



DUSTIN'S STORY, *AS TOLD BY HIS MOTHER*

Dustin's life bore a great example of his exceptional drive, winning smile and heart. He seemed to know everyone, and everyone knew him, mainly as a hard-working, car-loving, adventurous man whose quick witty remarks brought laughter and ease. Extremely motivated, bright and successful, he was strong and healthy, enjoying physical sports and exercise. Above all, Dustin had boundless energy and a heart full of love. He was always willing to help, support and give back to his friends and loved ones.

Dustin graduated from Black River Falls High School and then from Western Technical College. He worked a professional job as a CNC

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–Mary, Dustin's mother

machinist and operated his own custom car audio business. He even already owned his own home. He truly lived by his signature motto, “Nothing ventured, nothing gained.”

Dustin, whose love and laughter brightened our world, died at age 23 from injuries he received in a traffic accident. His previously-shared choice to be an organ donor sent me and the rest of his family on a mission to open our hearts to accept and give support. We have learned that hope and peace are separate from grief, and that our lives can grow because of Dustin’s influence and gifts to others.

“Blessed is the influence of one, true loving soul on another.”

–George Elliot

If you chose to become a donor:

- Answer “yes” to the organ donor question on your driver’s license renewal application.
- Sign your license or ID card.
- **Tell your family** about your decision, to help ensure your wishes are honored.

For more information on organ donation, visit uwhcopo.org.



UWHealth
University of Wisconsin
Organ Procurement Organization