



Mark Andrew Neel

August 21, 1967 - February 7, 2018

Feb 8, 2018 at 4:45 am, we lost our the youngest brother, Mark Andrew Neel 8/21/67 - 2/7/18.

Mark suffered from an extremely rare condition, Hyper IgE (Job's Syndrome), which presented itself as severe asthma and a host of accompanying symptoms and side effects of the drugs that worked to keep him alive. He spent much of his adult life in pain and out of breath. He would often say, "I would rather live like this, then the alternative." We never heard him complain. Never. Not one time.

He was a character. Highly intelligent, uniquely curious about the natural world and, perhaps, slightly obsessed with the wholly UN-natural world. (Ask the childhood dolls of our youngest sister about their dismemberment, special effects dressings and subsequent appearance in more than one All Hallow's Eve haunted house).

We are in shock. We knew Mark had outlived his life expectancy. But, frankly, every time we visited and asked how he was doing, his joke was always "They haven't killed me yet!" followed by a chuckle. Indeed, Mark cheated death more times than we can count over the last couple of decades. So much so that, yes, we are in shock.

But we are also grateful. Whatever behind the scenes machinations, direct

dealings with the underworld, or potions brewing in the woodshed he had going on, we are grateful he managed to hang around these last several years. And, we are extraordinarily grateful that in the last couple of weeks he enjoyed our monthly family dinner, he attended a concert with his brother Danny, was taken out shooting with some old family friends; Brian and Allan, and just 5 days ago, jammed with his old band buddies Corey, Banjo and Kelly. Last summer, he and Lacey K ventured to Oregon as the Solar System celebrated his 50th birthday with the FIRST EVER Solar Eclipse with a path of totality traversing the United States. Twenty years ago, we couldn't have imagined this would be. Mother Nature was cruel to his body, but not his spirit. And, when it was finally his time, she took him quickly. For this, we are grateful.

May you be free from pain and hitching a ride with Dad and Finnigan on that Tesla orbiting the sun.

“Flights of Angels” dear brother. But there's no resting for you. We expect you're busy exploring the secrets of the universe. Please, no spoilers. Save them for when we meet again...

Grief never ends, but it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay.
Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith...
It is the price of love.

Mark was preceded in death by his father, John Michael Neel and sister, Shannon Lee Neel.

Mark is survived by his loving mother, Diane Neel, significant other, Lacy Katryniuk, brothers: Mike (Lisamae) Neel, Danny Neel of Nipomo, Ca., sisters: Kristen (Randy) Roberts of Huntington Beach, Ca., Kerry (Chris May) of Jackson Heights, NY; nieces: Kanani, Kamaile, Juls Neel and Alanna

Tufuga-Neel of Nipomo, Ca., Shannon and Kennedy May of Jackson Heights, NY and nephews: Michael Neel of Valley Village, Ca., and Glen Tufuga-Neel of Orcutt, Ca., his Aunts Sharon McCullough and Sherry Neild of Stoneham, Ma.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 17. 10:30 AM (PT)

Reis Family Mortuary and Crematory
991 Nipomo Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(805) 544-7400
k.reis1958@gmail.com
<https://www.reisfamilymortuary.net/>

Tribute Wall

LP

“ *Lucy Pintouri-Godwin lit a candle in memory of Mark Andrew Neel*



Lucy Pintouri-Godwin - February 28, 2018 at 04:00 PM

LP

Dearest Mark....I am heart broken....but no more suffering for you now sweet friend. We are forever a Thespian troop #648 family. You always called me mom of our group. So many funny memoriesspecial ones when we all went to a Thespian Conference....oh it was a blast! Your laughter and smile came from your beautiful soul. Till we meet again.....all my love and friendship...Lucy...

Lucy Pintouri-Godwin - February 28, 2018 at 04:03 PM

MN

“ *Mark was always the weird uncle, because he reminded me of a mad scientist. Every time I would see him, he would hand me a batch of homemade fireworks or a customized crossbow. It was really hard to be around him and not be infected by his curiosity.*

Michael Neel - February 16, 2018 at 05:19 PM



“ 14 files added to the album Memories Album



Reis Family Mortuary & Crematory - February 13, 2018 at 02:03 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark Andrew Neel.



February 09, 2018 at 01:10 PM



“ Sharing love & grief for each family member. You'll be remembered during these difficult days. Much love, Betty Bassuk

Betty Bassuk - February 08, 2018 at 11:37 PM



“ Thank you so much for being the most inspirational and intelligent Uncle I could ask for. You will be missed. Light some fireworks in heaven. 💕💕



Juls Neel - February 08, 2018 at 02:10 PM



“ *RIP Uncle Mark. Thank you for teaching me things about space and science and making homemade fireworks and for all your crazy experiments in the shed. And thank you for all those nights outside under the stars looking thru the giant telescope and the mini bow and arrow lessons! Love and miss you, but now you can go have fun with Grandpa and Finnigan up there fishing and make sure to catch that rocket going to mars!*



Kanani Neel - February 08, 2018 at 12:55 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Reis Family Mortuary & Crematory - February 08, 2018 at 10:18 AM