



# Daniel James Swindler

APR 3, 1975 - OCT 26, 2013



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# Daniel James Swindler

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**D**aniel James Swindler was born on April 3, 1975 to James and Marjorie Ricks Swindler. Very early in Daniel's life, his parents realized he had an exceptional mind. He had no shortage of energy and talent, which drove him to excel at skiing, karate, art, and academics. Throughout his life, he lived for learning and discovery; he sought enlightenment and truth from many sources. Daniel was loving and nurturing to his seven younger brothers and sisters, and he frequently expressed his love and appreciation to them.

As Daniel matured, he gradually experienced a change in his temperament and abilities. That which had previously been so effortless to him became a struggle. Friendships became harder for him to maintain, but he loved those around him as much as ever. While attending Alta High School, he ran Cross Country and had a passion and talent for athletics. He persevered and overcame many of his hardships, managing to graduate in 1993 with high grades despite the adversity he faced. Daniel served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Managua, Nicaragua from 1994 to 1996. Though challenging for him in many ways, he served the Lord honorably and enthusiastically. After returning home, he continued to live with devotion and a strong eagerness to serve. Daniel studied the scriptures until the teachings became an inseparable part of his character. He loved to visit LDS temples, and was often found serving in the temple the entire day. After his mission, Daniel's challenges only increased. He was diagnosed with bipolar, and later schizoaffective disorder--a huge obstacle for someone who had started life with such an incredible mind. His continued optimism and hard work enabled him to graduate with a bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University in Latin American Studies in 1999. He had several jobs over the years, but his interests were primarily devoted to God, learning, and exploring the outdoors.

Daniel was no stranger to suffering. He fought an intense mental illness that most of



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us could barely imagine. He spent much of his life trying to make sense of the world and endure his trials. He was never able to marry and have a family, which he wanted more than anything. Despite all of this, Daniel continued to fight for his happiness. He was blessed with an unusually strong amount of hope and faith, and he never let go of either.

In August of 2010, Daniel stopped by to visit his grandmother. This was the last time he was seen by his family. No word came from him after that, and his family feared the worst. Almost three years went by with no news, but through a miraculous turn of events, his family discovered that he had passed away in South Carolina in October of 2010 while hiking in the outdoors that he enjoyed so much.

Daniel will be greatly missed by his parents, siblings, and in-laws: James and Nancy Swindler, Joseph and Ashley Swindler, Michelle Swindler and Tyler Jones, Stephanie Swindler and Stephen Wells, Lisa Swindler and Jared Campbell, Jamie Swindler and Nicholas Wahlin, Jennifer Swindler, and Matthew Swindler.

As grateful as we are to receive closure, our hearts grieve for Daniel and we miss him. We find comfort in the assurance that he has been reunited with his mother and other beloved family members. We look forward with joy and excitement to the day we will meet Daniel in his whole and perfect form.

Funeral services will be held for Daniel Swindler at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 26th, at 4300 North Canyon Road, Provo, Utah. Guests are welcome to arrive at 10:00 a.m. to greet the family.



## Tribute Wall

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SC

**Sherdon Cordova** posted:

I served with Dan in Nicaragua. I found out today about this and I am just sick. I was just in Nicaragua a month and a half ago and I found a lady he baptized when she was a teenager and she was trying to contact him. She is a dentist in Masaya. How sad she will be to hear this news. I last saw Dan on a Friday night in the Jordan River Temple. He seemed like the same Dan I knew on the streets of Nicaragua. Happy, innocent, pure, loving, kind without ego or selfish ambition. I can honestly say, I loved him. He was a good man and an outstanding missionary. Little did I know the heavy weight he carried. I sent his obituary to President and Sister Boza. They will be just heart broken. My sincerest condolences and love to the Swindler family. I know he is considered a "Nicaragua Brother" just like all the rest of us who served in that Holy Land of Nicaragua.

January 14 at 2:07 PM

SM

**Susan Miller** posted:

Jim and Nancy & Families, We were very sad to hear of the loss of your son, Daniel. What a terrible loss to your family and we know he will be greatly missed. He had such a happy face. We know he is happy and at peace and know that he is in the arms of his mom and other family members. We love you and your family and appreciate all you do for us and the ward. We greatly appreciate your friendship. David & Susan Miller

October 30 at 8:38 AM

RB

**Ron And Margaret Baker** posted:

Daniel certainly was a kind and thoughtful young man. He even at a young age, was very polite to everyone. It was always him who welcomed our youngest son Brad into the new quarms of the priesthood. Always him who accepted and inspired any of the younger boys and made them feel wanted and loved. I ran into him at the temple about 6 years ago shortly after moving to Lehi and we were able to visit and catch up on family doings. I was sooo saddened to hear of his passing, but I know that Margorie was there waiting for him with open arms. I know they are happy to be together in the eternities. We send our heart felt condolences to your family, may the Lord continue to bless each of you, and bring you peace. Love, Ron and Margaret Baker

October 29 at 11:00 AM



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**Scott White** posted:

My memories of the Swindler family are sweet and varied. It has been my privilege to be with your family in times of triumph and also mourning and challenge. I look fondly on my memories of visiting your family in your Draper home. Melanie and I convey our deepest sympathy to you at Daniel's passing. My last personal memory of Daniel was just the two of us riding together as we returned from a Young Adult activity at Flaming Gorge. We had a pleasant time. He was always thoughtful, energetic, pleasant and complimentary to me. I can easily see his smile in my mind's eye. I was aware of his challenges and was more than happy to be one he enjoyed spending some time with. I miss him. We are comforted by doctrines that convey to us a sense of how things must be for Daniel at this time. We mourn with you but rejoice in his continued opportunities to grow, overcome and become the Daniel that many of us had a glimpse of in his mortal experience. Be of good cheer! Scott and Melanie White

October 25 at 7:24 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Daniel by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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