



Ryan Andrew Cunningham

February 26, 1985 - July 25, 2016

Ryan Andrew Cunningham, 31, formerly of LaFayette, died unexpectedly on Monday, July 25, 2016, following a brief medical illness at his home in Germantown, MD.

Ryan was a 2003 graduate of LaFayette High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Environmental Design with an Architecture Minor from SUNY at Buffalo and his Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from Pratt Institute, NYC. He was employed as a Sustainability Performance Analyst with Sodexo in Gaithersburg, MD.

Ryan treasured time spent with his family and friends. He was easy to meet. His bright smile and inviting personality led to the creation of many deep friendships in high school, college, graduate school and his work places. He cared passionately about the environment, sustainability and the world at large. He was a problem solver at heart; he truly loved to engage people on issues they were passionate about and help them turn around their problems with a creative solution. He loved to work hard and play harder. He was a gourmet cook, ADK and AT hiker, avid board game player, camper, stargazer and satellite watcher. He was in the advanced stages of creating and producing a board game called "Leading Mars". He will be missed for his big smile, warm hugs, love, friendship and passion for exploring the woods, exploring the stars and caring for the world around him.

Ryan is survived by his parents, Mr. Andrew and Dr. Lynn Handy Cunningham of LaFayette, NY; a brother, Mr. Shaun (Mr. Brandon Patterson) Cunningham of Beacon, NY; maternal grandparents, Mr. Gary and Mrs. Joanne Handy of Tully, NY; paternal grandparents, Dr. David and Mrs. Janet Cunningham of Puslinch, Ontario, Canada; several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Calling hours will be from 1:00 to 4:00 PM on Sunday, July 31, 2016, at Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home, Inc., 2584 Field Ln., LaFayette, NY 13084. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 AM, on Monday, August 1, 2016, in the Church of the Nativity at St. Joseph's, Route 20, LaFayette, NY 13084.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the National Arbor Day Foundation, www.arborday.org, or the local Sierra Club, sierraclub.org/atlantic/iroquois.

Final burial will be at the convenience of the family.

To express sympathy please visit www.ballweg-lunsford.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ryan Andrew Cunningham*



Ballweg & Lunsford Funeral Home - July 25, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *I'm so sorry to just now hear of his passing. I knew Ryan quite a few years ago when he lived in NYC. He was such a wonderful person and had a positive spirit. I remember he bought some tree seeds to plant in central park so that after he passed, his legacy of helping the earth would continue. I hope to see that tree one day in Central Park standing strong like he was. My thoughts and condolences are with you and your family.*

John

John Bodenschatz - May 17, 2017 at 02:21 PM



Lynn
Cunning

Thank you, John, for your kind words. Condolences to you as well....we continue to work through the loss of our son who had so much to share with the world. We had no idea that Ryan bought tree seed to plant in Central Park. He was such a good planner! If you have any more details, please share. I am on FB and you can message privately there. The Arbor Day foundation has over 2000 trees planted in his memory at this point, dedicated in Ryan's honor. We so miss him, his big smile and even bigger hugs. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We love hearing stories of Ryan's past...and his legacies. I would love to know more about the Central Park story. Thank you! 10months tomorrow.....

Lynn Cunningham - May 24, 2017 at 11:24 PM



“ Dear Dr and Mrs. Cunningham, I only just learned of the death of your son. From his photo and the remarks of those who knew him, he was a beautiful, joyful, kind person. I am so very sorry for your loss. Doris Wright

September 19, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ I have great memories of Ryan. As he was one of many students in the City & Regional Planning program, I did not know him as a friend but as a colleague of sorts. Yet his personality shown through: he was so generous, giving, happy, affirmative, sincere, and dedicated. A model of what we would hope for from the next generation.

I can't imagine what grief you are dealing with. My wife lost her brother when he was 17. I saw the aftermath when we met two years later. The grief remains; and anger, too. I wish you only the best and trust that as the acorn does not fall far from the tree.

John Shapiro, professor, Pratt Insitute

August 13, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts were are always with you. Rich & Lisa temple

Candle of Peace - August 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Cunningham and Family,
We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Bill and Kelley Peri

August 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. I worked with Ryan at Sodexo at Boeing and he was a great person. Always available to provide advice when I really needed it. I will miss him. My thoughts and condolences are with you and your family.

August 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Dr. Cunningham. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Barb and Chuck Winters

Candle of Love - August 01, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Ryan as his teacher at LaFayette during his senior year, and he was such a positive, intelligent and pleasant young man. I remember how engaged he was with class and with learning, and I am greatly saddened by this tragic news. You all have my deepest condolences. Jeff Goldstein

July 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ My daughter, Michele Wood became great friends with Ryan and Amanda at Univ of Buffalo. They had many fun times together at U B, Syracuse and most recently in Maryland. Michele would tell me fun things they would do together from camping to games nights and even a daily lunchtime walk around the pond between their work buildings. He will be greatly missed by many.

July 31, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Cunningham and family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Please accept our deepest sympathy for your loss. David and Nancy Nivison

July 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Cunningham and family,

Please accept our deepest sympathies -- we can only imagine how difficult this is. I think it was only at my last appointment with you that I marveled that you had adult children!! (M.F. Stuck)

Mary Frances Stuck
Mary Catherine Ware

Forget Me Nots - July 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ I met Ryan through board gaming when I first moved to Arlington a year ago. He was an immediately kind, funny, and gentle person, and I enjoyed running into him at board gaming events several times a month. He will be deeply missed.

Board Games - July 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Thinking of you. Diane Williams

July 30, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ I met Ryan through board gaming. He was a bright welcoming presence to a girl intimidated with meeting people from the Internet. He was warm and welcoming, a challenging opponent, and always ended the game in time for Game of Thrones. He will be missed.

July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ From Javier all good people gone too soon
May Ryan rest in heaven

Daisies - July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

B2

“ We are deeply saddened to hear of Ryan’s passing and were fortunate enough to work with Ryan from 2013-2015. Ryan joined the Aramark at Boeing team as a Facilities Planner in Boeing South Carolina in February 2013. We got to know him more when he accepted a position with Boeing’s offices in Northern Virginia in October 2013. Each day we saw his passion, dedication, and diligence in all projects that he took on. Ryan supported several of Boeing’s planning and real estate efforts and was key member to the Long Bridge relocation team in October 2014, assisting with the move-in of 500 Boeing employees into a brand new facility. Ryan left the Sodexo account at Boeing in November 2015 to take on his new and exciting role with Sodexo Corporate but his contributions to the team here are still ongoing and will for years to come. Whether it’s the several processes and procedures he helped to develop and improve, or his ambition and drive to get a task done the right way the first time, he has left his mark with his friends at Boeing. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Ryan’s family and loved ones – he will be missed.

Boeing Long Bridge Relocation Team, October 2014 - July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. Chuck Feiszli

July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BG

“It's hard for me to believe that he's gone. He was so full of enthusiasm for his new job, his new apartment, and the game he was designing. Ryan and I were on the organizing team of a board-game group in Virginia, and not only was he a splendid colleague (and opponent) but one of the group members whom I had come to regard as a friend. Just this morning I was wondering why he hadn't responded to a message I sent him about *Tales of the Arabian Nights*, one of our favorite games that we were planning to play this Sunday. He will be sorely missed by myself and everyone else in the group.

PS: I left him the Board Games symbol because there's no Robe of Honor available, which is what I really wanted to place here. Those of you who love the Arabian Nights game as much as he and I did will understand.

Board Games - July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



We are so sorry for your loss. So many months later we are still mourning and trying to wrap our hearts around what has happened. It's not easy for us. Thank you very much for your kind words. Ryan was truly appreciated and loved. He built an amazing community of love around himself and we continue to feel those hugs. Thank you.

Lynn Cunningham - May 24, 2017 at 11:34 PM

BG

“I am saddened by his loss. He was a gracious and challenging board game opponent.

Board Games - July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CP

“ I had the good fortune to play board games with Ryan on a fairly regular basis. He will be sorely missed in this community, as in others. He was so easy going and kind. Anyone who was in his presence for more than a minute knew that. He was a great guy.

Candle of Peace - July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



Thank you very much for your kind words. Love, Ryan's Mom

Lynn Cunningham - May 24, 2017 at 11:35 PM



“ Lynn, Andy, Shaun, Brandon, & Family
My deepest sympathies are with you and your family during this challenging time. My thoughts are with you. God Bless.

July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry for your loss.

Lori Barber

July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ I met Ryan at Board Games Group in Crystal City and play many games with him. He was a very happy and fun person to play with. Ryan was welcoming to all, pleasant and sweet personality with a great sense of humor. If he wasn't concentrating real hard on a game he was smiling or laughing. We will all miss him. My sincere condolences to all his friends and family.

Angel Wings - July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



Thank you for your kind words. Ryan was very intelligent. You thought he was smiling and laughing...he was really still calculating his next move. He loved gaming as much as work and life itself. Thank you for being a part of his world. Love Mom

Lynn Cunningham - May 24, 2017 at 11:29 PM

CP

“ I met Ryan a few months ago as a potential roommate. We clicked immediately and soon after spent a day apartment hunting together. I was originally anxious at the thought of living with someone I'd just met, but all my worries vanished after spending just a few minutes with Ryan. He was so warm, welcoming, and genuine. We shared many of the same interests, particularly our love of hiking and the outdoors. He felt like an immediate friend. I was sad that we weren't able to live with each other due to geographic differences, but was glad to have met him. He was full of ideas to change the world, and his passion and fire stayed with me. I am so saddened to hear of his passing. I unexpectedly lost my younger brother in March; my heart goes out to his family and loved ones. Ryan touched so many lives. Sending you all comfort and love

Candle of Peace - July 29, 2016 at 12:00 AM



*We are so sorry for you loss. Losing your brother, and Ryan to follow...double peace to you.....
Love Mom*

Lynn Cunningham - May 24, 2017 at 11:31 PM

AW

“ I had the pleasure of working with Ryan at Metropolis Magazine and he was a lovely, energized and dedicated professional. My deepest condolences go out to his family and friends who knew him best. My thoughts will be of Ryan today.
denise lopez

Angel Wings - July 28, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Ryan's mother is a dear friend of mine. My heart goes out to his whole extended family. May they find peace in the fact that they will meet him one day at the rainbow bridge. My deepest condolences.
Shana Snyder

Steps of Light - July 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM



Thank you Shana. 5/25 is 10months. I so appreciate your friendship.

Lynn Cunningham - May 24, 2017 at 11:39 PM



“ My deepest condolences Andy and Lynn. I am sorry for your loss.
Keith Thomas and family

July 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ It is with a HEAVY heart I write on this wall. Ryan and I had many talks on family, friends, fears, plants , foods and responsibilities. Ryan touched my Heart the minute we met. Ryan was extremely intelligent, kind and Loving. I will miss our talks and saying "I retiring"!!!!! To the family: Ryan LOVED and RESPECTED YOU ALL💔💔💔💔💔💔💔

July 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM



Thank you for your very kind words. We all have heavy hearts. If you are willing to share, a your contact info did not post, please reach out on facebook.

Lynn Cunningham - May 24, 2017 at 11:38 PM



“ Ryan was a beautiful person and a great friend. My daughter Brittany Fargione just adored him. So sorry for your loss. He will truly be missed by so many.

July 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry, this is a total shock. Ryan worked for me as a paid intern at Broadway Market. Ryan was one of the most adaptable, trustworthy students. He was a life savior. His job assignment required him to be able to work with all different types while being so diplomatic. I will never forget his smile. My deepest sympathies. Beverly McLean,
Faculty emeritus
University at Buffalo

July 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ I am so honored to have met Ryan while living in DC. He truly is one of the most kind hearted, open, and optimistic people that I have met. He really did fully embrace every day and provided much light for many people along the way. I am truly saddened to hear this news. The world has lost a bright soul. Thanks Ryan for the memories. You will be missed. RIP.

Soft Glow - July 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM