

CROSSED THE BAR

John Mix Gardner Meyer

May 26, 2016

Dearest friends,

Our family wanted you to know of the sad passing of our beloved Mix. He died Thursday morning at the age of 23 after a short but full life living with a difficult heart disease.

Many of you met him in his younger years, when he was able to travel from time to time to Charlevoix. He loved the cottage, the beach and the Belvedere's beautiful and open grounds. It was a place of true and rare freedom for him.

One of his last summers, the Bisbee's lent their golf cart so he could scoot around with his oxygen tanks. He drove with typical zest and abandon around the dirt paths of our little woods, he and his sister Brooke pretending that the old beech trees were home to mysterious spirits who could be talked to during the lambent hours of early evening.

He could not attend school after Grade 7 but educated himself at home. The internet was his salvation and wider world. He taught himself to write by blogging about video games and, after a time, won a popular internship at Wired. Unencumbered with homework and schooling, he became the magazine's youngest writer and, eventually, a contributing editor whose game reviews could make or break companies.

More recently, he became a passionate food lover and critic, writing hundreds of formal and informal food and restaurant reviews in the Washington area. Chefs loved and feared him in equal measure. He was full of love for life, his family and friends. He who brought an irreplaceable light into the lives of so many will be missed beyond words.

A Washington Post obituary will appear next week.

A wake is scheduled for Thursday evening, June 2nd, at the Desmaine Funeral Home in Alexandria, Virginia. The memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday June 4th at Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church on Sherwood Hall Lane.

Make a Wish Foundation gave Mix his first laptop in the early days of the internet. He had wished for a happy life, with dimension, and he got it. In lieu of flowers, please help another child live his or her wish.

In sorrow and with best wishes to all, the family of John Mix: Tatiana, Brooke, Nicholas, Jennifer, Suzanne and Michael.