

This was written by Sara Bell, a former girlfriend and long time friend of Sean and sent to us a couple days after his death.



You've got a smile so bright.....

Most of you didn't know Sean Travis but I know that if you did you would have loved him every bit as much as I do and always will.

He was one of my favorite people in the world. Someone I knew that I would stay in touch with forever and someone I would go to the ends of the earth for.

I met him when I was 21 and fell in love with his beautiful smile and happy-go-lucky personality. We became inseparable. We were best friends. We both had just discovered Phish and were equally obsessed with hearing and seeing as much of this band as we could. When Phish or the Dead weren't touring, we would go down to his parents house at Lake Anna and spend 3 days just copying live music so we could get a collection going.

Sean was so funny. A bunch of us went bowling one night and Sean showed up a little late...but when he showed up he was all decked out in a homemade bowling suit. He had gone home, gotten this silly 80's jacket, cut out paper bowling pins and the letters "Ace" and had glued them to the back of it. He then put about 5 fake rusty gold chains around his neck, some tight pants and showed up, ready to bowl.



Sean had “Spank Me” on his license plate for years. He would always go out of his way to make people laugh. There was a stray cat that lived in my neighborhood that I always fed and Sean insisted on naming him Larry Bigspender. He even went so far as to order me a tag for the cat with this name on it. Fortunately the cat ended up having an owner so he didn’t end up with this silly name. I still have the tag though.

He loved funny t-shirts. He would wear anything. His favorite was one I picked up at the old Village Diner in Sterling (the place eventually went under for child pornography) that said “Sterling” on it with a big fancy crest. Like Sterling was this upscale hot spot.

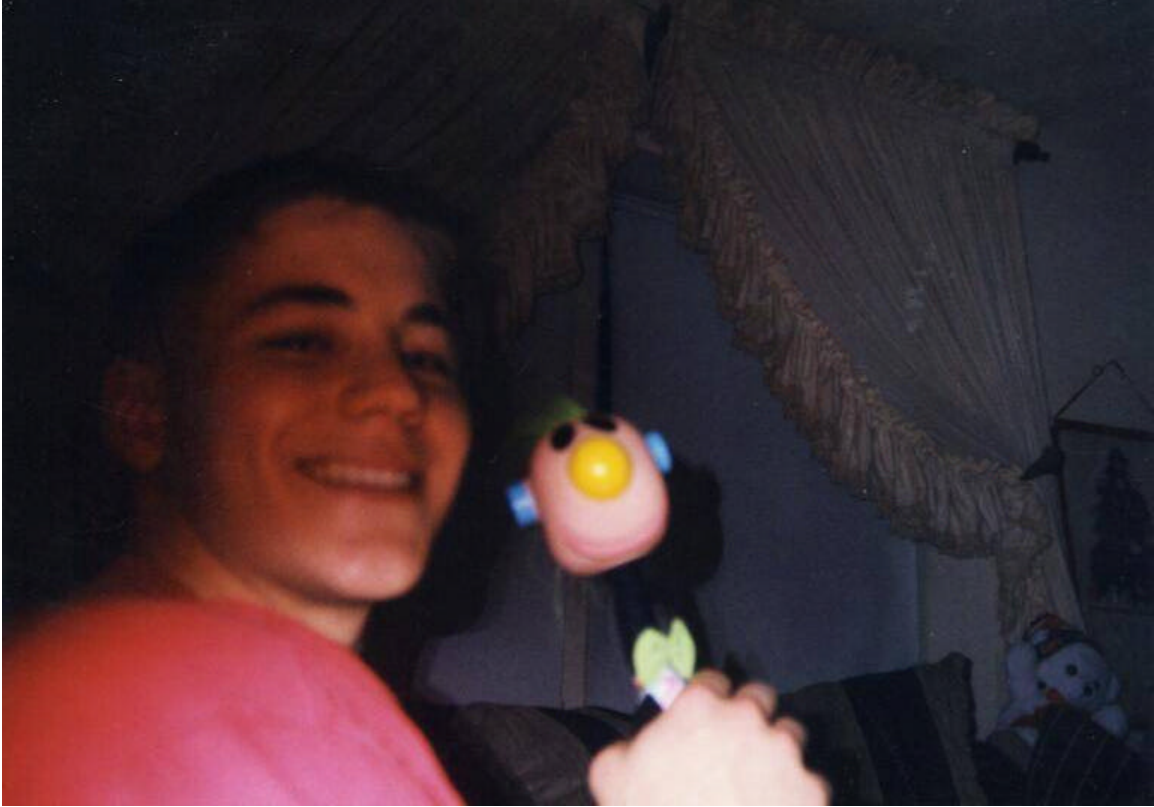
A few years ago Shawn Milletary and I went down to see him in Blacksburg and to pick him up for a Phish show in Raleigh. We were in his house and I opened his fridge and laughed because there were about 8000 pieces of cheese in it. Hey Sean-you like cheese, eh? His plan was to sell grilled cheese sandwiches at the Phish show. The only problem was that in preparation he had pre-buttered about 5 loaves of bread. By the time we got to the Phish show all of the bread had turned to squishy dough so instead of him getting upset, he decided that we would have a dough fight in the parking lot of a gas station. Needless to say, the ground at the gas station ended up covered with dough and cheese.



I could go on and on but honestly, my mind isn't at it's best right now and I'll be remembering new things for a long time. Sean moved to Colorado a few years ago and we managed to keep in touch and catch up with each other every year or so. Catching up with Sean...whether it had been a year or two...the minute we saw each other it was as if we'd never left each other's side. He always had the nicest and most welcoming friends too-Christy, Maitlan....Sean knew how to pick em.

Wednesday was Seans 31st birthday. He called me on Tuesday because he, his girlfriend Lindsay and Michael were doing the final Phish run but didn't have tickets to the Camden show. They were short on cash and tickets were selling for outrageous prices so I tried to find them cheaper tickets but couldn't. Wednesday at about 5 am I got a call from Sean saying that he had run into some good luck and for me to please help find them tickets, regardless of price. It turns out he had randomly bumped into someone he knew who had borrowed \$1000 from him a few years ago who paid him back right then and there...totally unexpected. I was so excited to see them that I got up right then and went online with a mission to get these guys to the show. I fought like crazy online and got them for them. I cannot tell you how excited I was that I was going to get to see Sean Travis again. If it had come down to it, I would have paid for the tickets myself.

The show was great. We hung out and laughed and told old stories and listened to music and hugged all night long after it. Sean was very happy. He was in love with a great girl and was seeing Phish, his favorite band in the world. He was living in Breckenridge and had made many new friends and was getting to snowboard as much as his heart desired. The vibe in the room was one of good friends and much love. I knew that Michael and Lindsay loved us a lot too and we loved them. Sean told old stories about us and I just knew that he was proud to be my friend. They loved TJ and I was proud that to show TJ what great friends I had. There was nothing but good, pure energy in that room.



Sean and Lindsay wanted to stay. We encouraged them to stay with us but they were supposed to meet friends and go to Coventry and were afraid that if they waited too long they would be in hours of traffic. I made sure to tell Sean that I loved him and to hug him a lot. I told him that it was an honor to have seen my first and last Phish shows with him.

We called them the next day to see how they were doing and they were fine. I talked to Michael and he told me again how much fun he'd had with us. Lindsay was yelling in the background "We love you guys!"

I just want all of you to know that these three wonderful people smiled and laughed and were shown a lot of love for the last night of their lives.

I truly believe that it was divine intervention that not only let me say goodbye properly to one of the greatest people I have ever met and let them know how much I really loved them but to make sure that their last night was magical. We lost some good folks. Folks who had a lot more life in them. Folks who made the world a better place just because they existed.

I bought Sean another shirt once, at the Dead in Philly- he still wore it.....it said.....

Standing on the moon, with nothing left to do



A lovely view of heaven, but I'd rather be with you

Goodbye Sean, Lindsay and Michael. I know it's early but we'll soon see you in Terrapin.