

*Two
thousand*

22

LEARNING FROM THOSE WE'VE LOST
Teen Memoriam



*I miss all the time
we spent together*

I love you

*We love and
miss you*

*you'll never
be forgotten*

Life is all about learning. Sadly, some lessons come at the cost of those we love dearly. But their stories can still fulfill a greater purpose. If we learn from them, we can prevent future roadway tragedies.

We share these stories each year in hopes that teen drivers and their parents will discuss their shared responsibility when behind the wheel.

Please — take time to talk with your loved ones about roadway safety. The lessons learned could save your lives.

I am lost without you

We're grateful for the courageous families that have shared these stories in hopes of preventing others from dying in motor vehicle crashes.

I miss you

*The world isn't the same
without you*

ill never forget you

*Always and forever
on my mind*



I miss my big bodyguard. I love you so much. Mom

We always had so much fun playing "attack the CJ" at family parties. Your cousins and nieces and nephews



CJ RUSSELL

Age 19 | Draper, UT

When I was new at school you were the first one to come over to my table at lunch and ask me to come and eat with you and your friends. Olivia

It's crazy that one day your best friend can be gone and the blink of an eye. You never really know what you've lost until it's gone. I miss you dearly every single day. Tate



You always came into work and gave me a big hug. Kenney

I miss you every single day. Now I don't have anyone to harass. Your little brother, Isaiah

On August 14, 2022, our lives changed forever again. I say "again" because nine months prior to CJ's passing, my 28-year-old daughter passed due to alcoholism.

CJ had convinced a new friend he had just met the night prior to let him drive his cool car to the friend's house. The story we got from friends was that CJ had been up all night. It was now about 8:30 a.m. His friend finally relented to CJ's nagging to let him drive his car.

CJ loved cool, fast cars. He didn't have much experience driving, as he only got his learner permit a few months prior. They had taken the 2100 North exit in Lehi going southbound. CJ was driving at a very high rate of speed — around 100 miles per hour according to police. When you get to the light at the bottom of the exit, you can only go right or left. For some reason we will probably never know, CJ went straight. He hit a curb and went airborne. They hit the top of a 6-foot chain-link fence, pulled off 300 feet of the fencing and bent 27 posts.

They hit the dirt embankment on the other side of the fence head-on, killing them both instantly. After hitting the embankment, the car flipped and cleared another 6-foot fence and landed on the driver's side. They did have their seat belts on, which kept them in their seats. But, that kind of speed breaks necks and tears arteries away from hearts. We have no idea why he didn't attempt to stop. We do know he had high levels of marijuana in his system but that was it.

As I said, CJ had just met his new friend the night before. This is exactly who CJ is. He has so many friends. He always greeted you with a huge CJ bear hug. In fact, we called him the "big teddy bear." The nieces and nephews and my grandkids adored him. He was a 6-foot, 3-inch, 250-pound big kid at heart. We have several pictures of all of them hanging on him and him trying to get away. That was their game.

When I couldn't reach something, I would call CJ to come help and he would get it with ease. I asked him to help me move a big wood table. He said, "Just push it up on that side," and then picked it up by himself and moved the table for me. He always did what I asked, usually with very little grumbling. As I am writing this, we just passed the one-year anniversary of his funeral yesterday. We miss him so much, along with his sister.

I plead with anyone reading this to be responsible when driving. Unfortunately, many families have had to receive the call that their teenager isn't coming home. Our family has been beyond devastated by the two losses we have had. Speeding kills and alcohol kills. Neither one of my kids thought it would happen to them.

“ But, disaster struck twice at our house. Our family will NEVER be the same. ”

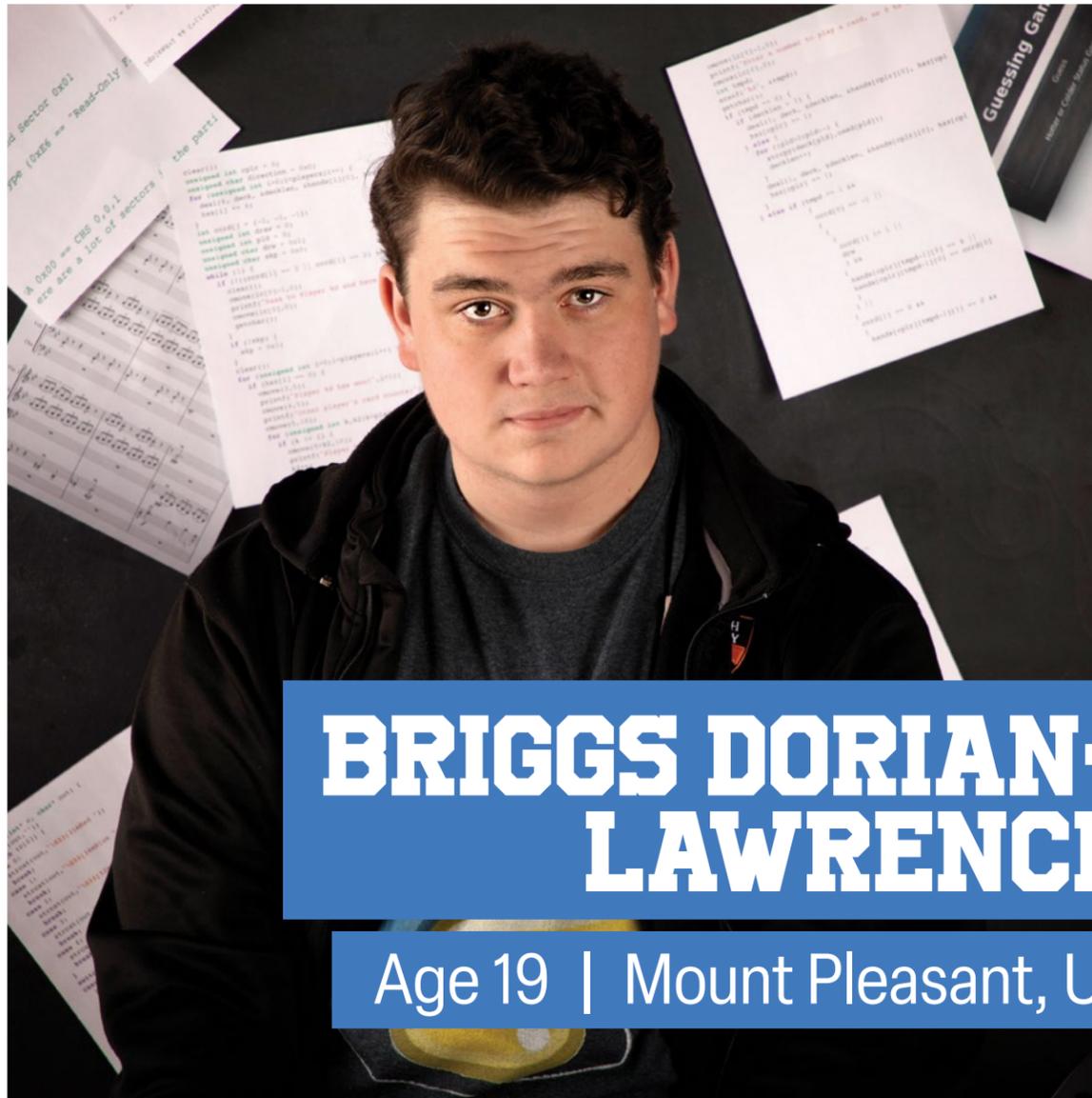
Briggs- we love and miss you.
Aunt Jenny and Uncle Graham

Briggs, we'll always miss and love you, Grandma and Grandpa

Briggs. what I wouldn't give for one of your hugs.
Love you deeply forever. Mama

Briggs: The world isn't the same without you in it.
Susan
I love you Briggs and will always miss you. Tess

Briggs. The hardest part is never getting to know the person you would be right now. -Brianna
We miss you Briggs. You were like a brother to us. Love, Tess and James



BRIGGS DORIAN-LAWRENCE

Age 19 | Mount Pleasant, UT

Briggs- You will not be forgotten. Miss you so much.
Love, Aunt Maggie and Uncle Jeff

Love you and miss you, Briggs. Your BFF, Matthew

Briggs MacRae Dorian-Lawrence died Wednesday, January 5, 2022. He was 19 years old. He came into this world at 11 pounds 8 ounces and left this world standing at 6 feet 5 inches.

Briggs left home in Mount Pleasant at 7:00 a.m. Wednesday morning en route to The Center for Change in Orem. I stood outside in the dark and cold for almost 10 minutes before he left while he got his music ready and himself situated before he 'toot toot tooted' his horn in his traditional way of saying "I love you" and I'm off.

I started texting him around 8:00 a.m. wondering if he made it to his appointment, knowing Briggs would never interrupt an appointment or class by texting. I knew I'd have to wait until lunch to hear from him. Before that time, two Utah state troopers showed up at my door.

I learned that at 7:40 a.m. in Spanish Fork Canyon, Briggs drifted over the centerline into oncoming traffic, colliding with a truck. He died instantly.

A year and a half later, we know very little about the accident. All we really know is that he didn't come home. (Please read that last sentence again. It is a sentence that no parent thinks they will write or know how to survive.)

Briggs was adamant about not being a distracted driver, which is why he took his time before leaving every morning. He didn't like it when I would answer a call via hands-free in my car or even when I would adjust the temperature in the car.

Briggs was in his second year as a Computer Science major at Rochester Institute of Technology. He felt like he found his people at RIT. He loved being immersed in programming, algorithms, learning new computer languages, and more. He was passionate about both the hardware and software side of his field.

Briggs was also an accomplished musician; he was a classical and digital composer, a digital artist and a violist. I was lucky enough to perform the Messiah with him, just a few weeks before his accident, at Snow College.

There is so much I would love to share about Briggs. He was truly a genius and a deeply curious person. His desire to know how things worked knew no bounds, from how a joke is formed to how vaccines are designed and beyond. Friends and family were deeply important to Briggs. He let the people in his life know how important they were to him and how wonderful he knew them to be.

Mostly, I would like you to know that his friends and even his acquaintances said they never knew someone who supported them more, who helped them feel welcome and to just be themselves. Briggs' kindness towards others made us feel valued and seen. I would like to share with you how much I miss his perfect hugs and his hearty laughter, well more of a cackle really. I miss how much of an impact he already had on this world and miss the impact that was taken away from him and us.

It is important to learn the rules of the road, to drive safely, and to be aware. Most of us realize that there are no guarantees in this world. However, we shouldn't have to know that firsthand.

"I think what Briggs would want you to know is first, driving distracted is not ok, then he would want you to love fiercely and know the impact you have on the world matters."

Briggs, I wish you could've known the impact you had on the people around you. Shoshanah



I am lost without you, Son, but I am determined to somehow celebrate every glorious moment we had together. Dad

Love you and wish I could see you, Briggs. Love, Rebecca

I miss you more than ever! I think about you every day. I can't wait to be with you again. I love you! - Dad

Everyone should know Eli! I am doing my best to introduce you to everyone. I miss you every day. Love you! - Love Mom

I miss your humongous smile. - Jane

I miss you every day, and I know so many people that do too. Can't wait to see you again buddy! - Coop

We walked and laughed together. Will do it again someday. - Grandpa Glendon



ELI TAYLOR MITCHELL

Age 13 | West Jordan, UT



I miss our epic air-soft wars. I can't wait for the next battle. - Blake

I miss your giant voice and laugh echoing in the walls of our home. Wish you were here. - Lacey

I am trying to Live Like Eli. Sure do miss you bud. - Grandpa Taylor

Miss you bestie Eli! - Emma

I miss you every day bro. I love you buddy. - Chandler

I miss laughing at all the funny things you had to say. - Camie

Ride on Eli! - Livolsi Fam

On April 26, 2022, Eli got home from school and bounded in the house in his usual way. Emma, Eli's only sister, would greet Eli, "Hi Bestie Eli!" then Eli would say, "Huggies" and he would give Emma a big hug. The only difference when Eli got home that day was how excited he was with the news that I had finally gotten him the debit card he had been asking me to get him for months. He said, "I am going to take my new debit card to the store and buy some treats with it."

I urged Eli to wait for me to take him later that night after Emma's soccer game. In Eli's independent style he said, "Nope...I'm gonna ride my bike to the store on my own." That's how Eli is. He is independent, resourceful and takes care of himself. Eli was on his way home from the store with his treats in hand. He was wearing a helmet (which is pretty awesome for a 13-year-old - he always wore his helmet) and had stopped at a crosswalk to make sure he had the right of way. He did have the right of way...his light was green and the walking indicator was flashing. Eli did everything right.

Unfortunately, the man who hit and killed Eli did everything wrong. He had spent the last six hours sitting at a bar drinking seven 20-ounce beers. He staggered out of the bar, got into his truck, put the keys in the ignition, and started driving. Less than one minute later he hit and killed Eli in the crosswalk. After hitting Eli, he didn't stop. He kept driving and ran over and crushed Eli's chest and his internal organs. Then he kept driving. Leaving Eli there to die. He kept driving but stopped long enough to remove Eli's crumpled bike from beneath his truck and toss it to the side of the road. Then he kept driving. He took one of the best souls away from us at 13 years old.

When Eli died, Emma said, "Everyone should know Eli." In that spirit let me share a few things about him. Eli was full of quirky confidence. Eli was authentically thoughtful of others while at the same time not giving a second thought to fitting norms or external molds. On any given evening, Eli would be playing Halo at one moment and then snuggling into bed with his favorite stuffed animals the next.

Eli worked hard and was incredibly responsible but could also find great enjoyment in the simple pleasures of life, like delicious (and often unhealthy) favorite foods such as candy, Coke, and pie. He was truly his own person and rose above the surface cares of the world. Eli always included others and let them be their unique selves. Eli knew how to handle challenges, fix anything, and simply figure life out. Eli and everyone around him had confidence in his ability to problem solve and deal with life's issues. Eli expected great things of himself and so did we.

Eli was kind and fun-loving and had many friends. Eli loved outdoor activities like snowboarding, riding ATVs, mountain biking, camping, video games, and airsoft wars. He was an avid reader which gave him an extensive vocabulary. (Much of the time I was not sure what Eli was saying because he'd use words I'd never heard before.) One of the statements Eli said was, "I am impervious to veiled criticism." What 13-year-old says that? The best part about it was it was so true. Eli was who he was and didn't give much thought to what others thought about him. I love that about Eli.

Eli was wise beyond his years. We know we will see Eli again but will miss him every day until then. Since Eli's passing, we strive to Live Like Eli. We want to embody all the qualities he had and honor Eli by living as he did. We will miss Eli in our homes, in our schools, on our buses, in our churches in our neighborhoods, and riding in our mountains. RIDE ON ELI!

Please spread the message to Never Drink and Drive!

Sure miss that quirky sense of humor. I look forward to seeing you again. - Jill

Miss the way you would just say what was on your mind. We love you. - Reed and Amber

I look at the ladder in my backyard every day and wish you could still be on the other side. - Kaseen

The ones that love us, never really leave us. Love and miss you every day Eli. - Alisha

I will always look for you in the stars and moon - Mom

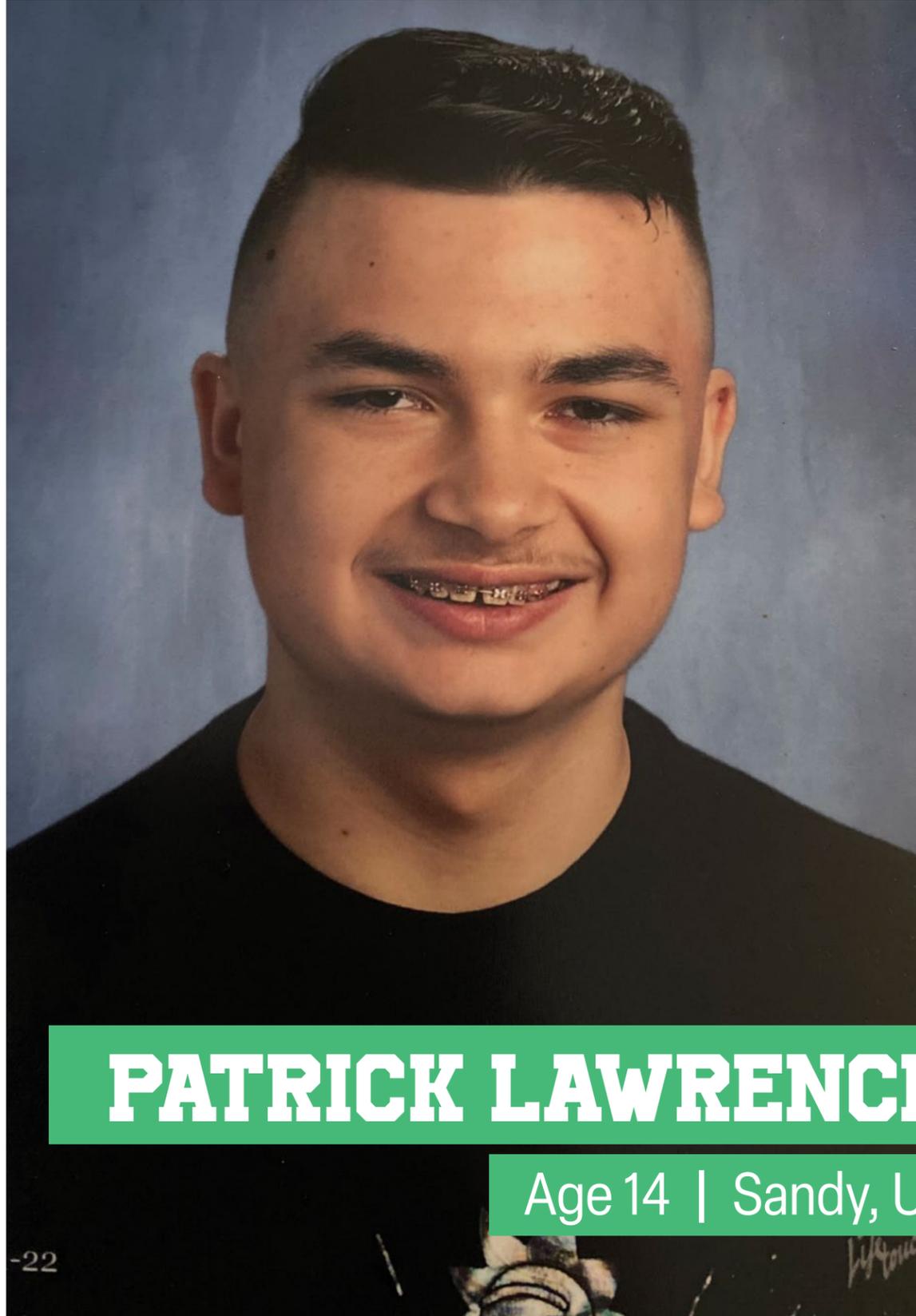
Miss you baby boy. always and forever on my mind. When I get my wings I will see you again - love Grandma

You will always be my 2- sense baby boy - Grandpa

You are my guardian angel that forever watches over me - One and only brother

I miss you every day and think about you all the time, you'll never be forgotten. - Uncle Davey

Until we meet again - Uncle Justin

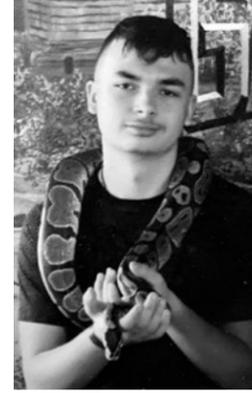


PATRICK LAWRENCE

Age 14 | Sandy, UT

When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure - Beth

Hey bud. I want you to know I miss you and wish you were here - Kevin



We nicknamed Patrick LP (Little Patrick) for the confusion of being named after my uncle. Patrick was a very quiet kid through his middle and high school years. LP was not a social or photogenic kid unless I bribed him with saying "Please, memories for me".

His BMX bike and gaming systems were his most favorite things. He would wait for everyone to go to sleep and go out and ride his bike at night. His older brother would always wait up for however long to make sure he made it back. In his late pre-teen to early-teen years, he started battling mental health issues. He struggled through the years up until the year prior to his passing, when we noticed a total turn around. He was smiling and coming around with the family more. He was starting to come out of his hermit shell and living life how it should be for a kid.

He had this contagious laugh that would just keep you both laughing non-stop until your gut hurt. He loved to annoy me (by saying, "Mother, Mother, Mother" to me non-stop). If I locked my door on him or went somewhere else to get away, he would follow me around. I would give anything to get those back.

LP was a very smart kid with science even though his grades didn't show it. He loved nature and all the little creatures it comes with. LP's best friend was his dog "General." He had to do everything with him. Other favorites were camping, skipping/collecting rocks and shooting his BB gun.

April 18, 2022, the day after Easter, is when my son received his wings. I was at work that morning when I had received the call from my neighbor. My son was on his way to school riding his bike that morning. Across the street from home, the rail guards were down. The first train had passed before he started crossing. However, he didn't see the other train on the opposite side until it was too late.

The side of the train clipped his bike and flipped him in the air. He landed on his head where the first set of tracks were. He died on impact. He was not wearing a helmet and his brakes had broken on him a couple months prior. Had he been wearing a helmet and proper working equipment, and had he been aware of the crossings that day, my son would still be alive.

Dealing with LP passing has been the most horrifying thing our family has ever dealt with, and we have been through a lot of life situations. It's hard to let go that it happened. We are left with a lot of questions that will be unanswered. He is missed dearly by tons of family and friends. We keep his memory alive by getting together to celebrate and decorate the vigil site for every holiday.

" Please remember, trains are moving faster than you think. Always obey all warning signs and signals at railroad crossings and cross only at designated pedestrian or roadway crossings. "

You're the sun and I'm the moon. - Stawmie
I'll always cherish our time in Florida. Aunt Melinda

You will...always be my baby boy, never be forgotten, be loved and missed dearly, until we meet again. - Uncle Pat

I still think I'll see you waiting for me making sure I don't get left behind!
I miss your smiles I had to force out of you for pictures, you are in my thoughts! - Aunt Angelique

I love and miss you everyday - Jackson

Thank you for watching over me and my family - Karly

I miss your smile, your bigger than life personality, and your hugs. - Aunt Callie

I loved your playful teasing - Aunt Jacque

I think of you every day. I love you Gage - Love Mom

Miss your compassionate heart and ability to make everyone laugh - Aunt Wendy



GAGE MANNING

Age 17 | Clearfield, UT

I miss you guys like crazy - Justin

Not a day goes by that I don't miss my baby boy. I miss you like crazy - Love Dad

I miss you very much Gage - Maddie



On April 1st around 11:30 p.m., my husband, Jack, received a call from the hospital informing him that Gage had been in a crash and was in surgery. Jack called me right away (I was in California). I was so relieved that he was in surgery because that meant he was alive. He was going to be okay. Jack, my son Jackson and his wife Karly rushed to the hospital to be with Gage.

We were told there were five kids in the accident (three boys, two girls), none were wearing seat belts and all were ejected. We knew that Gage was with his cousin River and another friend. There were so many questions. One of the girls was at the same hospital as Gage, a boy and girl were at the other hospital and one boy was dead at the scene. It was such devastating news.

The friend's dad called Jack to let him know that his son was going to be okay. That was good news, but it also meant that our nephew, River, was the one left at the scene. Our hearts were crushed, yet still trying to be hopeful for our own son's recovery. Gage was life flighted from the scene and was bleeding internally. They bypassed the ER and went straight to surgery.

After surgery they sent him for a CT scan. They found that he had a major head injury and wasn't going to survive. He was so unstable that they didn't think I would be able to make it home from California to say goodbye. The ICU staff did all they could to keep him alive for me. It took me 12 hours to get from California to Ogden and Gage held on. I was able to hug him, kiss him and say goodbye. They were the absolute worst 12 hours of all our lives.

After getting all the pieces of the puzzle, we learned that Gage was the driver. He had no alcohol in his system. He was just driving too fast (probably distracted) on a winding road in the dark, over-corrected and rolled the vehicle a few times. Where Gage and River were sitting had the least amount of damage.

“ I know that they would be here today if they would've been wearing their seat belts. I hope the other kids are now wearing their seat belts and not driving distracted. I'm super proud of all of them for having a designated driver. ”

On April 2 at 1:30 p.m., we had to say goodbye to our enthusiastic, adventure seeking, fun-loving, larger-than-life boy. He was a friend and protector to all. He was up for anything and everything. He always had a smile on his face and such a contagious laugh. He will be greatly missed, always remembered and live on in our hearts forever. We know that Gage and River are together and we miss them fiercely. We love you, Gage.

We all miss you so much! - Cooper

I'll never forget you Gage - Katelyn

We will always love you - Grandpa Terry & Sarah

Miss your beautiful presence in our lives - Lisa

You lived your life on your terms - Grandma

I miss all the time we spent together - Ryan

As long as one and one is two, there could never be a father loved his daughter more than I love you. - Dad

I've got boots and she's got wings. We ride side by side. - Dylan

You are the dancing queen, young and sweet, only seventeen - Sid

Have I told you you're my favorite - Grandma Suzanne



LILLY WARREN

Age 17 | Springville, UT



I hope you're dancing in the sky - Kortney M

You're all the things I've got to remember. Auntie M

My husband's phone rang early Tuesday morning, October 25, minutes after Lilly walked out the door. A bystander called and said, "Are you Lilly Warren's dad? She was just hit by a car, she's hurt, you need to come". Within seconds, his phone rang multiple times. People were trying to relay the seriousness of the situation. I threw on my shoes and ran the two blocks up the street to the scene of the accident. When we arrived, they were looking for a pulse. She was covered in blood and non-responsive.

She had been hit by a truck, landing 80 feet away while using the crosswalk. Her heart had stopped and she was not breathing. A few good Samaritans, including the driver, began performing CPR and other lifesaving efforts to bring Lilly back.

As I rode in the ambulance with her, I could hear the rush and panic of the EMT's trying to keep her stable on our way to UVRMC.

Anxiously waiting for answers, they allowed us to see her after cleaning her up. She had little to no road rash, every fingernail and eyelash was in place, things looked promising. Later we found she had severe head trauma, numerous broken bones, severed carotid arteries, a shattered pelvis and broken back. They performed multiple scans and surgery to relieve pressure on Lilly's brain. Again, things looked promising. Early the next morning, the doctor told us Lilly had a five to 10 percent chance of survivability, and if so, she would be severely disabled.

We were able to bring our family together to say goodbye to Lilly. Along with her friends, classmates and our community, hundreds of people came to the ICU room to pay Lilly their respects. We were grateful for the time we had with her that gave some sense of closure.

Lilly was one-of-a-kind to say the least. She was passionate and daring enough to try anything. From high school wrestling to running heavy equipment with her dad, she flew an airplane, rode stand-up jet skis, and wanted to skydive at five years old.

Lilly's creations were impressive, from putting countless sharpie tattoos on her brothers and friends, to traditional artwork with watercolors and welding projects that her teachers displayed on the "Table of Champions."

She was strong and fierce! She loved old music, baseball caps, had awesome lashes and fingernails and wore cowboy boots and belt buckles, although she did not own a horse. She loved "Dr Pepper" but only if poured correctly from a fountain and had an endless list of movie quotes and Simpsons one liners. She drove more miles in her dad's cobra and on motorcycles with her mother to work at La Casita than any other girl with no driver license and only a learner permit. She lived two lifetimes in her short years.

When we had taken her to get her learner permit, without a blink, she checked the organ donation box. We knew we needed to honor her wishes and donate her organs to give others a second chance at life.

Accidents happen in this world every day. It is what you choose to do in the seconds, minutes, days and even years after that accident that matters. There are consequences for those actions whether they were done with or without intent.

“ The consequences can be severe and life changing. ”

For us, by forgiving the driver and getting to know him and his family, it has brought some sense of peace so that our families can continue to heal with each other and continue to honor Lilly.

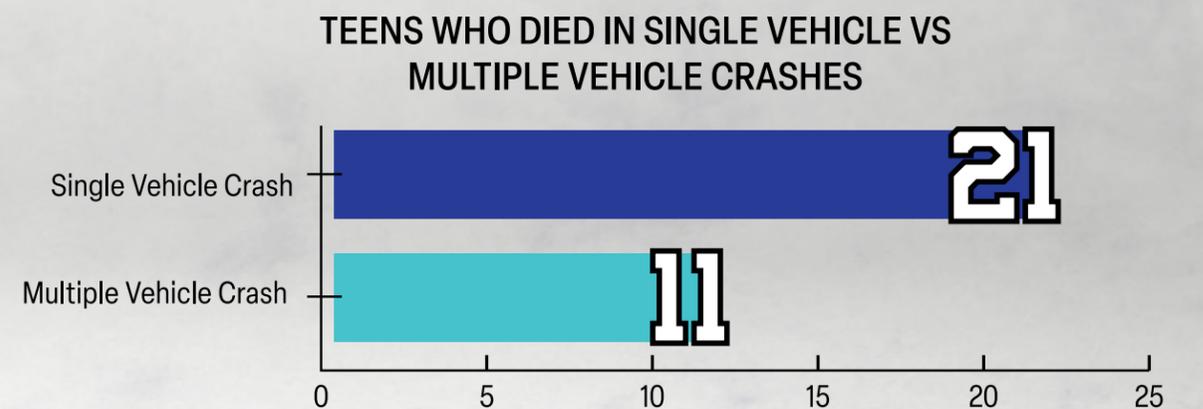
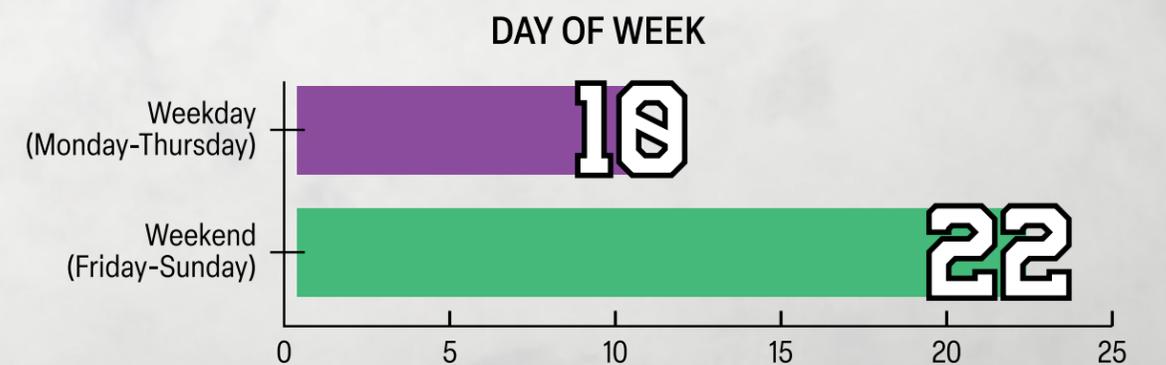
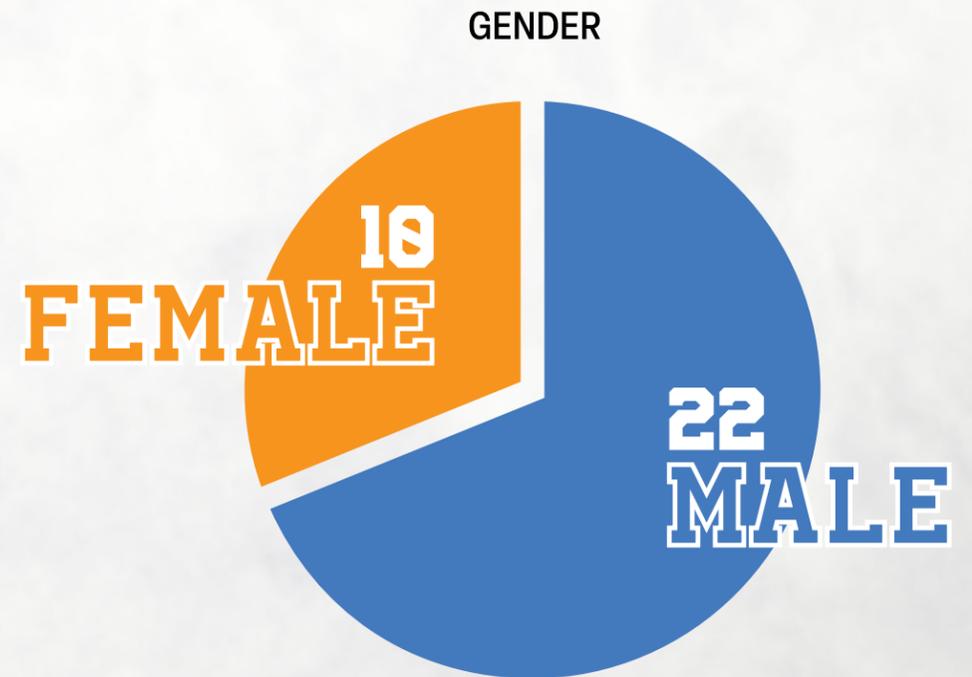
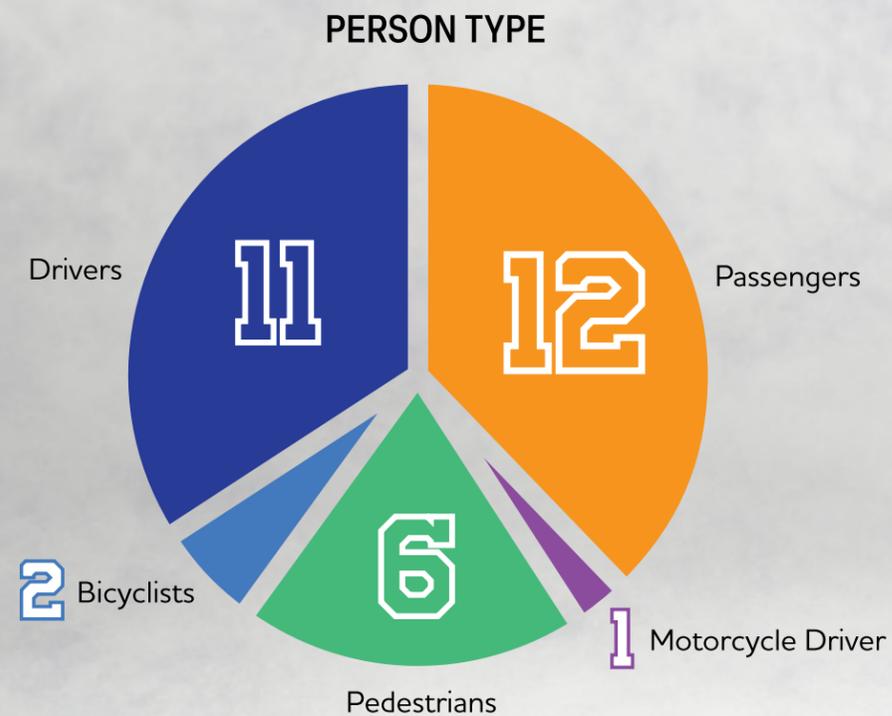
'Til then, give heaven some hell - Joriel and Cassandra

But there is not enough time. I tell you one thing, we're better together. - Yulia

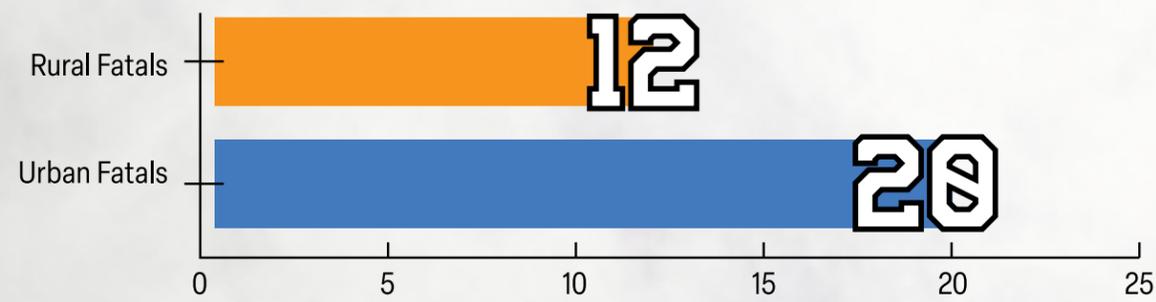
2022 TEEN CRASH STATISTICS

32 TEENS LOST THEIR LIVES
ON UTAH ROADS

A fatal crash is defined as a crash involving a motor vehicle traveling on a traffic way resulting in a death of at least one person within 30 days of the crash.
(Utah Department of Public Safety)

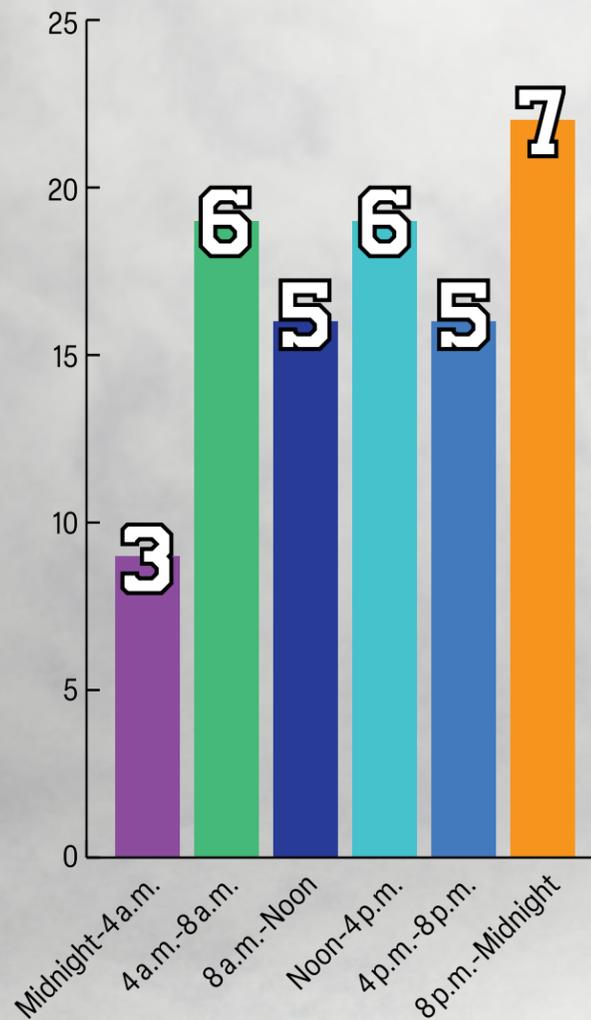


RURAL VS URBAN ROADS*

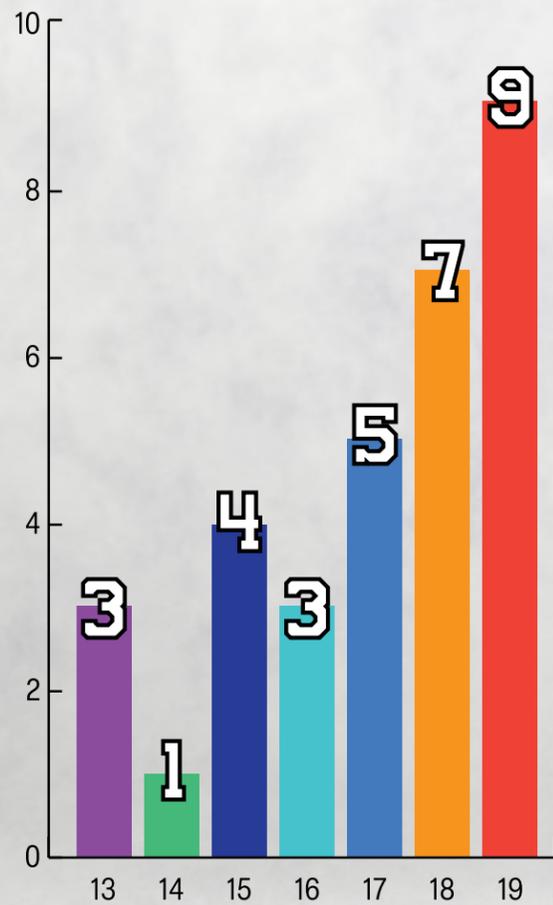


*Statistic based on roadway

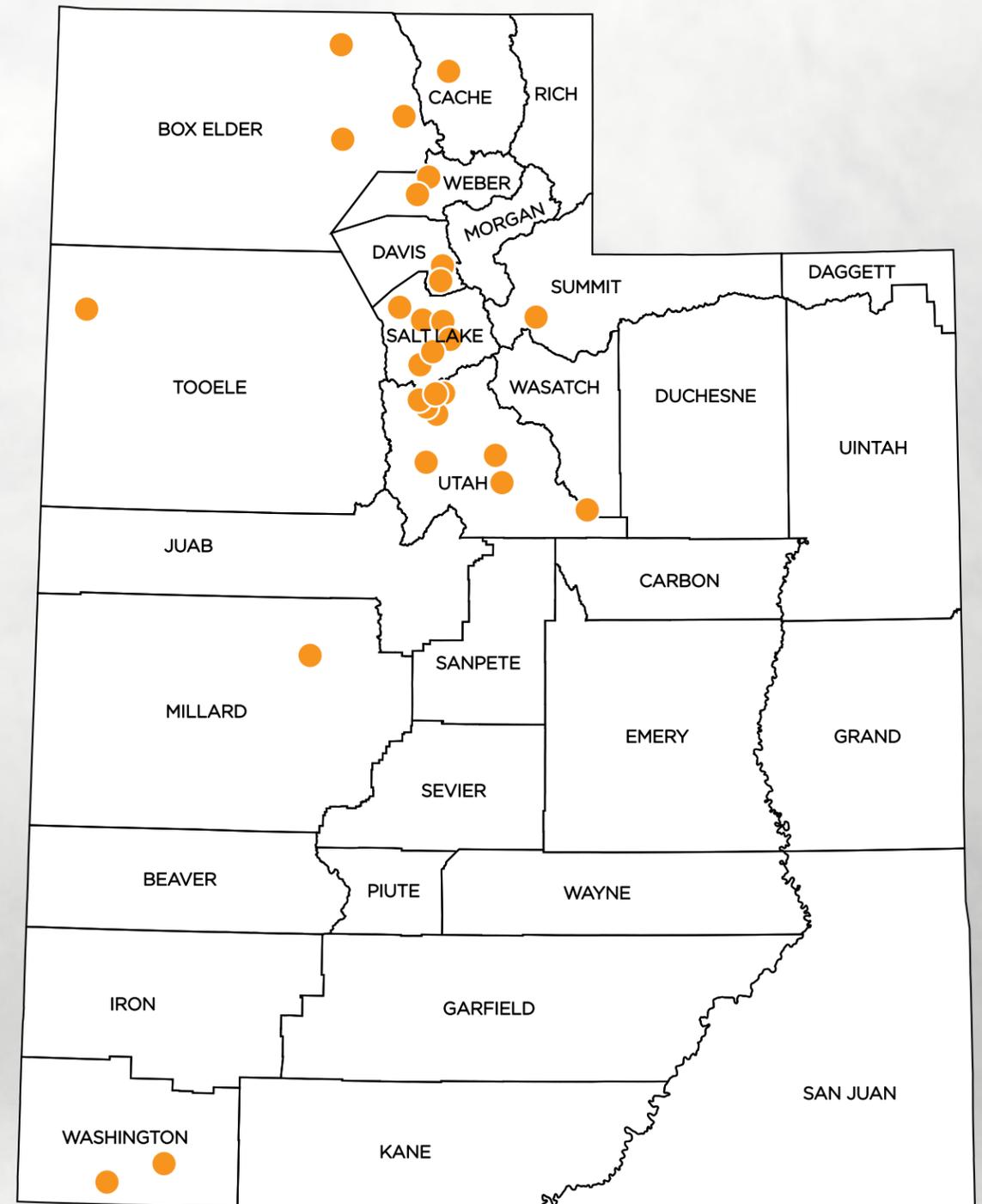
TIME OF DAY



AGE



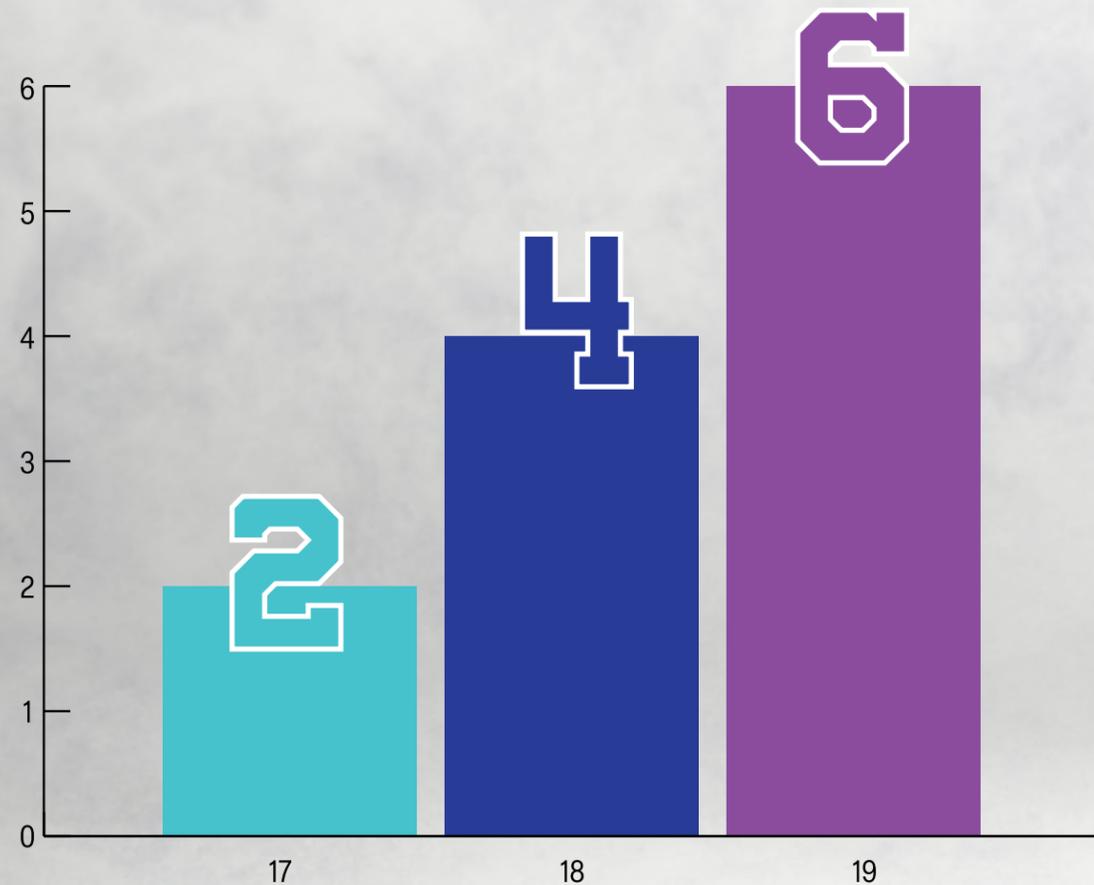
2022 UTAH TEEN MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITIES



2022 TEEN DRIVER STATISTICS

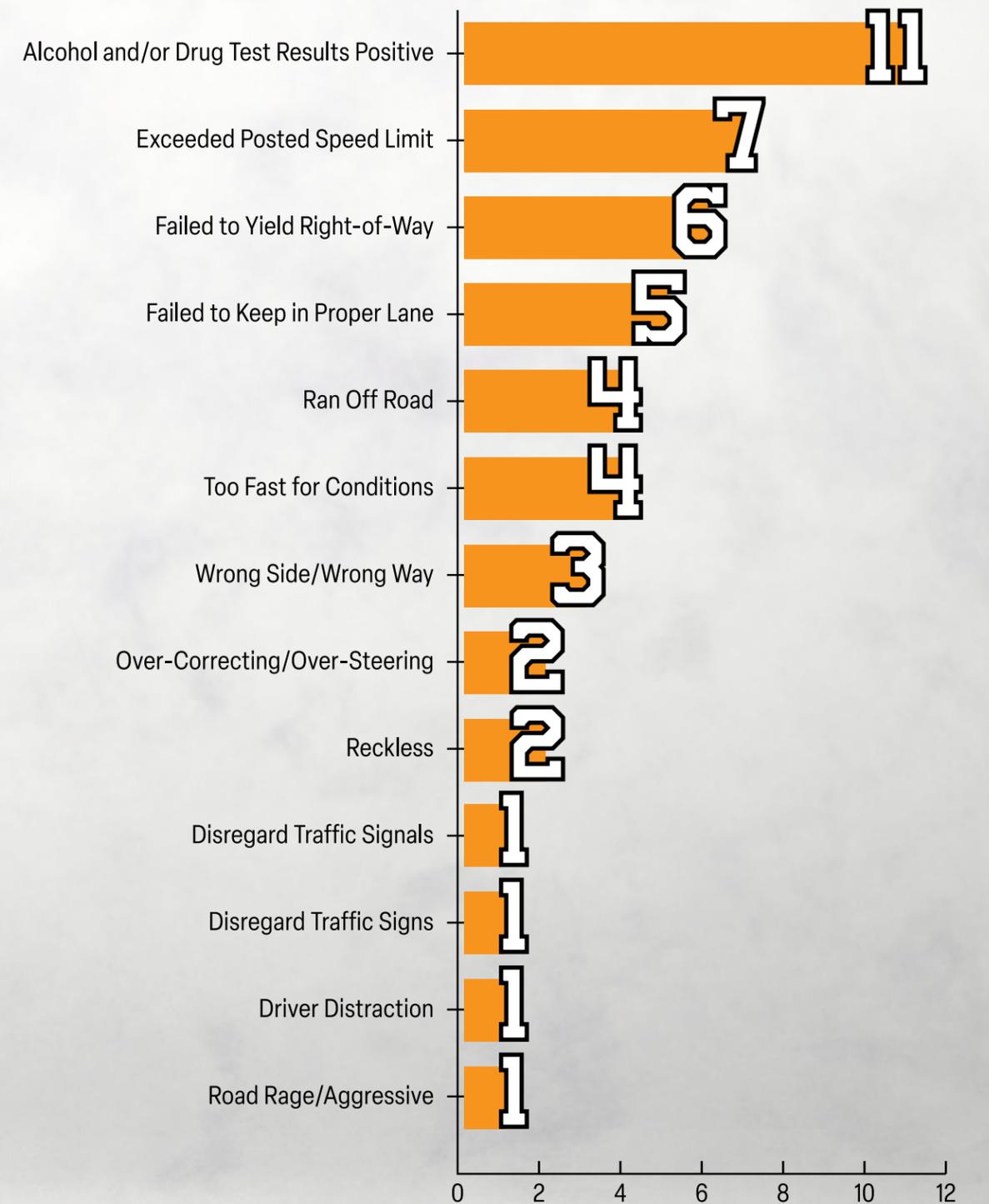
In 2022, 41 teen drivers were involved in a fatal crash; a total of 43 people were killed in these crashes, including 12 of the 41 teen drivers.

AGE OF TEEN DRIVER



ZERO Fatalities

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS*



*Each crash may have more than one contributing factor

ZERO Fatalities

USE THIS BOOK TO SAVE LIVES

For the past 15 years, families have courageously shared their stories about how they lost their teen on a Utah road. Their hope in sharing these stories is that others never have to feel the pain of losing a loved one in a car crash. Please learn from these stories. Talk with your loved ones, friends, classmates and students about these tragic stories and set rules for your car and whenever you ride in a car. When reading these stories, please consider the following questions:

What caused the crash?

Could it have been prevented?

What rules can you set while you are driving or riding in a car that can help avoid this type of crash?

Remember to be sensitive and not to place blame on any one person. Rather, focus on the principles that can be applied to encourage safe driving. Point out actions that are dangerous and should be avoided.



2016



2017



2018-2020



2021

To view Teen Memoriams from previous years, visit

ZeroFatalities.com/teen-memoriam-books

This book would not be possible without support from the following organizations:



Utah Teen Driving Task Force

zero[®] **Fatalities**

A Goal We Can All Live With

A UDOT and DPS Program