



MATTHEW EVAN EMRICK, BORN ON FEBRUARY 6, 1979 IN DENVER, CO, WAS DEEPLY LOVED BY MANY. HE PASSED AWAY ON JULY 21, 2006 AT HIS HOME IN AURORA AT THE AGE OF 27. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS PARENTS, CAROL AND CHAD EMRICK, SIBLINGS JASON AND TARA EMRICK, BROTHER-IN-LAW BRYAN KONO, AND EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS. MATT WORKED FOR LODOS, CHERRY CRICKET, CROCS, MONSTER, AND BUDWEISER, AS WELL AS NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL IN AURORA—WHERE HE WAS A DEAR FRIEND AND MENTOR TO MANY. A THRILL SEEKER, MATT'S PURSUITS WERE EXTENSIVE. HE LOVED TO RIDE HIS MOTORCYCLE, WAS AN AVID SNOWBOARDER, CHERISHED TIME SPENT LIVING IN MAUI, AND APPRECIATED HANGING OUT WITH HIS BELOVED FRIENDS. WITH A CARING AND COMPASSIONATE SPIRIT, MATT NEVER HESITATED TO PUT OTHERS BEFORE HIMSELF AND WILLINGLY OFFERED HELP WHENEVER NEEDED. HE WAS A BRILLIANT FRIEND, AN AMAZING BROTHER, AND A BEAUTIFUL SON. A TRUE SHINING LIGHT IN THE WORLD, HE WILL BE PROFOUNDLY MISSED AND HIS RADIANCE WILL FOREVER REMAIN.

*MATTHEW EMRICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND*



*For Matt...*

*Love of Life on a separate plane  
Where a mere you or I can dwell if only in a Dreamer's gleam  
Your pulse has rhythm  
And the booming beat circulates the amplitude of your soul  
Warm core and outward strength  
You transformed life's scars into art  
And we struggle to do justice to this wound  
Torrent of grace on a fire escape  
The great height you attained  
Now freedom's view  
Float, soar  
On your raging gust of fate  
Live on  
In her, in me  
In the youth and your faith in possibility*

*Untitled*

I NEEDED SOMEONE TO TALK TO  
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE  
EVEN IF IT WAS JUST TO HEAR HOW THINGS SOUND  
WHEN THEY'RE SAID OUTLOUD.

SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT HAVE  
A PERSPECTIVE I CAN'T SEE ON MY OWN  
SOMETIMES IT JUST HELPED  
TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE ELSE WAS AWARE  
OF WHAT I WAS GOING THROUGH  
AND CARES...

AND I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW  
I APPRECIATE HAVING YOU IN MY LIFE  
BECAUSE YOU WERE ALWAYS HERE  
WHEN I NEEDED YOU  
AND YOU ALWAYS SEEMED TO KNOW  
JUST WHAT I NEEDED

POEM written by one of Matthew's students at North Middle School