

Michael Todd Jacobsen

April 25, 1995 ~ November 7, 2025

On April 25th, 1995 a new challenger entered the arena. Michael Todd Jacobsen was born in Salt Lake City, Utah to Cristi Ann Green and Todd Kimball Jacobsen. The eldest of five children, Michael grew up and spent his life in Utah, where he brought laughter, creativity, and imagination to many who knew him.

Michael was a lively character with a unique style. He was a witty soul whose humor was often sarcastic and boisterous, only to be matched by his depth of insight. He loved to observe the world around him with care, analyze it, and turn his thoughts into stories, games, and conversations that opened new perspectives for others. He embraced his unique personality with an infectious and comforting confidence. He was a great example of speaking his mind and opinions thoughtfully and being genuinely kind.

A passionate storyteller, Michael found his creative home in the world of gaming. In 2017, he launched his own YouTube channel that evolved from *Kalimdori* to *The Duke of Dorks*, and finally *The Pondering Peasant*. Through his channel, he explored the art and science of game design - analyzing story, music, animation, and gameplay with a uniquely thoughtful and humorous touch. He played with how to create something new by pushing possibilities. His work reached millions of viewers and fostered a vibrant online community that continues to celebrate his impact.

Michael's curiosity extended far beyond gaming. His talents shone through his love for music, writing, art, and storytelling. As a Dungeon Master, he built elaborate worlds filled with detail, symbolism, and lore, complete with intricate hand-drawn maps, soundtracks, visuals, and voice acting. He was an avid reader, imaginative writer, and a talented performer. His creativity knew no bounds.

A gifted student, Michael graduated from Northridge High School in 2013. His intellect was undeniable - he scored a 34/36 on the ACT without studying, which was annoying to his siblings. He began his studies at the University of Utah on a Presidential Scholarship and, after taking time away, courageously returned to his education, quickly distinguishing himself once again and earning recognition in the Officer's Circle for his promise in the sciences. Michael studied astrophysics, and aspired to make discoveries in the cosmos (which included the existence of aliens) and bridge the gap between politics and science.

In his love to create, Michael's favorite jobs ranged from making a favorite cup of coffee, working in a steel yard, being employed as an on-site beta tester for *Disney Infinity*, and becoming a content creator and editor on YouTube. He also wrote for the University, moderated debates, and contributed thoughtful pieces that reflected his analytical mind and love of discourse.

Michael made friends everywhere he worked. He loved his family and friends deeply and cherished moments spent with them. He held a special bond with his grandmother, Jackie, whom he visited weekly in her last months of life.

Jackie preceded him in death, along with his cousin Hillary Hope.

He is survived by his parents, as well as his four younger siblings: Sarah (Adam), Daniel, Mary (Zachary), and David. He is also survived by his nephews Brent, Tay, and Joseph, and his niece Lucy. He is also remembered with love by his many friends, professors, and 22.3K subscribers and followers in his online community.

Though Michael's life ended far too soon, he faced his struggles with honesty, love, and courage. In his final moments, he expressed his love to everyone and promised to see us all again.

Michael, this is not "game over," but simply your next great level - where you're free to explore the stars you so loved. Your story will continue in all of us. Thank you for the laughter, the lessons, and the love. Until we see you again. With love, your family.

Funeral Services

A viewing will be held 6-8 p.m. on **Saturday, November 15, 2025**, at the **Larkin Mortuary Downtown**, **260 E South Temple St, SLC, UT 84111**.

A memorial service will be held from 12:30- 2:30pm on **Tuesday November 18th, 2025** at **Larkin Mortuary Sunset Lawn, 2350 E 1300 S, SLC, UT 84108**.

Interment will take place after from 3:00-3:30 at the **Salt Lake City Cemetery**, where Michael will rest near his beloved grandmother Jackie and cousin Hillary.

"Be kind to yourself." – Michael Jacobsen