

Merrick Everett Betterton

March 14, 2020 ~ June 9, 2022

Merrick Everett Betterton passed away on Thursday, June 9th, 2022, at the age of two, surrounded by loved ones at Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Merrick was born to parents Gavin Tanner and Breanne Emily Miller Betterton on Saturday, March 14th, 2020. Carrying on the family tradition, Merrick's name came from Irish roots meaning Ruler of the Sea. Just as his name suggests, from the very second Merrick entered this world he was a fighter, born prematurely at 34 weeks gestation, while only measuring at the gestational development of 29 weeks. With his parents by his side, Merrick progressed quickly and after sixteen days in the NICU, he was able to go home. Due to the pandemic, this was the first time that Merrick was able to meet his big brother, Liam, who had eagerly awaited the arrival of his built-in best friend. The brothers have been inseparable ever since, spending every moment of the day playing together. Liam was the first person Merrick asked for each morning, just as Merrick was the first person Liam wanted. They were always so excited to begin their playful adventures each day.

The world has not known a happier or more loving child than Merrick. It was a rare occasion that Merrick did not have a large, contagious smile on his face. He absolutely loved mac & cheese, playing outside, dancing to music, shoes, and dressing up as knights, dragons, and superheroes with his brother, Liam. He loved tending to his two pet dogs, Oliver and Fenrir "Fenny," by helping to hold their leash on walks, giving them treats, and extra snuggles. More than anything, Merrick loved his mom and dad. He was not shy to express this as he gave a hundred spontaneous hugs and kisses to them throughout the day.

There are no words to express the pain so many will feel from Merrick's loss. We wish we had many more years to get to know his sweet soul, but we are so grateful for the time we had with him. The joy he has brought to the lives of his family and friends was immeasurable. While we are saddened deeply by the short time we had with Merrick, we find comfort in knowing that he will forever be in our hearts.

Merrick was preceded in death by his great-grandfather, Larry H. Miller; great-grandparents, Michael and Marilyn Betterton; grandfather, Roger L. Miller; cousin, Jaxon Rollins; great-grandmother, Carolyn Grange Arnold; and grandfather, Mark Lewis.

Merrick is survived by his parents, Breanne and Gavin; brother, Liam; grandparents Cami, Connie (Rick), Kevin, Cheri; and his great-grandparents, Barry, and Gail (Kim). Merrick has twenty aunts and uncles, fourteen cousins, and numerous extended family members.

Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, June 15th, 2022, at Larkin Mortuary – Riverton, 3688 West 12600 South in Riverton, UT. A visitation will be held at the same location on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, from 6-8 PM as well as Wednesday prior to the funeral services beginning at 10 AM. Interment will follow services at

Larkin Sunset Gardens Cemetery located at 1950 East Dimple Dell Road (10600 South), Sandy, UT.

To watch the previously held funeral services, please click the "Watch Services" link above.