



WILL POWER RESEARCH FUND

Driven by the dedication to cure brain cancer.

David's Twin Brother, Chris, and AJ at the paddle out



Poem by David's mother

"Poem by Patti Long for David"

What can I tell you of
David in a few words?

Images

Flash across my mind-
That smile-if you'd have known him
You'd know-yogic.
Peaceful, present
an incredible amount of time.
"Hi, Mom!" The voice, the smile
meld in the image

that seems to link
disparate states of
being.

The embrace of life-
Pack it in, enjoy it, do
Not waste time on
Regret.

Where did the Stoicism
come from? Is that a gift
meted out to us as our
final fate is revealed? I
don't remember him possessing
more than the usual amount in the
Before.

Clarity and relationship
Straight-forwardness
Frontal-lobe syndrome or
The dawning of life's true meaning
I know he love me well. And
I would have gladly traded places.



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Poem by Mike Guardino

This verse was written in July, 2005 while walking the JMT with my son David. It was inspired by his love for the mountains and dedicated to his memory.

John Muir Trail Days

The Sun wakens the eastern sky and its warmth
battles frosty meadow grass.

Soft morning light filters through a thick forest
canopy.

Welcome rays illuminate lush ferns and wildflowers.

Forest birds sing songs of greeting.

The day begins fresh and new.

Rushing rivers, swollen with spring runoff, thunder down canyons and fill crystal blue lakes.

Golden trout rise from a still tarn and ripple the mirror surface reflecting distant beauty.

Gray-White granite peaks tower over deep valleys.

Snow clings to crevices and along shady ledges.

The rugged margins of rocky ridges divide one valley from another.

The mid-day sun's warmth is welcome and pleasant.

A short Spring frees the Sierra from its long frozen slumber.

The summer sky transitions from perfect blue to threatening afternoon storm.

Dark clouds gather and booming thunder follows brilliant lightning flash.

After a quick hard rain the skies clear.

The air is moist and clean.

Long shadows warn of approaching evening chill.

A breeze sings through the branches of tall pines as they slowly sway.

Sunset colors the sky with the glory of alpine glow.

Clouds burst with amber brilliance as day turns into night.

The heavens display with astronomical wonder.

The Milky Way, a bright band across the night sky, is interrupted by the flash of shooting stars.

Moonlight softly illuminates the mountains to guide nocturnal wanderers.

Time passage is revealed by the progress of the planets across the black sky palate.

The night promises to give rise to another Sierra day.

Mike Guardino



David with Chris and his sister, Nancy

