

Benson James Krause

February 4, 1978 - January 22, 2008



Benson James Krause was born on a snowy day, February 4th, 1978. Family lore has it that he was born with sweat on his nose, and he remained a bit sensitive to hot weather throughout his life. He was the fifth child of James and Benja Krause, and one of four brothers in the family. Gregarious and hilarious from an early age, Benson was known for such antics as circulating fellowship dinners at church to collect people's autographs. Throughout his life, his sense of humor was a delight to family and friends. He had a way of being funny without realizing he was being funny.

Benson was homeschooled for most of his education, which only seemed to encourage his natural inventiveness and creativity — writing songs, acting and directing video of silly commercials and newscasts, drawing, being comical and even creating his own doorbell for his bedroom. Benson was also known for his sensitivity toward others, a trait that often engendered a kinder, gentler view of things among those who knew him.

Benson was an extremely talented and accomplished songwriter, musician and performer. During his teenaged years, he formed bands known as The Sweet Anchovies and The Third Half. After developing friendships with other young musicians in his neighborhood he formed a band called Ophur, in which he was the lead vocalist. They played in a variety of venues, from annual local festivals to The House of Blues in Chicago and The Metro, and received air play on a number of radio stations, enjoying a large, loyal following.

In 2005, Benson married, and the following spring, he welcomed his child Julian into his life. He was a devoted and tender father to his son. Through a number of hardships and personal struggles in the past two years, he remained extremely dedicated to meeting his son's needs and strove to be there for Julian even under difficult and painful circumstances.

Benson is preceded in death by his mother, Benja Krause. He is survived by his son, Julian Fee Krause; by his father, James Krause; and by his siblings: Bess Cravy, Michael Krause, Lelia Lindhorst, Elasa Krause, Katie Rose Longbons, Jesse Krause and Timothy Krause.









































