



## Solomon Gregory Merten

June 23, 2001 - October 25, 2020

Solomon Gregory Merten, age 19, of Corvallis, Oregon, died unexpectedly in his home on Sunday, October 25th.

Solomon “Sol” Merten was born on June 23rd, 2001 in Portland, Oregon. He was a wonderful young man working on developing his passions in life. Sol loved music – especially singing. He wrote many songs that he would play on the guitar and piano, and also reworked popular songs into different tempos for guitar or piano with great results. Solomon sang with the Heart of the Valley Children’s Choir for years. He was interested in the healing and therapeutic power of music.

Solomon was one of those kids that was born strong. When Sol was 9, his cub scout leaders reported their shock and surprise on ‘physical fitness day’ when he completed 35 quality push-ups while his peers were struggling with 10. Sol also loved swimming. He could swim in cold, high mountain lakes and rivers long after everyone was cold and wanted out. In one family reunion ‘race across a lake’ at 9,500 ft. elevation, he had crossed the lake and was drying off while the nearest person wasn’t half-way across yet. Solomon swam for the Corvallis Aquatic Team (CAT) for years, and also for Crescent Valley High School, where he was co-captain of the swim team.

Sol worked as a lifeguard at Osborne Aquatic Center during high school summers. He also participated in the Mr. & Ms. CV Pageant helping raise funds for Jackson St. Youth Services, Children’s Miracle Network, and the Old Mill Center.

Solomon graduated from Corvallis Leadership Commonwealth School in 2019. He attended Willamette University his freshman year, and had recently transferred to Southern Virginia University where he was to begin classes in January 2021.

Solomon was passionate about protecting the underrepresented in society. Solomon enjoyed working as support staff for teens at the Trillium Farm Home. Along with music, political science was another major interest. He cared a lot about the direction of our nation, our laws, and our society. He was happy championing the cause of the 'everyman' together with original constitutional intent against any politician or political party that was in his line of fire on that particular day.

Solomon was a beloved friend. Many have reached out to share what a loving, big-hearted and kind soul he was. He was thoughtful, adventurous, and silly.

Solomon was the oldest son of Deon and Eric Merten, of Corvallis. Solomon is survived by his parents; by his two older sisters Alexae and Olivia; by his younger siblings Nicolas, Elizabeth and Isabelle; by his paternal grandparents Greg & Diane Merten; and by one of his maternal grandmothers Patrice Davis.

Solomon was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Michael J. O'Brien, as well as by grandparents Michael and Shari Maksud.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to McHenry Funeral Home of Corvallis. Funeral services will be held at 11:00am on Wednesday, November 4th at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Due to COVID restrictions, the funeral can be attended virtually through this link: <http://mywebcast.churchofjesuschrist.org/corvallisoregonstake> Event ID: 85072 (if required.)

Solomon's family would appreciate any memorial donations to be made to an agency that supports young people struggling with mental health issues.

# Tribute Wall

EM

“ 1 file added to the album Sol Video



Eric Merten - November 06, 2020 at 01:46 PM



Lovely video!

Lin Gu - November 06, 2020 at 09:49 PM

LF

Thank you for sharing these glimpses of Sol and some beautiful family memories.

Lisa Freeman - November 07, 2020 at 09:30 PM

MA

This was heart tugging beautiful. I love you all, Merten family!!

Marissa - November 22, 2020 at 07:44 PM



Thank you for sharing. The songs and pics really pulled at my heart and the love you all have for each other is powerful. Love you Merten family.

Meg Wallace - February 13, 2021 at 05:04 PM

AM

What a great way to remember a lovely soul. Om Shanti!!

Amit - April 29, 2021 at 08:52 AM

LA

“ Laurie lit a candle in memory of Solomon Gregory Merten



laurie - November 04, 2020 at 09:53 PM

LA

“ Laurie sent a virtual gift in memory of Solomon Gregory Merten



laurie - November 04, 2020 at 09:47 PM

MB

“ This candle represents the prayers for the Merten family. Tom & Michelle Baylerian



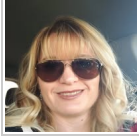
Michelle Baylerian - November 04, 2020 at 05:44 PM

SL

“ Steve LaPointe lit a candle in memory of Solomon Gregory Merten



Steve LaPointe - November 04, 2020 at 03:18 PM



“ I really got to know Solomon in CLC's writing class. He had such a gentle soul, a curious mind, and great sense of humor. I can honestly say that our time together was a gift - getting a glimpse inside his world and his passions, his love for his family and his compassion for humankind. Sol - you will were a blessing and gift while you were here; and will be so, so missed. Eric and Deon - thank you for the gift of Sol and for sharing him with the world. In his short life, he touched many people and made the world a better place. - Ami Sullivan



---

**Ami Sullivan** - November 04, 2020 at 01:57 PM



“ Steven & Chris Maksud lit a candle in memory of Solomon Gregory Merten



---

**Steven & Chris Maksud** - November 04, 2020 at 01:30 PM



“ Eric, Nico, Kaixing, and Solomon were playing at the pond of Camp Alpine. We were pushing each into water. When I pushed Solomon, he grabbed me and I lost my glasses at the bottom of the pond. Then we started to retrieve it. Solomon found it by his feet. It was a FUN time! Thank you, Sol! :)

---

**Lin Gu** - November 04, 2020 at 11:02 AM



“ *Tom And Liz Maksud lit a candle in memory of Solomon Gregory Merten* ”



---

**tom and liz maksud** - November 04, 2020 at 10:27 AM