



## Ivan Sebastian Zavalney

March 29, 2001 - March 15, 2021

On March 29, 2001, fresh snow had fallen, and the bright sun was shining in Longmont, Colorado to welcome the birth of Ivan Sebastian Zavalney. Ivan died at his home in Austin, Texas on Monday, March 15th, 2021 due to an intentional overdose. Ivan was loved by many and his infectious smile, generous heart, and intense zest for fun and life touched so many people.

Although Ivan was born with a congenital giant facial nevus, he was a very healthy, happy, and giggling baby. In the years of his childhood, he was in the care of specialists and highly trained plastic surgeons to remove the nevus. We found and joined the family of Nevus Outreach in 2001 which provided amazing support and connections.

His Austin life began in 2003 when his family moved to the Barton Hills neighborhood in Austin, Texas. He attended Barton Hills Elementary and later Eden Park Academy.

In 2013, he and his family moved to Oslo, Norway where he continued his middle school years. While in Europe, he traveled to Sweden, Copenhagen, Germany, Prague, Hungary, Czech Republic, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, and Denmark. While living in the United States, he also traveled to Panama, Oregon, California, Colorado, Arizona, Illinois, and Utah. He had many adventures all over the world, seeing the Northern Lights, dog sledding,

snowboarding, white water rafting, driving dune buggies on sand dunes, boogie boarding on the beaches, zip-lining, and paintball.

On his return to Austin in 2015, he ended his middle school years at O 'Henry Middle School. He attended Stephen F. Austin High and graduated in 2019.

Ivan had many passions and each one was pursued with intense vigor and excitement. His favorite hobby was skateboarding, mastering street style, and teaching many along the way. It was all-consuming and an amazing outlet of free expression and drive that was part of his persona. During high school, he was active in theater working behind the scenes in lighting, sounds, and props. He loved music and would play around on a soundboard and software tools, perfecting his preferred beats in the most meticulous manner and energy. He assembled and built several personal computers, enjoyed tinkering with electronics, and helped friends and family with almost anything computer-related. He also loved to collect items, from coins, jewelry, shoes, and game cards.

He is survived by his mother, Laura Jo Acuna Zavalney; his father, Paul Ivan Zavalney; his younger sister, Isabella Sophia Zavalney; and younger brother, Ian Stephan Zavalney.

In Lieu of flowers, please send donations in his name to the Ronald McDonald Charities or Nevus Outreach. During many of his medical procedures, he and his family stayed in Ronald McDonald Houses and are forever grateful.

Upcoming Event:

A celebration of life ceremony will be held on Sunday, March 28th at the UMLAUF Sculpture Garden & Museum located at 605 Azie Morton Rd, Austin, TX 78704 from 9 AM to 11 AM.

RSVP

<https://IvanZavalney.rsvpify.com>

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR **28**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

UMLAUF Sculpture Garden & Museum

605 Azie Morton Rd.

Austin, TX 78704

<https://IvanZavalney.rsvpify.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ivan Sebastian Zavalney*

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October 14, 2022 at 12:02 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memorial*



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**laurazavalney** - May 11, 2021 at 01:52 PM



“ *I had the pleasure of working with Ivan doing lighting and sound for shows at Austin High School with the Red Dragon Players. I've uploaded the crew portraits from some of the shows we worked on together (Shrek the Musical and Avenue Q).*

*He was a joy to work with. His personality made him a wonderful collaborator and always made working in the theater fly by. The humor and brilliance he brought was endlessly refreshing.*

*I'm so grateful for the time I spent with Ivan.*

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**Ben Fremin** - April 20, 2021 at 03:21 AM

BF

“ 3 files added to the album Austin High Theatre



Ben Fremin - April 20, 2021 at 03:04 AM

HG

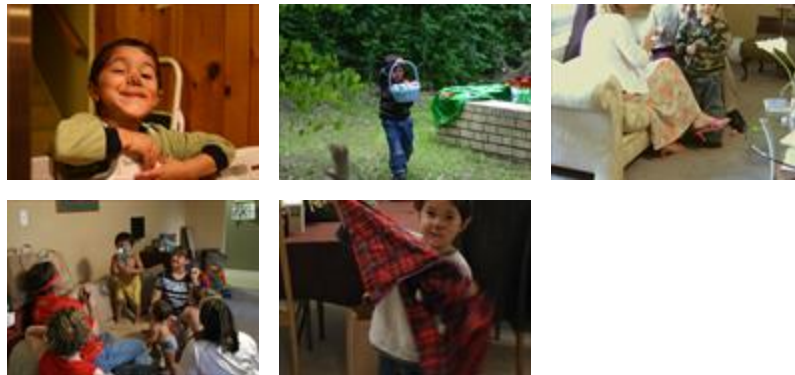
“ Enjoy the pictures everyone. If you don't know Ivan, live his life through these pictures I share. I want you see my memories.

*He forever touched my heart and I am thankful I was a part of his life.*

Horacio Gasquet - March 28, 2021 at 06:33 PM

HG

“ 44 files added to the album Horacio's memories of Ivan



Horacio Gasquet - March 28, 2021 at 06:29 PM

HG

“ I remember Ivan, Bella, Ian, Sophie, Victor, and several kids from the neighborhood all running around on the ill fated grass in the back yard of the Zavalney home in Barton Hills. Ivan was the leader of all things fun, inventing new games, and feats of strength and coordination, and that all the other kids would happily participate in. He was always smiling, and always laughing, and was always trying to find ways to make it even better, and more fun, crazy fun! He definitely lived life on "ELEVEN"... one more, one higher, one louder.

*Bella, I was really, REALLY touched by that painting I was told you made of you and your brothers that was on display today. I would very much appreciate it if you could snap a picture and share that with me. THAT is exactly how I remember Ivan!!! That painting is priceless, and I hope you cherish it forever.*

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**Horacio Gasquet** - March 28, 2021 at 04:46 PM

SW

“ I remember ordering pizza from dominos and it going like it normally does. It was just my brother and I at the house and we were very hungry. Ivan happened to be the delivery driver and I remember so clearly his smile when he recognized my brother and I. Max was very excited to see him and it was so amazing to see the happiness in his face. I always will remember how nice Ivan was to him and I.



-Sam Wagner

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**Sam Wagner** - March 28, 2021 at 11:29 AM



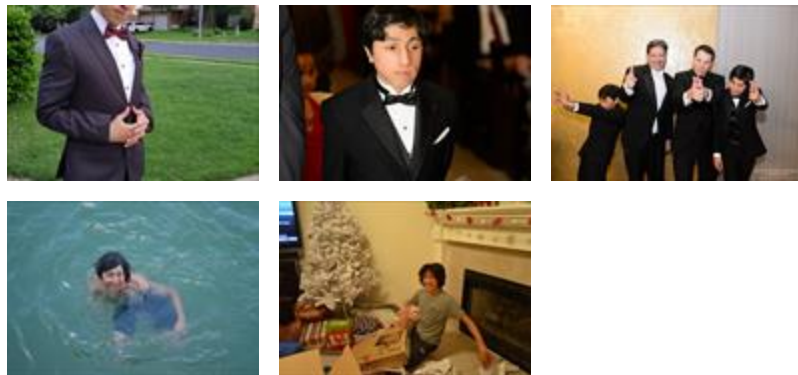
“ 13 files added to the album Ivan Family Photos



Roy Silva - March 27, 2021 at 01:41 PM



“ 14 files added to the album Ivan Family Photos



paul.zavalney - March 20, 2021 at 10:34 PM



*I met this wonderful soul when he was in elementary school with my daughter. I met him again as a young man in high school. He was so charming. My family was blessed to know him.*

Norma Williams - March 21, 2021 at 02:23 PM



*Fondest memory was of him playing soccer on the rec team we had a few years ago. Best of times...*

**Jeff Cunningham** - March 21, 2021 at 03:45 PM



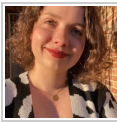
*Ivan was born in Colorado and all boy day 1. As he grew you couldn't stop him from jumping, running and doing all those good (and bad) things boys do. Kevin, our son, was born a week after Ivan also in Colorado and had an instant friend to pal around with for the first couple of years there. How lucky we were to have them as family there!*

**Roy Silva** - March 27, 2021 at 01:39 PM



*I remember our camping adventures. Camp Fire brought so many of us together and created some fun adventures. Ivan was always generous with his time and skills with the younger members. His heart and soul were truly that of light, love, kindness, compassion and fun. I am forever grateful to have been privileged to have known him.*

**LeeAnn Matson** - March 28, 2021 at 01:00 PM



*I went to elementary school with Ivan, and will always remember him fondly. Sending love to your family.*

**Caroline Fowler** - March 28, 2021 at 01:35 PM



*Ivan and I met during one of my trips to the meetings for Nevus Outreach, and having his company there allowed me to feel more at ease. I give my sincerest respects for the members of Ivan's family. Thank you.*

**Zachary Madow** - March 28, 2021 at 02:04 PM

TB

*There was this one time I was sick at home and he would text me to check up on me suggesting different things he thought would help me feel better. Ivan was always so thoughtful. I also took a music theory class with him in high school and remember him being a friend to absolutely everyone, he genuinely lit up the room. Ivan taught me a lot about what it means to be selfless.*

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**Trevi Bryant** - March 29, 2021 at 05:24 PM

LJ

*I am missing you right now, Ivan. In the acceptance of the Light and Darkness that we all walk in every day... You and I walked together down many roads and held each other close. The roads you traveled alone were hard for you, I know. I continue to thank the Universe for our connection.*

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**Laura Jo** - February 19, 2022 at 02:59 PM