



## Gavin Steven Donahee

November 8, 2002 - June 19, 2024

Gavin Steven Donahee - June 19, 2024, age 21 of Plymouth.

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Gavin Steven Donahee on June 19, 2024, at the age of 21. Gavin was a beloved son, brother, grandson, nephew, and friend who touched the lives of many with his kindness and enthusiasm.

Born on November 8, 2002, in Livonia, Michigan, Gavin was the cherished son of Jennifer Stutrud-Donahee and Joseph Donahee. He was the dear brother of Paige Donahee. He is also survived by adored grandparents: Annette Stutrud, Beverly Kopko, Don and Carol Stutrud, and Lawrence and Linda Donahee. Gavin also leaves behind many devoted aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends who will forever cherish his memory.

Gavin graduated from Salem High School in 2021 and continued his education at the Michigan Technological University, focusing on Finance.

He was particularly proud of his time at Michigan Tech, where he served as the secretary of the Inter-Residence Housing Council and was a proud member of the golf club. Gavin's cherished his time with the sailing team, which celebrated a triumphant first-place victory in the Boudeman Cup in the fall of 2022. In addition, Gavin represented the College of Business at

Michigan Tech in the DECA club, contributing to the team's success in three award categories.

Gavin had a deep appreciation for architecture, traveling to various states to visit Frank Lloyd Wright sites, including a memorable solo trip to the Wisconsin Taliesin estate from Michigan's Upper Peninsula. From a young age, Gavin had an impeccable style, with a wardrobe full of suits and an impressive collection of clothes and watches. A love for trains was a significant part of his childhood, marked by numerous trips to Greenfield Village and train-themed birthday parties. He even had a huge Lionel train setup in his grandmother's basement!

Gavin's work ethic was evident in his various jobs, including positions at Ralph Lauren Polo, Polaris Pharmacy, and Fox Hills Golf Club.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, June 23rd from 1:30 PM until 7 PM at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, located at 46401 Ann Arbor Road West, Plymouth. The Funeral Service will take place on Monday, June 24th at 11 AM, also at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Tech Sailing Club, c/o Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931-1295, or online at [www.mtu.edu/givenow](http://www.mtu.edu/givenow), designated to the Michigan Tech Sailing Club.

Gavin's vibrant spirit, achievements, and the love he shared with his family and friends will always be remembered. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

To share a memory, please use the share a memory tab on this webpage.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **23**. 1:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenfh.com

## Funeral Service

JUN **24**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth  
46401 Ann Arbor Road West  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
(734) 459-2250  
plymouth@vermeulenfh.com

# Tribute Wall

CE

“ *I'm sorry for your loss. I too understand the heartache of losing a son.  
Peace.  
Colleen*

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**Colleen Elliott** - July 19, 2024 at 12:29 PM

MC

“ *To Gavin's family---you can be so very proud of the son you raised. He was a delight here in the College of Business, with him being friends with many and achieving goals that he set for himself. He voluntarily attended the Blueprint program to enhance his business job-search acumen and it was a delight to work with him. I am praying for your family and hope you have peace knowing what a fine son you raised.*

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**Marie Cleveland** - June 26, 2024 at 12:28 PM

KP

“ Dear Gavin, although your mom and I have been friends since 10th grade, I sadly did not get the chance to meet you until her 50th birthday. You were even more handsome than I had pictured but I did not take this opportunity to sit and talk and truly get to know you. I deeply regret that... Today at your funeral, I was introduced to who you are and what you are all about. Your dearest friends and family came out in force and stood in front of us bravely and proudly to share with all of us who you truly are. I was incredibly moved by their stories and am heartbroken that your bright and brilliant future would not come to be.. Your sensitive and caring nature sprinkled with your keen ability to listen and your great sense of humor really made you special. I do hope your wish for everyone to just be kind to one another spreads around the globe. The world needs more kind souls like you. May you rest in peace beautiful boy...

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**Khristina Petrucci** - June 24, 2024 at 06:24 PM

KV

“ One memory of Gavin that really speaks to his character comes through my son, Corey, when they were best friends at Smith elementary. It was in either Kindergarten or 1st grade and Corey was telling me about his day. He said he and Gavin spent their recess picking up trash in the playground. Apparently they did this often, making the space cleaner and nicer for everyone. This really illustrates the kind of person Gavin was, even at such a young age. Always trying to make the world a nicer place for everyone. Thank you, Gavin, for your kindness, responsibility and efforts. May we all carry on with your vision of a cleaner, nicer world ahead for you.



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**Kelly Voelker** - June 24, 2024 at 05:27 PM

JR

“ As PJ's wife of 17 years, I have had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know a lot of our relatives. I'm so sorry I have never met Gavin, I can tell he was a very special young man. My heart goes out to all of our family and friends. May he rest in peace.

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**Julia Romancheck** - June 24, 2024 at 10:39 AM



“ It was the fifth week of the school year at Michigan Tech, so naturally every freshman was meeting new friends left and right. My newly found friend group and I were no different. This fateful night, as many began at Michigan Tech, my friends and I were eating cafeteria dinner at McNair Dining Hall (the best of the dining halls, this was discovered through horrors endured in the first four weeks of college). The topic of conversation tonight was stars. Those familiar with Houghton's location may know that the night sky is a beautiful display of wonder, and those familiar with Houghton's location also may recall the weather forecast is always wind and clouds. However, we found ourselves looking at a clear sky and a dilemma. My six group posse only had one small jeep, and while we could've strapped someone to the roof, it would've been me, so I was keen to find another solution. With a dapper outfit, two plates in each hand, and a grin on his face, Gavin sat down next to us. Gavin took full advantage of his dining plan. If there's two entrees, four sides, and three deserts, how do you decide? Make your own 9-course dinner. Who said cafeteria food wasn't classy? We looked Gavin up and down and asked if he wanted to go stargazing with a bunch of strangers and more importantly to us if he had a mode of transportation. To our surprise he wanted to, did, and was willing to drive us later that night. 9 o'clock rolls around and as half of us load into the jeep, a Ford fusion pulls up and there's Gavin, smirking at us with a rolled down window like our Uber. Except this Uber is to a remote beach 25 minutes away from campus. The other half of us get inside and we're off, in a stranger's car, to a strange place. As my brain begins to double take the situation and wonder if all those years of my Mom telling me not to get into strange cars was for naught, someone pipes up with small talk. Turns out, Gavin is from Plymouth, right next to Livonia, where two of us grew up. Turns out, Gavin was in the same class as the same two of us, and tells us about a weekly assignment that we missed for the first four weeks of school. Gavin was funny. Like really funny. Like so funny that I cannot think of another person in my life that could bring joy to those around him as fast as he did it. Simultaneously Gavin was one of the most intellectual guys I have ever talked to. He knew the

*in and outs of religion, psychology, golf, history, adam sandler movies, you name it. So when I tell you that night in his ford fusion, that we just talked and talked and listened and listened to him for 25 minutes, I can't remember what it was about. Just that we were deep in rich, funny conversation. So deep, in fact, that while we were approaching a merge of two county roads, we didn't even notice the stop sign. The sign was so abrupt, nobody even processed we passed a stop sign at 50 miles an hour until we were already safely past it. Lucky for us, and for those who aren't familiar, traffic signs in the UP are more of a formality- as you have a better chance of hitting a deer than even seeing another car at 10pm on a backroad. Gavin played it off and gave us a smirk, and we knew we needed to keep him around. I have lots of stories about Gavin that I could tell, but he's a very difficult guy to sum up in words alone. You had to meet him to understand. Anyways, next time you look up into the cosmos, know he's up there with his pinstripe suit and 9-course meal, sailing the milky way and arguing with philosophers.*



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**Andrew Wozniak** - June 24, 2024 at 01:07 AM

JA

“ Gavin was one of the first friends I made freshman year at Tech while we were in Accounting together. Since then we had many classes together, late night study sessions, club events/trips through DECA, hour long phone calls and so many more experiences. He was someone I really admired and made a big impact on my life. I'll always miss him. My prayers go out to his loved ones 🙏.



Jaylen - June 23, 2024 at 02:04 PM

ET

“ Met Gavin freshman year fall semester in Sheila Milligan's principles of accounting class. Sheila made us talk to our seat mate and we became friends from there. Hanging around campus, DECA adventures and just having good conversations. I was very excited that Gavin was coming back this fall! It will be very sad without him there this final year, he will be missed. Thoughts and prayers 🙏



Ethan - June 23, 2024 at 12:19 PM

JT

“ So many fun memories Ben and I have from your summer visits to Chicago from rides on Thomas the Train to our Frank Lloyd Wright tours! Gavin, you'll be missed by so many! I know I'm going to miss you popping in on your mom and my phone conversations, cracking us up! You gave your mom well deserved bragging rights! Rest in peace! We'll always love you will cherish the time we got to spend with you! 🕊️



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**Jennifer de la Torre** - June 23, 2024 at 12:04 PM

SW

“ Gavin and I met his freshman year at NMU/Tech and dated for a year and a half even after we broke up we remained friends. Gavin always took very good care of me and we loved each other very much. We were each other's first love and went through a lot. A funny memory I have is the backstory of our first date; Gavin was at sailing practice and got caught up stream with no wind. So the team and gavin are using their arms to paddle to the dock. He gave me a call that he was going to be late but he was on the way, told me later after we had been dating for a bit that his top speed was over 100 so he could try to make the date on time. We watched a play, and I gave him a tour of the theater after. He came over to my dorm after and we watched hocus pocus but we fell to talking. We just kept talking all night until it was 6 in the morning. We tried getting sleep but our conversation kept flowing. I'm pretty sure Gavin drove back to tech to make his 9am class 😭. I felt like Gavin and I were on a wavelength no one else could get to. There will always be a piece of you in my heart. Rest in peace Gavin 🕊️



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Sam Wardisiani - June 23, 2024 at 09:50 AM

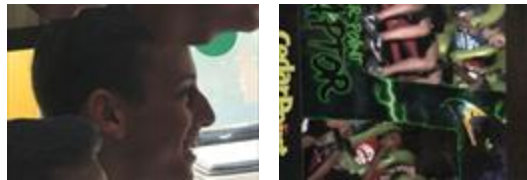
DM

“ Praying for solace and strength for the entire family. My heart breaks for Gavin and for those that are mourning the loss of such a vibrant young man. I found out after the loss of Gavin that we had a mutual friend, one who thought of Gavin as a son and thought very highly of him. I was never fortunate to me you Gavin, but I can tell by the way you're being memorialized, that you were loved. Much love and peace for you, Gavin! Rest in peace ☐ 🙏

Daniel Maycock - June 22, 2024 at 05:11 PM

KK

“ Gavin was a good friend of mine at West, where we both attended middle school. As time went on, we lost touch; but I never forgot him. He always had the uncanny ability to make me laugh, and lit up every room he entered.  
Gavin, we will miss you forever, and I will never forget the fun times we shared as kids.



Kira Kocot - June 22, 2024 at 03:01 PM

AB

“ Gavin and I grew up in the same community and went to the same schools. He was always so kind to everyone and was so incredibly smart. Sending my condolences and prayers to his family and everyone who knew him.

Ava Brant - June 22, 2024 at 01:29 PM

BJ

“Gavin, you achieved what you were put on this earth for, to touch the lives of others.

B. Jordan - June 22, 2024 at 12:52 PM

AA

“Gavin, you will be forever missed, always and forever. You were my bestfriend and I'm glad we were able to spend so many years together filled with laughter, coffee shop hangouts, pool days, golfing, and many more memories. We went through high school and college together, always staying in touch no matter the distance. Forever grateful for our friendship, I will remember and cherish your memory every day❤️ Prayers and my sincere condolences to your family, who has always been so kind. Rest in peace Gavin 🕊️



Alyssa Amos - June 22, 2024 at 12:18 AM

HH

“Gavin came into this world with a strong sense of what he liked and a will to go after his dreams. He was a beacon of style, class and grace and was loved so intensely by his beautiful family and all who got to know him. I had the extreme privilege of being named his godmother, which is an honor I will forever cherish. You were loved so intensely by more people than you realize. You will forever be missed, but your light will forever shine.

Heather Hobbs - June 21, 2024 at 11:42 PM

AS

“ Gavin was a kind, caring, quick-witted kid that Jason and I were lucky to get to have grown up with. I loved seeing him when he was home from college and hearing about all the amazing things he was doing. His passion for work and fashion was one I admired. Gav, save a king sized candy bar for us and don't watch the new Scooby Doo movies just yet. Until we meet again friend, you are missed dearly.

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**Alayna Stults** - June 21, 2024 at 11:17 PM

MW

“ My sincere condolences to Jen and Gavins family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Michele Williams ❤️



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**Michele Williams** - June 21, 2024 at 08:28 PM

DG

“ Doug And Sandi Goodman lit a candle in memory of Gavin Steven Donahee



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**Doug and Sandi Goodman** - June 21, 2024 at 06:03 PM

KE

“ Gavin you were wonderful as a coworker. You were kind, sweet, and mild mannered. You had a great smile & you always dressed impeccably. People were naturally drawn to you. I thought of you as my work son. I will never forget you!



Kelly Esau - June 21, 2024 at 05:12 PM



Jennifer Stutrud - June 22, 2024 at 10:48 AM

ER

“ Always appreciated being around Gavin because he was undeniably witty and quick with jokes. He'll be missed sincerely.

Erin - June 21, 2024 at 04:41 PM



Jennifer Stutrud - June 22, 2024 at 10:48 AM



“ So many memories but my most favorite is The endless hours of Polar Express we would watch together while I was babysitting you! Found this gem as well! You will be missed dearly!



Ansley Roldan - June 21, 2024 at 04:09 PM



**Jennifer Stutrud** - June 22, 2024 at 10:48 AM

EM

“ I'll see Gavin in so many memories growing up, seems like just yesterday we were walking to get slurpees. Miss ya forever kid <3

**Emma** - June 21, 2024 at 03:58 PM

JE



**jen** - June 21, 2024 at 04:04 PM

DG

*Dear Jen and Family, We are so sorry for your loss. Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Doug and Sandi Goodman*

**Doug and Sandi Goodman** - June 21, 2024 at 06:02 PM

CP

*With deepest heartfelt sympathy to the entire Donahee family your in my thoughts and prayers. Beverly was always so happy to talk about her grandchildren's accomplishments.*

*Carol Potter*

**Carol Potter** - June 21, 2024 at 10:04 PM