



## Gabriel Matthew Martinez

April 19, 1991 - October 3, 2020

GABRIEL MATTHEW MARTINEZ, age 29 of Lake Orion, formerly of Harbor Beach, passed away Saturday, October 3, 2020.

He was born on April 19, 1991 in Phoenix, AZ to Sharon (Smith) Schmalz and Jose Martinez. Gabe was a graduate of Harbor Beach High School, class of 2009, and graduated from Michigan Tech University in 2014 with an engineering degree. Gabe worked at Chrysler as an engineer. He enjoyed bike riding, listening to music, disc golf, camping, hockey, and football. Gabe was an overachiever and was going to “make changes in the world”. He was a friend of everybody, and always brought a smile to everyone’s face.

Gabe is survived by his mother: Sharon (Michael) Schmalz of Harbor Beach, father: Jose Martinez of Phoenix, AZ, his brother: Zachary Martinez and significant other Anastasia of Attica, aunts and uncles: Pam (Mike) Semp of Harbor Beach, Sue (Bob) Lynch of Port Hope, Jan (Greg Gerkin) Smith of Harbor Beach, Mark (Kelley-Anne) Smith of Harbor Beach, Matthew (Diane) Smith of Lowell, Beth Welker of Harbor Beach, Paul Schmalz of Valley View, OH, Daniel (Rory) Schmalz of Aiken, SC, half brothers: Richard & Daniel Martinez, and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Harold & Leah Smith, Richard & Joyce Schmalz, half brother Joe “Michael” Santora, his uncle, Al Welker, and aunt, Theresa Schmalz.

Funeral Services for Gabe will be Saturday, October 10, 2020 at 10 am at Rock Falls Cemetery, with Rev. Paula Timm officiating. Burial will follow in the

cemetery. Please bring a lawn chair for the service. Visitation for Gabe will be Friday, from 2-8pm at the Ramsey Funeral Home of Harbor Beach. Visitation on Saturday will be at the cemetery beginning at 9 am until time of services at 10 am.

Memories can be shared at [www.RamseyFH.com](http://www.RamseyFH.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Rock Falls Cemetery

Harbor Beach, MI 48441

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **9**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Ramsey Funeral Home, Inc  
425 State St  
Harbor Beach, MI 48441  
(989) 479-3407  
<https://www.ramseyfh.com>

## Service

OCT **10**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Rock Falls Cemetery  
Harbor Beach, MI 48441

# Tribute Wall



“ Gabriel Matthew Martinez

October 04, 2023 at 01:24 PM



“ Gabe and I were friends at Tech and every time I ran into him it was a fun time full of laughs! We recently reconnected through our curiosity and love for nature. During a chat we had a couple weeks ago he told me he wanted to make a difference in the world through sustainable engineering and the last message he sent me was a silly video to cheer me up after I shared sad news. This is a perfect example of the positive, inspiring, and genuinely caring person that I will always remember him as. I'm heartbroken to hear the tragic news that he is gone too soon. My heart goes out to Gabe's family – he will be very missed!

Aimee Baier - October 12, 2020 at 01:08 PM



“ Sincerest Sorrow - Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.



October 09, 2020 at 01:58 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



---

**Ramsey Funeral Home** - October 09, 2020 at 12:04 PM

JH

*The video is so awesome! So glad I got to watch it. You have so many precious memories!*

---

**Joy Hardy** - October 11, 2020 at 01:30 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



---

October 09, 2020 at 07:29 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



---

October 08, 2020 at 02:08 PM

JB

“ *Julie Sweet And Alan Barr lit a candle in memory of Gabriel Matthew Martinez*



-----  
**Julie Sweet and Alan Barr** - October 08, 2020 at 09:47 AM

JB

*Sharon, Mike, and Family,*

*So sorry to hear about the loss of Gabe. Sending hugs and prayers your way. Love, Cousin Julie Sweet, and Alan Barr*

-----  
**Julie Sweet and Alan Barr** - October 08, 2020 at 09:53 AM

LH

“ *Love, Darlene Hokanson purchased the Love's Embrace Roses – White for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



-----  
**Love, Darlene Hokanson** - October 08, 2020 at 07:39 AM

JF

“ *Joe and Corinna Auricchio & family purchased the Sincerest Sorrow - Peach, Orange and White for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



-----  
**Joe and Corinna Auricchio & family** - October 07, 2020 at 08:39 PM

KH

“ I worked with Gabe at FCA. Gabe was one of those people who always greeted you with a smile and kind remark. We worked in the same group for years and sometimes we would encounter frustrations / obstacles. He was a great person to discuss these with because while he could be sarcastic and honest, he was also ambitious and determined. He could share in your concerns, but also be one of the first people to help you brainstorm realistic solutions.

After I moved out of the group, Gabe would still reach out to make sure things were going well and was always encouraging / supportive. He was one of those people who you would encounter in the hallway on the way to a meeting and walk away in a completely better mood.

I am so sad and sorry to hear about his passing. It seems unbelievable and confusing. I am so sorry to his family. Please know that our working family was blessed to have him and that my thoughts & prayers are with you in this time.

*Kristin Holland*

---

**Kristin Holland** - October 07, 2020 at 04:53 PM

MN

“ Sharon and family. So sorry to hear of the loss of your son Gabriel. Sometimes we can't understand why God calls young people home. He knows and he will look after you in the days ahead. Our sincere sympathy to you. Mary Beth and Ron Nimtz

---

**Mary Nimtz** - October 07, 2020 at 04:13 PM



“ Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.



October 07, 2020 at 03:45 PM



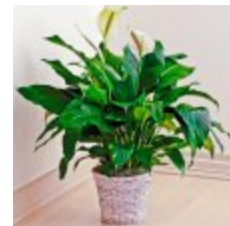
“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.



October 07, 2020 at 03:42 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.



October 07, 2020 at 03:40 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories from Gabe's Fiat Chrysler Work Family

1 file added to the album Memories from Gabe's Fiat Chrysler Work Family

Michael Yore - October 07, 2020 at 01:14 PM

GW

“ My heart breaks over the loss of this wonderful young man. Sharon and family, you have my deepest sympathy. I will always remember Gabe as a cheerful, friendly, fun loving, adorable first grader. He will now reside in your hearts.

Gayle Wooster - October 06, 2020 at 11:04 PM

CH

“ 20 files added to the album Memories from Gabe's Fiat Chrysler Work Family



asured Memories from his FCA Work Family

at what Gabe was a people person. He not only engaged meeting also, he wanted to figure it out with you, what excited you, what your passions were, and then he engaged with you in a friendly, if a world would respect regarding Gabe was directly in it. If the team was doing difficult personally, Gabe engaged that person and got the team functioning again. He could probably, look into it, look, and show how to handle it.

was proud of what he did. He understood it was important to do the job right the first time. He wanted to see his ideas become design, and his design become cars, was one of the most excited to see his work at FCA. There is a huge team, the range of Engineering, and Gabe was in it. He was the backbone. Being willing, doing the dirty, and getting into working in the garage. I only wanted. He would help me in the job, and that was my way to the future to not being. It was on the go, engaging, fun, and creating adventures.

me to lighten the moment, with his witty off the cuff remarks. He always was able to help for others and genuinely cared for people and their problems. He is the engineer in the truest sense of the word.

It four years but I still remember my first week at FCA. There were times when Gabe always felt very accessible and eager to help. He had the unique ability to make you feel comfortable around him, a calming presence that helped me while I was there.

and a silly joke which always cracked us up. Our plan was to make it to my trip to India, I would place a slice of bread on the ground in my hand and all do the same here in Michigan, sandwiching the whole earth. While I was there, I will always cherish the thought and the moments we spent together. Gabe!



Gabe on a golf outing with his team. This image comes close to capture his fun-loving personality.

Chris - October 06, 2020 at 06:39 PM

AR

“ During the 3 years I lived with you in Royal Oak our house was never once short of smiles or laughs. And once I moved across the country you were one of the few people to continue to reach out to me. It really shows how much our friendship means to the two of us. Thanks for sharing some of the best times of my life with me, bud. I'll cherish those memories forever.

With So Much Love,  
Andrew

Andrew Rolling - October 06, 2020 at 05:40 PM



“ *Meat & Cheese Sympathy Gift Crate was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 06, 2020 at 05:05 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 06, 2020 at 05:03 PM



“ *Our sincere sympathy to Sharon and family in the loss of your son. May God grant you blessings during this difficult time.*

*Jim and Del Czewski*

**Jim and Delphine Czewski** - October 06, 2020 at 03:45 PM



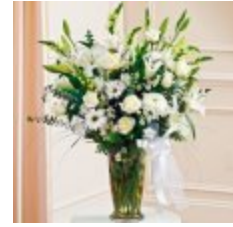
“ *Justin Workman lit a candle in memory of Gabriel Matthew Martinez*



**Justin Workman** - October 06, 2020 at 12:43 PM

KD

“ *Kristen and Erik Doering purchased the White (Large) Sympathy Vase Arrangement for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



Kristen and Erik Doering - October 06, 2020 at 12:35 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 06, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 06, 2020 at 10:40 AM



“ *Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 06, 2020 at 10:02 AM

KK

“ *Transformers Statewe 2013*



Kyle Krueger - October 05, 2020 at 11:45 PM

DN

“ *Don And Linda Nuss lit a candle in memory of Gabriel Matthew Martinez*



Don and Linda Nuss - October 05, 2020 at 10:37 PM



“ *Plants-A-Plenty was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 05, 2020 at 09:58 PM

RS

“ *Rick And Lori Murawske And Sons lit a candle in memory of Gabriel Matthew Martinez*



Rick and Lori Murawske and sons - October 05, 2020 at 09:08 PM

BC

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



---

**Beau Carlson** - October 05, 2020 at 08:49 PM

RH

*It can't be true that this young man has passed. Quietly slipping away from all of our grasp with what we believed was so much more to give and experience. And we know not why. His presence touched our lives. His was an easy live, a calm spirit, that was big as a house and most called him a friend. A good kid with a big heart for others. We expected great things for his future as he was on his way to grasp it and make a difference. Gabe was different. And maybe bigger than all of us, with more than any of us to give, and the Lord witnesses his strength for better use than here on earth. His journey is endless now and his spirit is free. Set to the heavens to soar. I wish we knew how and why. I wish we might have heard him cry. But our Father took him home to fly, with Angel's wings above the sky. We cry and wonder why so soon and look upon the starlit moon. We gaze and curse the loss of his light, but rest assured there is his light, when shining on the waters edge or mountain peaks beneath the ledge, our hearts will mourn his passing day until we get our chance to say, we miss you more than ever now, please hold us up, please do somehow. Gabe we love and miss you, please say hello to every soul that we've seen go, and if by chance you meet a friend, please let them know, our love won't end. RIP. Uncle Bob.*

---

**Robert Howard** - October 05, 2020 at 10:24 PM

BC

“ Gabe was such a loving and fun person to me and all who surrounded me. Being the only non-freshman in my pledge class he helped answer a lot of my questions from starting college to my desires to get an internship.

After a big part of my life changed, he was one of very few people I felt comfortable contacting and words couldn't express how much that did and still means to me. Last I spoke to him he gave inspiring words about me transferring colleges and taking 8 years to get a degree. I wanted this, and he knew what it meant to be able to work your life in a job you love. For days after that and many days until now I have thought about how excited I was to tell him on graduation day that I finally did it! I'll be praying for him today and am still excited to tell him the day I graduate because his soul changed my life and I will always remember him.

---

**Beau Carlson** - October 05, 2020 at 08:39 PM

SN

“ I was away from HB for a few day visiting relatives and for some reason my heart told me to check the obituaries never expecting to see anyone I knew. This is the most shocking news, Gabe and Zach would come into the Corner Store often while I was employed there. Such a sweet kid he was! My heart breaks for Sharon, Mike and your families. I will keep you all in my prayers, may God give you strength to endure this pain.

---

**Sandy Nikel** - October 05, 2020 at 08:14 PM

TY

“ I am in shock over the tragic news of the passing of Gabe Martinez. My heart breaks more and more every time I think of our childhood growing up and the memories we made. From the time we met, I knew Gabe would play a substantial role in my life. He lit up the room with his contagious personality, smile, and humor. Gabe connected with all people, and could carry on a conversation with anyone; He was a best friend and a better person to all people who crossed his path. My family loved Gabe like their own and would claim him in a heartbeat.

Gabe, thank you for letting me be a small part of your life. I will never forget you or the impact you had on myself and others. Like most, I would do anything to have another conversation with you. I am so thankful to have reconnected with you over the last few weeks of your life. My heart breaks for your wonderful family. Michael and Sharon, I continue to think of you during this difficult time; as a parent, I can't imagine losing a child. Zach, as a brother I can't imagine the pain you are feeling right now.

Throughout life, you meet people and then you meet someone as great as Gabe. RIP My Friend

---

**Travis Youatt** - October 05, 2020 at 07:38 PM

ET

“ Many fine winter days were spent snowboarding with Gabe and Zach. The world is a lesser place without that huge smile.

With deepest sympathy and fond memories,  
Evan

---

**Evan Tapio** - October 05, 2020 at 07:35 PM

JO

“ *I am so sorry for your loss.  
Hugs and prayers.  
Joanne Schulte*

joanne - October 05, 2020 at 07:33 PM

FP

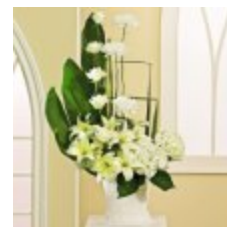
“ *Faith Pedrotte lit a candle in memory of  
Gabriel Matthew Martinez*



Faith Pedrotte - October 05, 2020 at 07:00 PM



“ *Eternal Grace was purchased for the family of  
Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 05, 2020 at 06:36 PM

AB

“ *The news about Gabe was heart wrenching. I would never wish  
something like this on my worst enemy. Lean on family and friends  
Sharon. This is one reason why they are here. Cry as much as you  
need. Share stories about Gabe. He will be listening and smiling  
down on you. RIP Gabe. You left us too soon.....*

Al Backus - October 05, 2020 at 06:12 PM

AR

“ I am so sorry to hear about your loss. I am holding you up in prayers. May his memory be eternal.

-----  
**Andrea Rapson** - October 05, 2020 at 06:11 PM

ED

“ Sharon, I'm so sorry to hear about your son Gabe. What a devastating loss. I remember when you were pregnant with him and working at the hospital. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Ellen Dean, Phoenix AZ

-----  
**Ellen A Dean** - October 05, 2020 at 05:58 PM



“ Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.



-----  
October 05, 2020 at 04:49 PM



“ Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.



-----  
October 05, 2020 at 04:48 PM



“ *Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 05, 2020 at 04:18 PM



“ *Love U Gabe always have, always will 🙏🙏💕*

**Jay & Rene** - October 05, 2020 at 04:14 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*

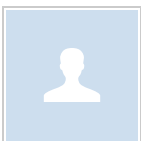


October 05, 2020 at 04:14 PM



“ *Gabe gave the best hugs. You could feel his love radiate right into you. Gabe will be missed greatly.*

**Karryn Hicks** - October 05, 2020 at 03:45 PM



“ *Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.*



October 05, 2020 at 03:41 PM

MJ

“ We have so many memories of Gabe. It was a joy to watch him grow up and become the wonderful young man that he was. Our very deepest condolences to all of you. May he rest in eternal peace, and forever in our hearts. 💔🙏

Mary Jo - October 05, 2020 at 03:39 PM

MS

“ Sharon, my deepest condolences go out to you and your family. My son Tim, age 59, passed away on Saturday, September 26th. I just returned from his funeral in Oklahoma and know the sorrow you must feel. May God's grace sustain you in the days ahead. I'm praying for you. Marilyn Swihart

Marilyn Swihart - October 05, 2020 at 03:30 PM

RT

“ Our hearts are breaking for the loss of this wonderful young man, sending prayers, hugs, love and our deepest sympathies to the whole family.



Renee and Tim Terwillegar - October 05, 2020 at 03:05 PM

WH

“ Gabe pretty much lived at my house best friends with my son aaron. They use to help me chase bats out of the house. And laugh at me running. Gonna miss you kid!! RIP

Willie Hale - October 05, 2020 at 02:54 PM

WW

“ When your family first came to Harbor Beach, I knew you then when you were a lot younger. All the boys went to swim lessons in Deckerville and we'd sing country songs on the way there and back. It was fun times. You were always such a polite, nice boy. I didnt know you later in you life, but my heart breaks for your family to loose such a wonderful son, nephew, and friend 😞. We have to hold onto our memories of our loved ones and know that theyre with the people who loved them, in spirit. Many many prayers to mend the broken hearts 🙏💕

Wendy Walker - October 05, 2020 at 02:38 PM

KH

“ My heart is broken but I know you're in a better place watching over all of us. You were a amazing guy and a great friend. I love you buddy, I miss you, and we will meet again some day.

Kevin Hayter - October 05, 2020 at 02:38 PM

JH

“ You we're such a great friend. I'm so heartbroken. Rest easy bud.



Jenny H - October 05, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Gabriel Matthew Martinez.



October 05, 2020 at 01:23 PM

KG

“ *My heart is breaking. Gabe was such a polite young man with a beautiful, contagious smile. As a child he spent much time at our house with our middle son Brandon and other neighbor boys. Their adventures were endless, and sometimes nail-biting for us moms! I can't help but wonder God's thinking on this one, but I do believe that heaven must have needed one special angel. Many hugs and prayers to the family. May you be comforted by the amazing memories Gabe left with all of us. Love you Gabe...you will be missed, but thought of often. The Larry & Karen Guitar family*



---

**Karen Guitar** - October 05, 2020 at 01:17 PM