



## Daniel Kjersgaard

March 10, 1985 - December 24, 2019

Beloved father, cherished son, adored brother, uncle, cousin, nephew, and friend and respected mentor to many, Daniel (“Danny”) Kjersgaard left this world too early and joined our heavenly Father on Tuesday, December 24, 2019.

Danny was born on March 10, 1985 and would proudly tell you he was New Jersey born and raised, a Yankee fan through and through. He attended school and graduated St. Rose of Lima Elementary, Christian Brothers Academy, and LaSalle University. He loved New Jersey and it’s where he met Denise Roselle and her family, worked with them at Suburban Disposal, and started a family of three beautiful children. His life’s story brought him to South Carolina, where he met Tia Robison and became a dad again. His children were his light and his joy and he once dared anyone to challenge his status as “the luckiest man in the world.”

Obituaries are supposed to summarize one’s life and it would be disingenuous to try to capture Danny’s story without mention of his struggle with addiction. Some people may have looked at him, especially during his bad times, and dismissed him as an addict or a junkie. What a loss for them to miss out on having the gift of Danny in their lives. Danny was one of kindest and most big-hearted teddy bears around. He was immeasurably generous - the kind of guy who’d give a stranger the shirt off his back to help them. He was indescribably humble and non-judgmental; he defined the very essence of what it means to be down to earth. He lived a simple life. He believed in 3 things: “Trust God, Clean House, Help Others.” He didn’t have much, but he never cared about material possessions or what other people thought of him. He was a “working man,” and loved being outdoors and helping people - whether it was with their yards, their homes, or their trash. He was excited to launch his own business and grateful for the opportunity to work with his closest friends, putting in an honest day’s work for an honest day’s pay. He was happiest with his kids and surrounded by his squad, his tribe, the people who supported him and those who he supported. Family Over Everything, that’s what he believed. He was youthful but wise, hilarious and sarcastic. In Danny’s own words: “He was a great man, with a huge heart, he just wanted to help people. He left us too early.” This world could use a lot more people like Danny.

Danny didn't ask for this disease - his addiction. He hated it with everything in him. He hated what it did to his family and friends, and all the families the disease affected. He prayed that "people started to treat addiction for what it is: a life and death matter." Over the last several years, he worked the program. He rose among those who are involved in this fight. He trusted God and committed himself to a life of helping others. There was nothing he wouldn't do to save someone else fighting this addiction, to help another person avoid a relapse, to assist in trying to get someone clean. He attended conferences and retreats, spoke at meetings and made it his life's goal to grow the HA fellowship. He gave out his phone number to strangers, hoping they'd reach out if they needed help. He wanted to save people, and more than anything else, he wanted to end the stigma and shame associated with addiction. He didn't want to go to any more funerals. He was 11 months clean when he relapsed, on a final, tainted dose that claimed his life, but finally freed him from his suffering and pain.

Danny is survived by his children, Olivia, Layla, and Brody Kjersgaard and Oliver Robinson; his parents, Sharon and Denis Kjersgaard; his sisters, Laurie McLendon and Kelly Hayes and their children; and his aunts, Carol Vandemark and Wendy DuBois, and cousins, as well as their children. He is predeceased by his grandparents, Edward and Margaret Kjersgaard.

Please join us at a visitation on Monday between 6 – 8 PM at Goldfinch Funeral Home in Pawleys Island and a memorial service honoring Danny's life on Tuesday, December 31 at 10:30 am at Pawleys Island Community Church. A celebratory reception will be held at his sister's home in Pawleys immediately following the mass. In lieu of flowers, please consider paying it forward instead. Reach out, support someone who is struggling with addiction, and share his message. End the stigma. Educate your children about how deadly and unimaginably devastating it can be. A memorial fund is being established and will be announced shortly.

If you are fighting an addiction, please listen to Danny's words, we hope they save your life. "There is hope. If you are struggling, reach out to somebody. Don't be ashamed. Trust and rely on your God, let him show his love for you."

We take comfort in knowing that Danny is finally flying high, lifted by God's love and compassion, free from the struggle that haunted him. We are heartbroken that he is no longer physically with us, but he will live in our hearts forever. We hope that anyone reading this will continue to carry on the message that Danny so generously did.





# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Goldfinch Funeral Home** - December 30, 2019 at 09:50 AM



“ I'm sorry addiction claimed another beautiful soul. I'm beyond grateful at the honesty that addiction took his life. So many still think addiction is a choice. They think it's someone else's problem. Many people choose not to disclose that a loved one overdosed for many reasons. No judgement, I understand because I'm a recovering heroin addict among other drugs. No one wants to be trapped in an addict hell. I will be clean 4 years on Valentine's Day. I have watched many amazing people only found release from addiction by taking their final breath. We are in this battle together. My heart goes to the family and friends that suffered right along with him. I pray you find comfort and healing one day. Just know he helped this addict clean one more day. God bless

**diana rivera** - December 30, 2019 at 02:08 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. My son knew Danny. He is also a recovering addict and attends weekly meetings. Danny spoke at his Wednesday night meetings. Prayers to your family

**Teresa Phillips** - December 30, 2019 at 10:52 PM



“ I remember the day you were born and the joy you brought to everyone around you. One of the most kind and caring people i know. I will sure miss you. Everyone who knew you loved you and still do. My heart goes out to a wonderful family. Loss is a terrible thing and my heart aches for all of you. Please accept our deepest condolences. We are here to talk to at anytime. God Bless You All and watch over you all.

Love Jo and Dave

**Joanna Uveges** - December 31, 2019 at 11:33 AM



“ John Hart lit a candle in memory of Daniel Kjersgaard



**John Hart** - January 04 at 09:45 PM



“ Our Lord has granted Danny the Eternal gift of Peace this Christmas.

**John Hart** - January 04 at 09:51 PM

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“ What a beautiful life. I am so sorry for your loss. Unfortunately, I do know the pain you are going through. I have lost 2 boys to this horrible disease. My prayers go out to this beautiful family who supported him through his ups and downs. Just keep his memory alive. He will always be with you

**Elise Reynolds** - January 03 at 07:38 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. This made me cry. I have fought this disease in the past and my so is in the throws of this addiction. Again my prayers are with this beautiful family he left behind. Much love.

**Sally Mello** - May 13 at 10:11 PM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 31, 2019 at 04:17 PM

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“ What a brave and beautiful tribute. I never met Danny, but know of him through a close friend. I pray that his message and your words reach someone before it is too late. Please accept my deepest condolences- JH



**jh** - December 31, 2019 at 08:43 AM

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“ Pat McCaffrey purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



Pat McCaffrey - December 31, 2019 at 07:08 AM

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“ Condolences and prayers of comfort for your family.

Tammy Siegel  
Jonathan Hardee  
Conway SC



Tammy Siegel - December 31, 2019 at 01:17 AM



“ Our hearts are deeply saddened with the news of Danny's passing. The Lord has granted Danny the gift of Peace this Christmas. Love always, Uncle John

John Hart - January 04 at 09:32 PM

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“ Denis and Sharon, I was saddened to learn the news of Danny's passing. He was a good man with a big heart who was always so very kind to me and the rest of the team at Inlet Coastal. Your honest tribute to him was courageous and moving. Addiction does not discriminate...it has devastated countless families including my own. I pray that in the fullness of time the overwhelming grief you are racked with will ease and be replaced with a warm, lasting comfort from knowing that he is released from his struggles. Peace and love to Danny's children, the entire Kjersgaard family and to his friends.

Kevin McGraw

Kevin McGraw - December 30, 2019 at 06:10 PM

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“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 30, 2019 at 04:42 PM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 30, 2019 at 12:26 PM

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“ McCarey Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



**McCarey Family** - December 29, 2019 at 08:02 PM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 29, 2019 at 06:57 PM

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“ My heart breaks for you, Mr & Mrs Kjersgaard .  
Danny sounds like a young man I would've really liked and emulated his strength and compassion. My son, Trevor, relapsed and overdosed also. Keep God in front of you and He will hold you and keep you close. Know how blessed you are that God loaned you Danny! Lyn Aiken

lyn aiken - December 29, 2019 at 04:21 PM



“ I know your pain, unfortunately.. my son, Ian, was 25 and full of life and laughter.....most of the time. But he was also so tired. He has welcomed your son in Heaven. GOD bless you and your family. Kathy McDonald

Kathleen McDonald - December 30, 2019 at 11:25 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 29, 2019 at 03:17 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 29, 2019 at 02:38 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 29, 2019 at 02:30 PM



“ I remember chasing Danny around as a child. May he Rest In Peace. Love to you all from NJ

sheryl gorsuch - December 29, 2019 at 02:09 PM

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“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 29, 2019 at 11:30 AM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel Kjersgaard.



December 29, 2019 at 11:08 AM