



Christopher Vincent Phillips

February 9, 1971 - September 17, 2010

Christopher Vincent Phillips of Maple Shade died Friday, September 17, 2010. He was 39.

Born in Walson Army Hospital on Fort Dix, Christopher was a longtime area resident. He attended Woodland Township Elementary Schools and was a graduate of Pemberton Township High School. He received his Bachelors Degree from the College of William and Mary and recently earned his Masters in Educational Administration from Wilmington University. Chris was a history and law teacher at Cinnaminson High School. He previously was a cross country coach at Rancocas Valley High School, where he was once named Burlington County Coach of the Year, and a track coach at Cinnaminson High School, where he was once named South Jersey Coach of the Year.

Christopher was an avid runner, climber, and surfer. He was also an accomplished musician and enjoyed cooking.

He is survived by his mother and step-father, Judy and Frank Senatore of Toms River; his father and step-mother, Vincent and Marie Phillips of Southampton; a brother Patrick; two step-sisters, Melissa & Miranda and two step-brothers, Frankie & Joshua. He is also survived by his maternal grandmother Lucille Osterhage of Burlington Township and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends, and his beloved Jack Russell Terrier, Gordie.

A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday evening at 7:00 PM at the Relief Fire Co., 1020 Neck Rd., Burlington, NJ. Friends may visit with the family from

4-7 PM on Thursday at the Relief Fire Co.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Christopher Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Cinnaminson High School, 1197 Riverton Rd., Cinnaminson, NJ 08077.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **23**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Relief Fire Co. - Burlington
1020 Neck Rd
Burlington, NJ

Service

SEP **23**. 7:00 PM (ET)

Relief Fire Co. - Burlington
1020 Neck Rd
Burlington, NJ

Tribute Wall



“ *Christopher Vincent Phillips*

October 29, 2022 at 11:57 AM



“ *Christopher Vincent Phillips*

October 29, 2022 at 09:53 AM

KW

“ Last night I wanted to reach out to Coach Phillips to tell him the way in which running is a huge part of my life, and how his techniques have greatly influenced the kiddos I coach (different sport, but still involves running) and the way my stepdaughters are taking on distance running. He was so very gentle. He never yelled- during races he would calmly remind me to keep my pace controlled, comfortable and smooth. There was a mindfulness and patience in every practice and race. He never wanted us pushing more than 80% in workouts; I remember him threatening to pull me from practice if I kept running myself into the ground during our 400 meter repeats. I dropped 8 minutes in my 5k time under him, and I remember him telling me after a particularly rough race that, "Progress isn't linear. It isn't always going to look like a faster time. Be patient." Our tiny team of misfits somehow made it to states (for the first time in our high school's history, I believe!) with his guidance. We had zero injuries all season.

Coach Phillips, I can't believe you're gone. For these past years I thought you were running along on the East coast, bringing your unique approach to running to each new group of high schoolers. Thank you for all that you did for our team and for me. I will keep your tenants in place and share them with others in your honor.

To your family, I am so, so sorry for what you have lost. His absence is a loss to the world, but I can't imagine the depth of wound that you live with. Sending you love and kindness.

Keri Peacock Wilson - May 10, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ I just heard about this loss just recently. Despite the time that has passed, I was told by my daughter who had known Chris and thought highly of him. I often heard about his dog Gordy and more importantly, how much Chris impacted the lives of his contacts and friends. He must have been wonderful and I certainly apologize for not having heard sooner. May your memories of such a fantastic young son, keep you. We will pray for him and light a special candle for him. God bless you. Betsy###imported-begin###Betsy Wenzel Marple###imported-end###

June 17, 2012 at 09:39 PM



“ Chris you where the best teacher i ever had. thank you for those flyers tickets you could have given them to someone else but you wanted me to have them. i appreciate that so much, and when my sister passed you where the first teacher to ask how i was doing and ask about my family it means a lot. may you rock on forever, rest in peace.###imported-begin###Gregory Joesph Raniowski###imported-end###

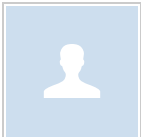
September 22, 2010 at 11:41 PM



“ Dear Family and Friends of Chris Phillips,
We are but a moment's sunlight, fading in the grass....thus, a lifetime of accomplishment is not measured in length, but in depth. Chris obviously savored the challenge of excelling in athletics and music, as well as enjoying the great outdoors. More importantly, he was able to, as a friend, mentor and teacher, to exhibit a passion for excellence that inspired many, many others to pursue the very best in themselves. It is said "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." Chris was surely a great teacher--and friend--to so many.

With deepest sympathy,
Bryant and Kathleen Heisinger###imported-begin##Bryant and Kathleen Heisinger###imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 11:32 PM



“ Judy and vince,

Frank and I are so sorry for your loss. You and our families will be in our prayers.

Louise###imported-begin##Louise Langdon Kane###imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 09:23 PM



“ Rest in Peace Chris Phillips. I liked you from the first time I meet you and I thank you for all that you have taught me. I was bless to have you as a teacher and tutor and will never forget the great knowledge that you have taught us all. Rest easy "The Rocker".###imported-begin##Sean Murray###imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 07:31 PM



“ Rest easy Mr.Phillips, you were an insperation and an amazing teacher. You were one of the most fair people I have ever met and you open my eyes and changed my veiws on life in the short time that I had you this year. No teacher coul ever replace you. You were also an amazing singer and I have no doubt in my mind you would have made it big some day. You have impacted my life more than any other teacher I have ever had. You will be sincerely missed from all of us here at CHS.##imported-begin##Chandler Pons##imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 05:46 PM



“ Mr. Phillips' law class was one I looked forward to more than most. He had so many crazy stories to relate back to the class whether he was being held at gunpoint as a pizza delivery boy in his younger days, to getting pulled over by a cop who was profiling him as a surfer who the cop assumed had drugs on him. He showed me that in making a just decision, bias feelings cannot be let to get in your way, and that each situation must analyzed to see how it affects every minority and/or majority. All parties must be kept in mind, and that is how Phillips treated life. He was sensitive to diversity and firmly defended all those who deserved defending. When a student jokingly said "That's gay," referring to something uncool, Mr. Phillips would say, "I don't allow that in my class."

When it came to the track, Mr. Phillips was always ready to offer advice even though at the point I attended CHS, he was no longer coaching for them. Our track team had exceptional coaches in every separate field, but I still went to Phillips because he always had that extra detail, that aspect that only someone who loved the sport and had learned it carefully would know.

I visited him spring of my sophomore year in college. I can still see it. He was sitting on the front of his desk facing away from his computer with his palms flat on the desk, which he had often done in teaching his classes, and he was talking about how great his band was doing. He said how much he looked forward to their progress and the crazy recording devices he had in his home. That is how I will remember him as looking to the future with a competitive attitude no matter what he endeavoured to do. He will be greatly missed. R.I.P Chris Phillips##imported-begin##Jeff Stellitano##imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 03:51 PM



“ *RIP man, you were an inspiration to every single person you've encountered. You were one of the greatest teachers who ever taught at CHS and we will forever remember you. We will always love you. I know right now you're up there jamming with Stevie Ray Vaughn and Jimi Hendrix just like you always wanted. We miss you man. Rest In Peace.##imported-begin##Eric Hellings##imported-end##*

September 21, 2010 at 02:47 PM



“ *You are amazing. No one who knew you could ever forget your memory. I will never forget everything you taught me and everything you shared. You are an inspiration. You will live on through your music and words spoken to everyone. I will miss you everyday. Rest in peace.*

My heart and sympathy goes out to the friends and family of Chris Phillips. It is truly a tremendous loss.##imported-begin##Lauren Palma##imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 02:30 PM



“ *My neighbor, my friend, Chris and I shared the same schedule for years. Early waves hello while we walked our dogs early in the morning, smiles when we had snow days, complaints about school and politics- we were neighbors for so long that its hard to imagine not running into him and Gordie again. He will be missed. RIP Chris. Thoughts and prayers for his family, friends & students.##imported-begin##Jamie Friedenber##imported-end##*

September 21, 2010 at 10:39 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Phillips family and the Cinnaminson Community who loved him so much. Chris was an amazing mentor and encouragement to all children to live your dream. God Bless.##imported-begin##Christine Turner##imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 08:13 AM



“ Rest in Peace Chris Phillips. You will be greatly missed by all those who have had the pleasure of knowing you.

My greatest sympathies go out to Chris's family and friends.##imported-begin##Michael Petner##imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 04:42 AM



“ As a member of the tracktalk.net community it saddens me to hear that one of our own has lost his life far too soon. I personally didn't know chris but he was one of the most insightful posters that we ever had. He was a great coach, mentor, and friend to us all, and we will miss him greatly.##imported-begin##Ray Biggs##imported-end##

September 21, 2010 at 12:27 AM



“ Chris was many things to many people; a son, a brother, a teacher, a coach a mentor, a musician and most importantly to me, he was friend. Chris was my son Brian’s teacher and track coach. Chris was a big reason why my son is pursuing a degree in education and hopes to teach high school math and coach track and field.

Chris did everything with passion. Never half hearted, always 100 percent. Mediocrity was not in his vocabulary. He expected nothing but the best effort from himself, his students and his athletes. If a kid was trying his best and needed a little extra help in the classroom or on the track he was there with encouragement.

Chris encouraged me to return to the sport I loved and mentored me as an assistant coach, He afforded me the opportunity to become closer to my son and to get to know some pretty incredible young people in the process. I’ll never step on a track again with out looking up and giving him a little smile and a thank you.

I pray that we all remember the passionate way Chris approached everything in his life and apply that same passion to the things we love. That will be his legacy.##imported-begin##Michael Makinson##imported-end##

September 20, 2010 at 11:16 PM