.

---

**Lourdes LeBrun** - October 06, 2018 at 10:51 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Ryan Duran Turney.



---

September 29, 2018 at 10:01 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mr. Ryan Duran Turney.*



---

September 28, 2018 at 05:47 PM



“ *I am at a loss for words, my heart is breaking for all the family..Love has no bounds, and I know this this young man was well Loved and the Joy of his family..He is now with the Master and one day we will all rejoice with him.*

*Love in Christ,  
Betty Carmichael*

---

**Betty Carmichael** - September 28, 2018 at 08:03 AM



*Mrs Turney, my thoughts and prayers are always with you, I do not know the pain of losing a child but I do know the pain of losing a sister, wi will continue to pray for you all Holly Bost*

---

**Holly Bosy** - October 06, 2018 at 08:30 AM



“ *I met Ryan when he came here to meet with my granddaughter Jordy, and saw him many times after that. He was a great person. Everyone who knew him loved him. Please accept my sincere sympathy for you in your sorrow. He will be missed! 💕 Brenda MORRIS.*

---

**Brenda Morris** - September 27, 2018 at 09:22 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Ryan Duran Turney.*



---

September 27, 2018 at 08:42 PM



“ *I did not have the great pleasure of meeting my great Nephew but what I know he was a great person to everyone and the people around him my condolences go to all of his family he will be in heaven with family and friends holding hands with Ryan to help lead the way RIP*



---

**Dennis Duran** - September 27, 2018 at 07:22 PM



“ *We were introduced to Ryan some years ago by our grandson Zachary Hesse. Ryan made such a great first impression. We saw him a couple more times when he and Zachary got together. He was such a great young man. We are so sorry for your family and the loss that all who knew Ryan will feel.*

*Donna & Bill Smith*

---

**Donna Smith** - September 27, 2018 at 11:20 AM