

Helen Marketti's Music Corner

Remembering Scott Gast April 13, 1984 ~ November 2, 2014



When you come across a person who has made a lasting impression on your life and encourages you to do your best and strive for more by just knowing them, then you have truly met a unique and special individual. Scott Gast was one of those people. While Scott may not be here in the physical sense his presence and influence is already having a lasting ripple effect for those who knew him well and for those who perhaps only crossed paths with him briefly.



and it didn't matter if you were 5 or 105 because he always took the time to talk with everyone. God gave Scott the gift of lighting up the room. Everyone wanted to be around him. He always went over and above with everything he did."

Since Scott's passing from a one-vehicle accident last year, George and his family have received an outpouring of support from people that wanted to share how Scott touched their lives and made a difference. "A gentleman got in touch with me to say that Scott saved his life," recalls George. "The man said he had plans to commit suicide because he felt his problems were too great to continue. Scott talked to him at one of The CoCoBeanOs shows, keeping the conversation going until the early morning hours and encouraged the man to "stick around". Scott had to be to work by 8:00 am the next morning but it didn't matter, what mattered was this man's well being and by doing so Scott saved his life."

Scott's "day job" was working at Charter One Bank in the Cleveland area. While he enjoyed helping clients with loans and investments, his first love was always music. "He loved playing for large crowds. He especially enjoyed the crowd of 100,000 when he played with Start Me Up (Rolling Stones tribute band) in Honduras last year," said George. "Scott sent me a photo of himself with the crowd behind him and said, "Dad, this is the best day of my life." I will never forget how happy he was."

George continues, "Hundreds of people have asked me if The CoCoBeanOs will continue and I tell them "no" because there will never be another version of that band that would compare. Scott was the backbone of that band. It was his personality and smile. It would never be the same."

The CoCoBeanOs played hundreds of shows and managers loved booking them because they not only brought in crowds but because Scott was professional and a pleasure to work with. Linda



Jeske has booked bands at Sawmill Creek Resort (Huron) for 8 years. "I feel Scott was the heart of The CoCoBeanOs. He was super nice, friendly and I just loved him. The last time I saw him he gave me a hug. He was the best musician in this area," said Linda. "It has been difficult to accept his loss. I don't understand how life works sometimes. As a parent, I cannot imagine what his family has gone through. I still have the poster of the band and the paper work when I booked them here. I am going to keep it in my files. Everyone loved when The CoCoBeanOs played. We have a guitar dedicated to Scott hanging on the wall to the entrance of the Black Bear Saloon. I sometimes stop for a few moments to look at it and remember him as such a nice young man."

Scott always wanted to write music and maybe one day have his songs released. "I know Scott had written many songs," said George. "I just can't bring myself to listen to them yet but Bryan (Scott's brother) has and there are at least between 20 to 30 songs. Some of them are complete and others are not but they are the ideas and creativity of what he was working on. There are many bands and many musicians but there is only one Scott. He had an overwhelming spirit and worked hard to put on a show to make people happy. He was doing what he loved."

The past year has been an emotional time for grieving, healing and realizing the full impact that Scott had on people. "This past year has been challenging," said Scott's father, George. "Every morning I start my day by visiting Scott's grave and saying prayers. It has been very difficult to accept that he is gone. I was fortunate to have him for 30 years. He crammed 100 years into 30."

Over the past year, there have been many memorial plaque and guitar dedications for Scott at establishments where The CoCoBeanOs played as well as donations in his honor for a stained glass window restoration project at Holy Angels Church (Sandusky). This is only a small fraction of what has been done in his memory. The list seems to be endless when one realizes how much he made an impression upon others. "All of this shows you how much Scott was loved," said George. "People do not get that kind of recognition unless they are respected in their community. He was very kind to everyone

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