



## Jonathan Mai D. Mitchell

February 16, 1993 - September 4, 2018

Jonathan Mai D. Mitchell died tragically in a traffic accident on September 4th, in Togo, West Africa while serving with the United States Peace Corps.

Born on February 16, 1993 as Dung Tan Mai in Vietnam, Jon was orphaned at age three and adopted in 2000 at the age of six by Dr. Daniel and Carol Mitchell. Jon attended Kingsford High School, graduating with the class of 2012. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin -Milwaukee in 2016 with a Criminal Justice degree and began his Peace Corps service in 2017.

Jon loved life and generously gave of his smile, time, and friendship. He made a lasting impact on friends and family in Vietnam, the USA, and in Togo. One of his favorite quotes is "At the end of the day people won't remember what you said or did, they will remember how you made them feel." - Maya Angelou. Jon enjoyed fishing, snowboarding, hockey, hiking, backpacking, spending time with family and friends, and was always willing to try something new. He was thoughtful, grateful, and appreciative of life.

He is survived by his parents, Dan and Carol; seven siblings, Ben (Cyprine) Mitchell of Nairobi, Kenya, Joshua Mitchell of Salt Lake City, Alyssa (Patrick) Gehndyu of Claymont, DE, Danielle (Matthew) Yu of Salt Lake City, Trang (Ross) Neubauer of Iron Mountain, Meeyoom Mitchell of Brasilia, Brazil, and Andrew (Stephanie) Mitchell of Salt Lake City; and six nieces and nephews, Jayden and Zoe Gehndyu, Annabelle, Olivia and Mason Yu, and Addison

Neubauer. He is also survived by two grandmothers: Beverley Cuddy of Waynesville, NC and Helen Mitchell of Adrian, MI. In addition, he is mourned by many uncles, aunts, and cousins in Vietnam.

He was preceded in death by his Vietnamese birth parents, Mai Tan Choi and Nguyen Thi My.

“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” 2 Corinthians 4:18

We love you. We miss you. We are proud of you.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 pm and on Friday from 3:00 to 4:00 pm at the Evangelical Covenant Church in Norway, MI. Funeral services will be on Friday at 4:00 pm at the church. Rev. James Danielson will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Jon Mitchell Memorial Fund, <https://www.peacecorps.gov/donate/memorial-funds/jon-mitchell-memorial-fund/> which will support approved Peace Corps Partnership Program (PCPP) projects in Togo.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Jonathan Mitchell online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com)

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **13.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Evangelical Covenant Church  
120 O'Dill Road  
Norway, MI 49870

## Visitation

SEP **14.** 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Evangelical Covenant Church  
120 O'Dill Road  
Norway, MI 49870

## Funeral Service

SEP **14.** 4:00 PM (CT)

Evangelical Covenant Church  
120 O'Dill Road  
Norway, MI 49870

# Tribute Wall

CB

“ Dear Carol, Dan and family,  
We were so very sorry to hear of the tragic loss of your son, Jon. He sounded like a remarkable young man, both from the article and with what Josh had shared with me in Oregon earlier this summer. The two of you certainly were a huge influence on his life of service to others and making the world a better place for all. At this time of thanksgiving, we are reminded of his giving spirit. May memories you cherish of your sweet son/brother bring a smile to your face, warm your heart and bring you peace.  
With our love and deepest sympathy,  
your friends,  
Al and Chris Berger



---

**Christine and Al Berger** - November 24, 2018 at 10:12 AM

SY

“ Dear Dan and Carol,  
I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your son. I pray that the Holy Spirit will bring you comfort during this difficult time.

-Sylvie Chau



---

**Sylvie** - September 20, 2018 at 11:05 PM

AS

“ Dear Meyoom and family,

*Mia - your family's experience with working abroad was what inspired me to do the Peace Corps. The whole Peace Corps community is mourning for the loss of Jon. The whole Zeta community and all of your Lee friends are also mourning and are here in prayer with you - this is such a tragedy. I pray that you can find comfort during this time and that as the days and months come that the Lord continues to bring you comfort. May it be in earth as it is in heaven.*

*So much love, prayers, and heartbreak,  
Alyssa Shumaker*

*Peace Corps Ethiopia & Zeta Chi Lambda, Lee University*

---

**Alyssa Shumaker** - September 18, 2018 at 08:59 AM

KL

“ Dan, Carol, and Family,

*We are so sorry to hear of your loss. May God comfort and strengthen you though this time and the days ahead.*

*You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Bill, Kathy Larson, and Family*

---

**Kathleen Larson** - September 15, 2018 at 02:29 PM

WM

“ *Dan, Carol and Family,*

*We are so sorry to hear of your loss, what a wonderful young man you raised, who gave of himself for others.*

*We are praying for you and your family, that God would comfort you today and in the days to come.*

*Love & prayers to you all,*

*Wayne and Linda Makela*

---

**Wayne & Linda Makela** - September 13, 2018 at 07:19 PM

JB

“ *Dan and Carol we are so sorry for your loss. No one should ever have to lose a child. That being said you both must be very proud of the fine person that Jon obviously became and what he contributed in his all to brief time on earth. Jon and your family are in our prayers.*

*John & Patty Bastian*

---

**John & Patty bastian** - September 13, 2018 at 03:57 PM

JC

“ *Joy Carlson lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Mai D. Mitchell*



---

**Joy Carlson** - September 13, 2018 at 02:53 PM

MM

“ *Mary McCarthy-Bray lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Mai D. Mitchell*



---

**Mary McCarthy-Bray** - September 13, 2018 at 10:37 AM

SF

“ *Sid & Janet Dye And Family lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Mai D. Mitchell*



---

**Sid & Janet Dye and Family** - September 13, 2018 at 07:07 AM

TS

“ *My deepest sympathy to Jonathons family and all who knew and loved him. My son is in Togo and met Jonathon in Washington DC on day one. They trained up and were assigned to neighboring villages. I have been following their adventure via Instagram and Facebook. I had hoped to meet him one day. My son, Tyler, sends his sympathy. He will be sorely missed by all. Todd Stewart McKinney, Texas*

---

**Todd Stewart** - September 12, 2018 at 07:29 PM

TF

“ *The Downing Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jonathan Mai D. Mitchell.*



---

**The Downing Family** - September 11, 2018 at 09:30 PM

MT

“ *Mary Jo Trepanier lit a candle in memory of Jonathan Mai D. Mitchell*



---

**Mary Jo Trepanier** - September 11, 2018 at 07:34 AM

NB

*My name is Nick Burrows, Counselor and Dad of Tony Burrows John's loyal friend from Pine Bluff ,Wisconsin.Tony and John were best buddies from U W Milwaukee days.John was such a special person ,so far ahead of his time for his age and what a young humanitarian.He cared about others ,had such a loving presence about him and funny as can be.He won a bet from me playing "Pick up Sticks" in our yard after a storm when he was visiting our home.I promised a meal @ "The Jade Garden",my favorite Chinese place to celebrate his victory.He would always remind me of it in a very funny way.John had such a positive impact on all of his friends and the world he lived in.His legacy will influence all that he met on how to treat others .Kind ,gentle,great sense of humor.Kudos to his parents and siblings for raising such a positive role model for the world...God Bless you all.....Nick Burrows Pine Bluff ,Wisconsin*

---

**Nicholas Burrows** - September 13, 2018 at 06:54 AM