



## Charles Christopher "Chris" Brown

January 3, 1984 - December 1, 2007

CHARLES CHRISTOPHER "CHRIS" BROWN, 23, of Bluffton, died Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007, 7:55 a.m., due to melanoma for four months, at home with his family. He was born on Jan. 3, 1984, in Fort Wayne, to Joy L. (Harris) and Charles H. "Chuck" Brown; they survive in Bluffton. A 2002 graduate of Bluffton High School, he was involved in sports there, and had a special interest in cross-country and track. Chris was in his last semester at I.P.F.W. where he was pursuing a degree in Public Affairs. The university plans to award Chris's diploma and present it to his family. He was also on the cross-country team at I.P.F.W. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bluffton. In addition to his parents, he is survived by his grandparents, Charles H. and Lois J. Brown of Fort Wayne, and Jack E. and Judith A. Harris of Richmond, Ind.; and one sister, Kellie L. Brown of Bluffton. Funeral is 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bluffton, with visitation one hour prior to service at the church. Fr. Steve Colchin officiating. Visitation also from 1 to 4 and 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Thoma/Rich, Chaney & Lemler Funeral Home, 308 W. Washington St., Bluffton. Burial in Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne. Memorials to Family Hospice of Northeast Indiana. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 5. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(260) 824-3850  
info@thomarich.com

## Service

DEC 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

St Joseph Catholic Church  
1300 N Main St  
Bluffton, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Charles Christopher "Chris" Brown*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - December 01, 2007 at 12:00 AM



“ *Charles Christopher "Chris" Brown*

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September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Still trying to wrap my head around the fact...My last memory will stay with me forever, at the family reunion after Dana's wedding. Chris and I stole a brew out of Chuck's cooler. We sat on a picnic table and caught up on the last couple of months. Chris, Chris Weldy and I talked about how nice a day it was and how we were glad to be there and not working, and how the golf game was rigged. lol Take care bud###imported-begin##Cory Robinett###imported-end##*

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December 10, 2007 at 01:00 PM



“ Dear Chuck, Joy and Kellie,

*I wanted to let you know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. As a parent of four wonderful children, I cannot imagine life without any of them in it and know how hard this must be for you. We have not been in touch over the years, but I still have fond memories of Joy bringing Chris with her to our home back in the days when she sold Avon and then later when we shared driving Ashley and Chris to religion classes at St. Therese. I am sure he will be missed by all of his family and friends as I know that he had grown into a fun loving young man. Please also share my sympathies with Chuck's parents. Lois told me about Chris' illness sometime ago after mass at St. Therese and asked me to pray for him. May God bless you in the difficult times to come. I know that you will always treasure the memories of Chris.*

*Jody Steenman and family###imported-begin###Jody Steenman###imported-end###*

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December 06, 2007 at 01:00 PM



“ *Chris as the tears flow down my face I only wish I could have seen you one more time. Thank you so much for being my pal over the years. You will be missed buddy. When I finally reach you again I want a big high five. Love you Chris and rest at peace now. To the Brown family. My heart goes out to you and I thank you so much for putting together the online memorial video###imported-begin###Matthew Knox###imported-end###*

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December 06, 2007 at 12:49 PM



“ I knew Chris through a mutual friend. It always seemed that he lived his life to the fullest and was so much fun to be around. Every single memory I have of him makes me smile. My thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless.##imported-begin##Stacy Schlichter##imported-end##

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December 05, 2007 at 11:28 PM



“ I graduated HS with Chris and I wanted to send my condolences to his family. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family during this time. May God Bless You.##imported-begin##Abby##imported-end##

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December 05, 2007 at 06:43 PM



“ Brown family,  
I went to high school with Chris and I just want to say I'm sorry for your loss. He was a good guy and will be missed. There are many people thinking about you and praying for you in your time of grief.

God bless,  
Brandi##imported-begin##Brandi McCormick##imported-end##

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December 05, 2007 at 03:09 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Steve Thieme##imported-end##

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December 04, 2007 at 03:32 PM



“ I knew Chris through my daughters, Kristen Farrell and Lauren Wilson and through my son-in-laws, Josh Farrell and Ian Wilson. Though I didn't know him well, I do know that he loved his family and friends wholeheartedly and he always had a smile on his face and seemed to be having a great time no matter what. I remember him at both of my daughters weddings dancing and laughing and just being crazy with the rest of the IPFW team. He also visited us several times at our lake house with the IPFW team. He was a pleasure to have as a guest, very appreciative and helpful. He will truly be missed. Even through all of our tears and sorrow this week, we have still found joy and peace in the memories of Chris and in the celebration of his full but short life. Thank you for sharing your son with us. Peace be with you in Christ.##imported-begin##Karen Horner##imported-end##

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December 04, 2007 at 12:27 PM



“ We often suffer, but we are never crushed. Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up. In times of trouble, God is with us, and when are knocked down, we get up again. 2Cor. 4:8,9.

Used to work with Jack Harris in Richmond.##imported-begin##Ron and Sherri Oler##imported-end##

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December 04, 2007 at 08:09 AM



“ *Brown Family...I have many fond memories with your son. He was truly a loving and fun friend to have. Running at Ball State it was hard for me to see him and the other IPFW guys, but when I was able to see them, Chris was usually the one that was able to make me laugh pretty good. I'll never forget a great memory at a ETG/cross country party we had...*

*Chris and Mark Green as well as a few other people walk in the door, I've had a few to drink...I got VERY excited when they showed up that I had to tell them that "Brown and Green were my favorite colors!" Definitely one for the ages. I'll miss him dearly and I'll keep your family in my prayers.*

*Hands up to Chris Brown. Long live his great memories. Your happy and lively spirit will remain with us until we all see you again.*

*-Mitch Novy##imported-begin##Mitch Novy##imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 11:39 PM



“ Joy & Chuck (and Kellie),

*I am so sorry for your loss. I cannot offer words to heal the pain of losing your son (and brother) when his adult life was just beginning. Mom has kept me abreast of Chris's illness and your fight against his cancer during the past three months. It is so hard to say goodbye. When I lost my dad (Elmore), my life took on a completely new definition of "normal" and even today, two years later, I miss him every single day. What I do have and carry with me always are memories. Those that make me laugh and those that make me cry too. He's with me in all that I do. May God give you peace during these very difficult days. You are all in my thoughts and prayers and may you find strength in your faith, friends and family to carry you through this. In Peace, Ann Cottongim###imported-begin###Ann Cottongim###imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 11:19 PM



“ Joy and family my heart felt prayers are with you at this time of sorrow. Even though I never met Chris just watching the video of him I could tell he was a young man that lived every day with great joy and was very loved by all he came into contact with. I can only pray that you find comfort in the many happy memories of what a wonderful young man Chris was.

*Joy please write if you need anything at all.###imported-begin###Melissa Batt Huber###imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 10:53 PM



“ *My prayers are with you at this time, I visited your grandparents this summer and they were concerned about you then. May God's blessing help you through this very sad time.*

*Terry wyatt.##imported-begin##terry wyatt##imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 09:02 PM



“ *Chuck & family I'm so sorry for your loss of your son Chris. There is no way I can feel what the three of you are going through at this time, I cant image your pain at this time and I do pray for each of you.*

*God bless you all.*

*Bill Haupert##imported-begin##Bill Haupert##imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 06:49 PM



“ *Bud and Lois,*

*I am so very sorry for the pain you all are going through right now.*

*You are in my constant prayers for strength. Love you*

*Joanie##imported-begin##Joan Chantaca##imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 06:16 PM



“ Chuck, Joy & Kellie,

*We are so heartbroken for you at Chris' passing. It must be so hard but keep in mind that he is in Heaven now and is no longer in any pain. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Love to you all.##imported-begin##Joan, Chacho, Cesar and Dustin##imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 06:14 PM



“ Dear Brown Family,

*I am very sorry for your loss of Chris Brown. I knew Chris back when we were in high school. I had the privilege to run against him, and the whole Bluffton team, during the cross-country and track seasons. I ran cross-country and track for Woodlan Jr./Sr. High School. I also ran against him at IPFW at the Mastodon Stomp Run. I will remember Chris as an outstanding and fast runner. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you. God Bless to you all.*

*Sincerely,*

*Grant Stieglitz##imported-begin##Grant Stieglitz##imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 04:39 PM



“ Chuck, Joy & Kellie

*I have no idea what you are feeling all I know is the sadness in my heart for you. I shall always remember him with a tie around his head dancing and having fun with all of us at Dana's wedding. I am so glad you and Linda put together the family reunion. I am sorry I can't get there from Texas but know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Love,*

*Vic###imported-begin##Vicki Goebel###imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 12:28 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Cris's passing. I did not know him but he and all the family have been in my prayers for the past several months.

*Joy, I am Marilyn Harris sister.*

*Sorry I can not be there.*

*Love to all, Eileen###imported-begin##Eileen Blair###imported-end##*

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December 03, 2007 at 11:02 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of painful separation from your beloved Chris. I was Chris' academic advisor at IPFW and found him a joy to talk with as he determinedly pursued his plan to enter the field of sports management. We will all miss him. He would have been an inspiring manager to other young people, as he was to his teammates.###imported-begin##Nancy Leinbach###imported-end##

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December 03, 2007 at 09:12 AM



“ I don't know you and didn't know your son - I always read the Richmond paper on-line and saw his obituary. I assume from reading it your son passed away of cancer. I just want you know you are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. He looks like he was a fine young man full of life and it makes no sense - but we cannot question the why - I am sure God needed him for something special in heaven as he was probably a special young man. I lost my dear husband when he was only 51 years old to cancer - totally unexpected. I thought why as well - but my husband was a great man as well and I know God is using him for something special in Heaven as well. I feel for you but know we are never given more than we can handle. God Bless You and Your Family.

Judy Buttery###imported-begin##Juby Buttery###imported-end##

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December 03, 2007 at 08:45 AM



“ Joy, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.###imported-begin##Lisa Jack###imported-end##

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December 03, 2007 at 07:21 AM



“ Chris was one of the nicest guys I've ever met in my life. He was very caring and was always a pleasure to be around. His optimism, that he showed at all times, is inspiring. I will miss him very, very much.

God Bless.###imported-begin##Trent Hirschy###imported-end##

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December 02, 2007 at 09:44 PM