



# Nathan Joel Spurgin

June 28, 1983 - October 6, 2023

Nathan Joel Spurgin passed away suddenly on Friday, the 6th of October 2023, at his home in Austin, Tx, at only 40 years of age. The family is devastated and shocked by this sudden passing.

Nathan was an avid painter, poet, philosopher, and lover of all things outdoors. He was forever giving of his time and energy to those in need and he cared deeply for those around him. Nathan was forever an agent of chaos and growth in the many communities he existed within and his love will continue to influence us as long as we remember him.

A celebration of Nathan's life will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday the 12th of October 2023 at Eloise Woods Natural Burial Park, located at 115 Northside Lane, Cedar Creek, TX 78612. This is an outdoor ceremony. Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

The following are selected works from Nathan:

It was a winter walk  
With all its beautiful  
Decay  
Bright colors breaking down  
To release the sweetest

Scents of dissolution  
Overjoyed to be offering  
Themselves once again for  
Decomposition  
Wholly and truly embodied  
Gratitude  
For the endless transformation  
Never a moment's desire to  
Become the bloom  
Never a moment's regret for  
A single wilted petal  
Resolutely I would walk with you  
Reverently I would watch you walk away

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when the sun is frying  
the laughter is flying  
the world is rounder  
and when you've finally found her  
you can stop to take a breath  
no waiting; here comes death  
watch the cracks your tripping  
your mind is slowly slipping  
and the music starts to creep inside your veins  
don't you close those eyes  
all the world starts to seem like open planes  
unlock their enigmatic shield of lies  
round and down, down and round  
you've finally unwound  
those thoughts that had you bound

the grass is green the sky is blue  
this seems so very new  
far from anything you've ever seen

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and when the wax is shaped and the wick is  
fitted, the candle is lit and your life becomes smoke in the  
history of pollution. an entire population of hidden  
beauty.. becoming fuel for the fire.  
beauty polluted so foul, there is infinity  
and you only see the moment..

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i feel the last grains slipping from my grasp  
still to the despotic sands i clutch and clasp  
in lonely defiance i listen as Silence screams  
till there is vengeance for the death of dreams

nathan joel

# Previous Events

## Celebration

OCT **12**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Eloise Woods Natural Burial Park  
115 Northside Lane  
Cedar Creek, TX 78612

# Tribute Wall



“ *I have not forgotten you. Please be at Peace; you did so much for others.* ”

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**Daniel** - June 29, 2025 at 02:47 AM

KA

“ I just found out Nathan passed away. I'm so saddened. The world has lost a brilliant mind, heart of deep waters, shining soul. I will never know another quite like him.

*I wish I could change the silence between us. I have so many questions for him.*

*He loved me when I was trapped in a life threatening situation, unbeknownst to him for way too long. He wanted to provide adventure, encouragement and unconditional love. He was the most open and curious person, and a real practitioner of magick, diviner of truths.*

*Shortly after very first meeting him, we shared a dream. We took turns finishing each other's descriptions the next day - a common dreamspace that illuminated the connections of childhood trauma and a mutual passion to save and heal others from similar pain. I've attached pictures of a children's book he would often work on. He loved love.*

*He wanted to help heal the world, and he did. He healed the world around him with a patient, observant, challenging, sweet and playful medicine.*

*One night I was awoken to visions of 2, 2222 everything. I felt him with me. The next morning I awoke to a picture of his new quetzalcoatl tattoo. He said he called me in and invoked the book of 2 and got the tattoo to represent how we would always be connected. He loved so hard and so deep. He loved multidimensionally and believed in powers unseen.*

*Unfortunately, I was unprepared for the depths of his love and desire. I was too blinded by trying to escape a captor and stalker to be able to see his heart. It was so embodied, so visceral, so permanent, so imbued with spiritual connection, I became frightened - we'd been dating for only a few full moon cycles. He*

*knew, he noticed my hesitancy and fear, he listened and became sad and gentle. He gave me space. Then came his fear and jealousy, and so I ran. He didn't need to be perfect, but I was too sick with fear to make allowances. I wish he could forgive me. I hope that he did.*

*But I rarely heard from him after I left in 2020, save a few times, including last year before his birthday. I had a dream about him and he messaged me on accident soon after. It was simple and sweet. I wish it had been more. I was relieved to hear he had a girlfriend and a new autism diagnosis that both brought him great comfort and new understanding. I remember hoping he would keep feeling more and more love for himself and with others.*

*I will forever miss his large and beautiful moods. I know now after years of healing, years of carrying around his sweet and empowering words with me, years of listening to echoes of his poetry and curiosity, years of feeling less alone due to his mere existence - his intensity wasn't dangerous, it was truthful and, importantly, always responsive to compassion, curiosity, and mercy.*

*His moods reflected the magnificent expanse of his inner worlds and visceral connections to earth and spirit - the gratitude, joy, pain and rage within. I pray his energy is more connected than ever.*

*I wanted to reconcile with him this year, discuss the tattoo, the dreams, the long silence between us, the friendship we abandoned out of fear and confusion and heart break, the spiritual work we both felt called to, the visions for the future we still shared, the inventions we wanted to see come to fruition, the many fruits of the world we still longed to taste.*

*Perhaps I would never have been welcomed back into his life in any major way. Break ups are break ups. But I was lucky to be loved by him.*

*I don't think it's a coincidence that he left us right before the world*

*was changed forever by the genocide in Palestine reaching new heights of horror and destruction - in fact, multiple genocides around the world becoming worse.*

*I believe he went to help souls transition peacefully. It was the common work of our hearts and souls to be with people in spirit as they heal, and as they die. He wanted to hold their entire lives in the expansiveness of his compassion and bring them peace, reassurance and guidance toward their next stage of presence in the universe. He wanted to help rebuild the world after the horrors he knew were coming. I pray he is doing the work he desired.*

*I love you, Nathan. I will miss you dearly. I won't lose myself trying to make sense of the unseen. Thank you for loving me. Thank you for empowering me to feel beautiful and confident in spite of my fear. Thank you for allowing me into your polycule. Thank you for loving my love for Jessie. Thank you for always doing your best to control your fear. I know you tried hard. I wish I could hug you in recognition of your perfectly imperfect humanity and great big heart. Thank you for living in your truth with me and apart from me. I will miss your fiery integrity, thirst for knowledge, love of love, and spiritual presence greatly. I'll treasure my two snakes, and I'll speak of you when speaking of the power of art and witches, the power of listening and storytellers, of dancers, dreamers, and diviners. May you rest in peace and in power ❤️*



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**Kate Avery** - August 01, 2024 at 02:44 PM

TS

*Kate, this is Nathan's mom. I would love to talk with you sometime.*

Theresa Spurgin - September 17, 2024 at 07:34 PM

KA

*Hi Theresa, thank you for reaching out. I would love to talk with you sometime, too. My # is 956-322-6360 ♡.*

Kate Avery - September 19, 2024 at 02:19 AM

DD

“ *I have a memory of being at a red light in downtown Austin.*

*Nathan was in the passenger seat, and he noticed some commercial yoga studio off to the right. He pointed at it and said to me, "Bunch of poseurs."*

*The man was funny when he wanted to be.*

Dani Dean - June 28, 2024 at 04:34 AM

DD

*Most of the time, the man did not want to be funny.*

*The man wanted to know the divine, and then be a vessel to carry what he found back to the rest of us. He did not want to be a preacher, however. He wanted to be a healer.*

*He worked hard with me in that respect, and I saw him do similar work with others. I only met him in late December of 2013, but we spent a lot of time speaking about things that most folks don't talk about, and he accidentally became my best friend.*

*I find myself wanting to communicate with him about this or that, and then I remember that I will no longer have his valued perspective.*

*Nathan gave a person in darkness a very bright light.*

*He is very much missed.*

Dani Dean - June 28, 2024 at 05:22 AM

TS

*Thank you for sharing. I do not recognize your name. Have we met? Do you realize that today is his birthday?*

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**Theresa Spurgin** - June 28, 2024 at 07:59 AM

DD

*Regrettably we have only met three times that I can recall, and very briefly each time. If he spoke of me, he would have called me "Daniel".*

*Nathan and I intermittently lived in the same places after he moved to Austin. First in what was advertised as a "co-op", then in a townhouse, followed by a 3-acre urban farm where he really shined with his deep connection to nature, and then in a tiny apartment when he chose to be there.*

*Yes, ma'am, I am aware that today is his birthday; this has been stirring up memories and emotions more than usual this week.*

*I was honored to have known him, and I miss his wit, kindness, and the sometimes brutal but honest and loving challenges he gave me.*

*He was a rare individual. I do not expect to meet the likes of him again.*

*The man intensely cared for others.*

*I am deeply, respectfully sorrowful about his passing. He was an exceptionally good person.*

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**Daniel Dean** - June 28, 2024 at 09:24 AM

TS

*Are you the one who came to the funeral home?*

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**Theresa Spurgin** - June 28, 2024 at 03:48 PM

TS

*Nathan did mention his friend Daniel. We may have met you on the farm in Austin. Thank you for your kind words and for not forgetting him.*

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**Theresa Spurgin** - June 28, 2024 at 04:26 PM

DA

*Dear Ms. Spurgin,*

*I did show up towards the end of the viewing period, and you were called in to give permission for me to have a moment. I thank you for granting it.*

*I apologize for the delayed response; I do not get notifications of activity on this site, and I do not come here often.*

*Rest assured that I will remember him for the rest of my days. It is rare to find individuals with such strength of character, high intelligence, and most importantly the level of kindness that my amazing friend and comrade had.*

*He was and is a gift to all the knew him, and I will be forever grateful that his and my lives intersected.*

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**Daniel** - October 06, 2024 at 06:06 PM

TH

“ This poem reminds me of Nathan. He told me when he was young he was all set to change the world, thinking big change, I think. Then, in middle school he said he realized he could not. That started his downward spiral into depression and feeling lost. As an adult, he worked hard at getting back up out of that hole. And, in the process, he helped many people find themselves. He probably did not even realize how many he helped.

*If you are one of those ‘someone’s’ he helped, I would love to hear your story.*

### *The Power of One*

*One leaf can disrupt a whole army of ants  
And can leave them all scared and confused  
And it takes just one word, even one from a stranger  
To render our self-esteem bruised*

*It takes just one flick of a switch in a light room  
To promptly turn everything black  
And it only takes one hand to push us too far  
Just one straw to break our camel’s back*

*It takes just a moment when all is aligned  
For the sunshine to blot out the moon  
And it takes just one foot to kick us whilst we’re down  
Just one sprinkle of salt in the wound*

*And yet when we think of ourselves as the one  
Then we think we’ve no power at all  
That we won’t make a difference when this world’s so big  
And we feel so incredibly small*

*But it takes just one leaf to announce spring is coming  
One seed for a flower to grow  
And it takes just one hand to stop someone from falling*

*Which might mean far more than you know*

*It takes just a word to make somebody's day  
Just one switch to turn dark into light  
And it takes just one foot to stand up for someone,  
Just one sunrise to soften the night*

*So harness the power of one for yourself  
It's a power you've held all along  
Yes, I know that you think you can't change the whole world  
But you can change the world for someone*

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*Becky Hemsley 2022  
Gorgeous image by Saraja's Drawer*

*'The Power of One' is from the book What the Wild Replied*

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**Theresa** - April 11, 2024 at 02:53 PM

MI

“ *We had the privilege to throw a few parties and we liked our guests to sign their name. If you look closely at our guest list you can see Nathan's signature on both.*

*I wish we could hang out again and again. We miss you real bad.*



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**micæla** - October 16, 2023 at 07:52 PM

CS

“Nathan and I both liked to talk about dirt. He helped me balance my work in the soil on some forest property in east Texas. I was frustrated that I hadn't done any harvesting at scale or built any of the structures I needed to do it in a conventional way. Nathan reminded me that nature is always harvesting and building structures on its own time. He suggested I think more about bending a branch here and there or using a sweetgum as blackberry trellis in a way that was more manageable and effective. He taught me that just the slightest change to an environment will have a profound effect on what will flourish. I'm so grateful to have had his insight into the rhythm of nature and I will continue to try to peel back a branch here and there to expose the dark dirt below to the light and see what the universe will grow.

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**chris swanson** - October 16, 2023 at 03:38 PM

AB

“I really only knew Nathan from coming to visit his father at the fire station. But I knew the sacrifices his mother and dad made for there kids and the love they have for all of them. Evidently from reading this page it worked out to produce a great guy.

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**Aaron Brian** - October 16, 2023 at 01:37 PM

TA

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Talitha** - October 11, 2023 at 08:29 PM



“ *In memory of Nathan Spurgin and the winning Script to Screen project team.*

*Our deepest condolences to Theresa and Wyatt, and Nathan's family and friends.*



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**Ruth Williamson** - October 11, 2023 at 04:06 AM

NO

“ I have know Nathan since he was about 3 years old. He always had a calming presence about him and a smile on his face. One of my fondest memories of Nathan are when we played “sticks” growing up. Lol. Many days after school I would go to the spurgins until my parents could pick me up. So, boys being boys we would divide up into teams, Dylan and Tony , (neighbor), would be on one team and Nathan and I were always on the other team. We would literally collect sticks, build forts, and hurl sticks at one another. Lol. We had a blast! We reconnected several years back via Facebook where he gave me tips on growing my own food. I will miss him dearly.

nick owens - October 11, 2023 at 12:30 AM

LL

“ ALL of my memories of Nathan include big hugs and that beautiful smile! He graced my table with amazing fruits-of-the-earth cultivated by his own loving hands. He is so deeply missed by so many and a great loss to the communities he fostered.

Lynn Lilly - October 10, 2023 at 08:54 PM

 Braden DeLonay

“ Nathan was a complex, interesting, and wonderful man. For the first while we knew each other we mostly connected around philosophical things. Then it was more spiritual things. And then later we started building things. In retrospect that order of operations seems really appropriate to him. He was one of the easiest and most talented people I've ever worked with, or talked with. He had a way of holding the seriousness of things and how trivial they ultimately were in the same hand. I miss you brother. It was a joy to have the time we did. Rest well.

Braden DeLonay - October 10, 2023 at 02:42 PM



**Rebecca Simpson** - October 10, 2023 at 03:05 PM

NO

*I have know Nathan since he was about 3 years old. He always had a calming presence about him and a smile on his face. One of my fondest memories of Nathan are when we played "sticks" growing up. Lol. Many days after school I would go to the spurgins until my parents could pick me up. So, boys being boys we would divide up into teams, Dylan and Tony , (neighbor), would be on one team and Nathan and I were always on the other team. We would literally collect sticks, build forts, and hurl sticks at one another. Lol. We had a blast! He was a very modest person and never bragged about himself so many of you might know but he is probably the most intelligent person you will ever meet. I will miss him dearly.*

**nick owens** - October 10, 2023 at 10:05 PM

MO

“ *The first time ever I saw your face.*



**mom** - October 09, 2023 at 09:03 PM

RA

“Nathan was a force of nature with a heart that loved people in such a soulful and unique sense that most cannot fathom but if you experienced it, you were never the same. He had the most hauntingly beautiful way with words in both poetry and casual conversation that often me speechless. I'm so thankful that we were able to reconnect as friends this past year and for the years we had together, especially at the tick farm and gran's. Some of my most valuable life experiences can be attributed to him. I have no doubt that many of us will continue to learn from him even in his physical absence. His memory, the way he connected with people and his works of art left behind are only a fraction of the legacy that he left during his all too short time here.



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**Rachel** - October 09, 2023 at 08:41 PM

MG

“One of my favorite times was when I had a soccer game and I was running down the sidelines looking for a pass I got to the sidelines and then I heard some say hey moe which kinda tripped me out cause I was new on the team didn't know anybody and only my close friends call me by that I turned and look it was Nate on a 10 speed bike I didn't even wait for the ball to be out of bounds or to be substituted I just walked right off the field to say whaddup Nate didn't care that the ref blew his whistle funny thing I didn't bring any water and the water fountain was off but Nate bust out a half gallon of orange juice and ask if wanted a drink which I did I still remember the big smile he had on his face while I was catching my breath Which that was him everything I met him he always shared a smile with me going miss you Nate

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**Moises Guerrero** - October 09, 2023 at 08:36 PM

DA

“ Daniel lit a candle in memory of Nathan Joel Spurgin



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**Daniel** - October 09, 2023 at 07:48 PM

DT

“ Nathan was an amazing individual. From the time were were young kids 8-12 year old we played together almost every day. **STICK WARS!**. Horse apple wars!!!! Digging trenches weeks in advance and building barracades planning our next stick wars with Dylan and other unsuspecting friends. Of course Dylan had the Intel. Nathan was the guy would would bring his action figure over to your house and obliterate your whole army. And then leave like nothing happened. Christmas at my house was especially special because my dad allowed me and Nathan to just take overthe Christmas tree in G.I. Joe/Starwars/Lego battles and the tree could fall over and nobody cared.. We would just prop it right back up and start over. Rubber band wars were very common after school in my house.. My dad was a postman and had boxes of rubber bands. So me and Nathan would rearrange the furniture as forts and just **HAVE AT IT!** Mom and Dad, if you ever wondered what Nathan was up to atmy house, That was what we were up to.. Nathan. Was so fun, I was lucky to have him in my world and I love him.

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**Dustin Turner** - October 09, 2023 at 06:56 PM

DT

“Nathan, Dylan, Talathia, Tony Denny and myself ran this block at the corner of Gowdy and West Locust street in Whitewright Texas. Nothing went down in this part of the neighborhood without us knowing about it first because we were the kids front and center. We were the riff raff that kept the riff raff at bay. Our parents thought that they owned this block, but no...It was us. Anyways. One day school was canceled because there was a once in a century snowing in Whitewright. There was a foot of snow.in ever yard. I thought I would be the first one to get up at 7am and track through the snow to go get everybody up but NOOooooOoo I walked outside and already saw footprints in my front yard. Who the heck?!? I peer across the street in Tony Denny's yard and there is Nathan just clogging away and kicking snow like it's all his! No way man! So I head over there and I'm like "Dang it Nathan you already tracked up my yard!" And he giggles and said he wanted to play like we are on planet Hoth in Star Star Wars. So we start wrestling because we didn't have any play guns handy and Tony wasn't awake yet, so we just threw down in the snow and started wrestling. Me being the bigger and fatter kid I had him pinned down and I smelt his breath and jumped away! I said it smelt like sour milk and called him sour milk boy and all of a sudden like you see in the movies, he balled up his right fist, and a serge of temporary anger came over him and he smacked me right in the cold frosted nose knocking me back and I fell flat in the snow. It was the start of one of the most amazing snow days ever. We built.snow forts, built giant 4 foot tall snow balls by rolling snow until it was just too large to roll anymore, and frost bite....and probably some more bloody noses.

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Dustin Turner - October 09, 2023 at 06:44 PM

TA

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall

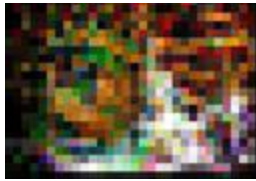
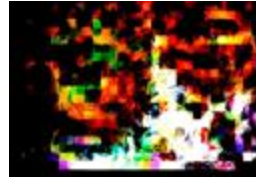


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Talitha - October 09, 2023 at 05:03 PM

TA

“ 18 files added to the tribute wall

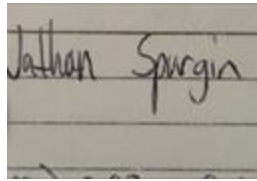


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Talitha - October 09, 2023 at 05:02 PM

TA

“ The first day I moved to Whitewright, TX as a teen I went for a walk to explore the town. The first person I randomly met was Nathan. We started talking and realized we were on the same wavelength. I still have the planner I wrote his number down in. We both had a lot of fun exploring music and art together! Some of my most formative memories as a teen were with Nathan! We would read, draw, explore music stores, abandoned buildings, make beats (burnt cds that I still have), make animations, and more! We were always curious! It's a trait I still hold on to! That was all inspired by my time with Nathan! We stayed in contact up until I left Texas 6 years ago. He is always in my thoughts! I was honestly sharing a story about him just 4 days ago! He will be missed and I will continue to hold on to those memories of our youth! Rest easy brother.



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**Tony Arechiga** - October 09, 2023 at 04:49 PM

LK

Oh Nathan how I remember you coming to the house hanging out with Tony. You and Tony were always together doing crazy wild things. You were so talented and so very smart. You will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

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**Linda King** - October 09, 2023 at 05:20 PM

KL

Theresa & Wyatt, I'm so sorry to read this. Losing a child is so hard. May God give you peace and may Nathan now be at peace. Love you guys.

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**Karen Mashburn Lockhart** - October 09, 2023 at 05:27 PM

AF

“ 2 files added to the album *Tribute Wall*

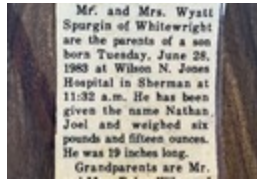


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**Austin Natural Funerals** - October 09, 2023 at 04:11 PM

AF

“ 1 file added to the *tribute wall*



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**Austin Natural Funerals** - October 09, 2023 at 04:06 PM