

# Clayton Ford Anderson

*November 12, 1998 ~ January 2, 2021*

Clayton Ford Anderson, age 22, departed from this world on January 2, 2021. Clayton succumbed to the mental health hurdles he was challenged with towards the end of his life. Clayton is survived by his mother Jenny, father Tyler, and brothers: Orson, Preston, and Frank. He is cherished by family and those around him for the exampled life he led, always putting others' needs before his own.

He achieved his Eagle Scout rank and competed in cross country and the swim team before graduation from high school in 2017. There was little Clayton could not do. You often found Clayton fishing with family, hiking with his brothers in the Montana highlands, and never being ticketed for speeding. His honesty had no limits. It was well known that Clayton was a generous audience for all jokes, especially the corny ones, always providing a laugh whether you deserved it or not. This served his father well.

He knew that honesty was one of the greatest traits a person could hold here on earth. By his father and mother's account, it was next to impossible for Clayton to lie. He could always be counted on for the truth. Clayton's honesty powered his ability to empathize with others. This "super empathy" enabled his heart to be with those around him at all times.

Clayton was well-traveled and illuminated by the binding adventures of exploring the world and working with his family. He started early, living in England with his family, at a young age during his father's studies at London Film School. This theme carried throughout his life.

He recently joined as a critical crew member to the production of his mother's workouts all across America. He traveled to various states with his family to film custom workout routines on location. Clayton was dedicated to this project where he manned equipment, helped set up scenes, and one time even appeared on film with his mother.

Jenny learned from Clayton's example and experience that his assistance on her fitness projects was an empowering motivation that helped elevate him through heavy times.

Since Clayton's passing, Jenny and Tyler have decided to provide the Walk Across America Program to others for free in honor and memory of Clayton (www.youtube.com/c/FREEDOMFIT), knowing that strong mental health through exercise has become an even more important cause in their lives.

Near the end of his battle, it was not uncommon to find Clayton asleep on his knees at his bedside, wearied from life and labored prayers. He was a dedicated priesthood holder and had an immense respect for serving the Lord and others. He served in two missions, Kentucky, and Chicago, where he ultimately returned home, yielding to his mental health needs.

Clayton, for a short time, until we see you again, we will all miss your creativity, custom-made board games, thick flock of hair, powerful wordsmithing, and innocent kindness; but most of all we will long for the big and tender heart

you hold and the way you offer it to others. Farewell our son, brother, grandson, nephew, and friend.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, January 7, 2021, in Sandy, Utah at 11:00 a.m. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, in-person attendance will be for immediate family only. However, we hope you will join us for the services via Zoom to honor Clayton.