



# Clinton Matthew Meister

January 2, 1975 - May 27, 2022

Clinton M. Meister, age 47 died on Friday, May 27, 2022, of a massive heart attack. Clint is survived by his beloved fiancée and soul mate of Erin Kruczek. Always the proud and loving father of Aidan Meister, his only son with his ex-wife, Katie (Jay) Rubenstein. He is survived and cherished as a beloved son of Gale (Thomas) Vanselous. He was a loving brother to Nina Meister and loved stepson of Mary Mannix Meister who has been in his life since childhood. He was the beloved stepbrother to Todd (Adrienne) Vanselous and Thomas A Vanselous. Clinton was recently preceded in death by his beloved father, Christopher C Meister. Uncle to Morgan Vanselous and will be missed by many loving aunts and uncles.

Clinton grew up in a loving blended family. After his family he was first an artist, never far from his easel or sketchpad. Clinton worked as a Community Integration Facilitator for JVS and worked part time as a designer for the Heidelberg Project in Detroit.

Working in the field of Human Services for many years, Clint brought laughter and sunshine to the lives of many less fortunate. He had a natural talent with people, and he was well loved. Clinton will be remembered by those who knew him for his wonderful sense of humor, his individuality, his unique intelligence, and his love of life. He was also proud of his 15 years in recovery through AA.

He loved his family, his home, his garden and was devoted to his son, Aidan.

Clinton was born in Philadelphia, PA and lived in Pennsylvania for most of his life. He moved to Dearborn, Michigan 3 years ago where he resided with his fiancée, Erin and her two children; Audrey and Johnny Kruczek who he loved as well.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Heidelberg Project at 3442 McDougall, Detroit MI 48207 on Sunday, June 12, 2022. Visitors may call from 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Memorial contributions can be made to The Heidelberg Project Detroit MI - <https://www.heidelberg.org> or to JVS also in Detroit MI <https://jvshumanservices.org>

Please take a moment to share a memory or a story about Clint or leave a condolence to the Meister Family on Clint's Tribute Wall.



# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 12. 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Heidelberg Project  
3442 McDougall Street  
Detroit, MI 48207

# Tribute Wall



“ I have fairly vivid memories of Clint. We met in college, at Bucks, and somehow, though we were acquaintances, we managed to be rather close at it. Perhaps because we shared the same circle of friends. We'd had many deep, in-depth conversations, operating on the same wavelength.



One of my favorite memories of Clint was not long after we'd first met during our first semester at Bucks. I had just gotten my license, and was still hesitant about driving home in the dark, but Clint and I, and another friend, sat in the college theater, on the stage, and I listened intently as he told me the theater was haunted. All college theaters are somehow "haunted", aren't they?

Anyway, after classes were finished, it was a late, November afternoon, and we sat there waiting for this alleged ghost to appear. I was enjoying Clint's company so much, that, for the first time, I decided to brave driving home in the dark, as it darkened early by that month.

After that, we were certified friends, really. Hanging out with friends in the sad little radio station, playing hackey-sack out on "the quad", going as a group to a shared friend's family house in the Poconos, meeting up at the BFD, sitting at the counter talking for hours, which leads me to my second favorite memory of Clint, as he explained a rather uncomfortable dilemma he had, having gotten a moth caught in his ear. I was skeptical, but he was adamant. He explained how his beloved grandmother didn't believe him, either, nor did the personnel at the hospital, until, lo and behold, they pulled a moth out of his ear. I still don't know if it were actually true, but, somehow I believe it was. I mean, that's quite a random, odd story to make up. And he told it with such verve and sway. Really... it was hard not to believe that had actually happened to him.

He had me laughing so hard, that I nearly fell off the stool at the diner, and would remember the story for years after that, and how he told it. It would just randomly pop into my head, and to this day, it still makes me laugh.

Over the years we lost touch, as is what happens. But it doesn't mean my life hadn't been touched by Clint. So MANY memories I have of him, that I'm truly hard-pressed to say that, at the time, we were merely acquaintances.

Clint always made me laugh, and I ALWAYS looked forward to his company.

I was sorry to hear of his passing - I was so TRULY sorry.

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Nicole Dixon - Author - July 30 at 09:24 PM

EK

“ I can't begin to explain the profound effect that he has had on my life besides the fact that he was an amazing spouse, wonderful to my children, and I will miss him desperately every day. I love you sweetheart

Erin Kruczek - June 10 at 02:14 PM

JW

Dear Clint, we will miss you so much. You have been a part of our family since the day Charlie brought you home, I think you were about 16 or 17 with your marvelous mohawk and chains dangling from everywhere. We remember picking up Charlie, Paul and you at City Gardens in Trenton at one am because there no public service was available at that hour. How you guys loved the headbanging live bands who played there. We will miss your laughter, amazing art, and gentle soul. We thank you for sharing your life with us, most of all we thank you for Aidan, your son and our grandson.

Jack and Elaine White - June 11 at 11:47 AM

FJ

“ From: His Many Friends at JVS+Kadima purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Clinton Matthew Meister.



From: His Many Friends at JVS+Kadima - June 09 at 03:35 PM

TR

“ I only knew Clinton for a short period of time, but he left a lasting impression upon my life. I worked with Clinton in the Choices program and he inspired me the the way he interacted with people that we served. He was very kind and patient. Clint will be greatly missed especially for his contribution of his art skill to the program.

Theora Rhymes - June 09 at 02:59 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Clinton Matthew Meister.



June 09 at 09:37 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Clinton Matthew Meister.



June 08 at 12:11 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Clinton Matthew Meister.



June 08 at 10:27 AM

GV

“ The best son a mother could ask for. I can say no more.

Gale Vanselous - June 08 at 10:17 AM



“ Clinton had texted me some years back just to say hello and catch up. He says to me, "Do you remember when I came over your place when I was 13 or so to hang out with your brother, you had just gotten your drivers license and took us to the movies and drove us around, that weekend you gave me a Dead Kennedy's tape and that was the beginning for me with punk music." I was blown away that an event I hadn't thought of since it happened was so formative to him. I was proud and at the same time hoped he had not told his parents this information for the grief this may have caused them. Mostly I was very happy that he cared so much to share this with me and we continued to text every couple of months about music, podcasts, books, family. His art was something special, I would see some of these pieces and think to myself that there is no way someone who is not a Meister is experiencing this in the same way I am right now, as if he could take the deep beautiful weirdness embedded in our DNA and consciousness and translate it to a canvas, I'm endlessly amazed with his work. I'll miss our conversations. My deepest sympathies to his family.

Ray Meister - June 06 at 12:38 PM



“ *Clint was my Sponser for three years when I first got sober. This man taught me compassion & understanding and that it’s okay to be a human being. He was like a father figure/brother/mentor to me when I desperately needed some guidance in life. They don’t make people like Clint anymore*

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**Frank Batista** - June 06 at 11:27 AM

DG

“ *I remember Clint who was the loving son of Gale. What a wonderfully good relationship they had. His friendly manner made a great impression on everyone. He will be sorely missed by everyone he met.*

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**Dianne Gaffney** - June 06 at 10:45 AM



“ *I first met Clinton about 20 years ago when we were both participating in art shows in the Philadelphia area. He was hilarious, he always broke everyone up with his great sense of humor, and he was a great artist. We kept in touch over the years and I was always amazed at the wonderful art he posted online, documenting his process of meticulously drawing fine details of his illustrations. A few years ago, he hand-illustrated what was perhaps the best tarot card deck I have ever seen, an huge effort which he documented extensively, and that deck is on of my prized possessions. He wasn't just a great artist, though, he was also a great person, he always had kind words for everyone and was always positive. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him.*

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**Ken Miller** - June 06 at 09:13 AM



“ *Most of all, Clint had a love for his mom like none other. They were so sweet with each other and never let a day go by without letting each other know how much they meant to them. ❤️*

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**Adrienne Vanselous** - June 05 at 09:30 PM



“ I am so blessed to have had Clint as my brother-in-law. He always made me feel so comfortable and a part of the family from day one. He always had a smile on his face, making someone laugh. He and his niece shared this amazing bond and although we lived so far away from Clint, each time we'd visit he and Morgan connected like they hadn't missed a day. I loved seeing the way Clint and his brothers Tommy and Todd got along. They were like the best of friends. I wish we had gotten to visit Clint more recently than the last time we did. I will forever remember the light and positivity that he would bring to a room. You will be so greatly missed Clint. May you rest easy and know how much we all love you.

Adrienne Vanselous - June 05 at 08:44 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Clinton Matthew Meister.



June 05 at 12:05 AM



“ Thinking of you Gale as you go thru this difficult time in your life. My heart goes out to you. Never should a parent bury a child... :(

beth - June 04 at 07:03 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clinton Matthew Meister.



June 04 at 06:57 PM

JD

“ Clinton,  
I find myself crying then laughing thinking about how much joy you brought to my life and so many others.  
You were an artist in every way. The way you lived your life, brought humor to us all, and how sweetly you loved your family.

*It was beautiful to see you shine!*

*Love you, Buddy.  
So much love to Erin, Aidan and your family.*

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**Jaime Dahms** - June 04 at 11:44 AM

JP

“ I was SO fortunate to get to know Clint through one of my greatest friends, Erin. She spoke so highly of him, was so incredibly happy to have him in her life. When I finally got to meet him in person, he gave me the biggest hug, as if we've known each other for years. And, talking with him was so easy... he was just such a genuine, good-hearted person with the greatest personality. I'm honored to own several of Clint's masterpieces and will forever cherish them, as well as the short, sweet time I had with him on this earth. Rest easy, Clint... your memory will always be a blessing. Sending love and light to Erin and the entire family.  
-Jen Persinger



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**Jen Persinger** - June 04 at 09:12 AM

AM

“ Sending our love to all of you, though we're miles away... wishing we could hug you ..Gale and Tom..may all the beautiful memories you hold dear of Clint, comfort you during this time...love Charlie and April ..oxox

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**April and Charlie Maury** - June 04 at 07:17 AM

MC

“ Mark Collmer lit a candle in memory of Clinton Matthew Meister



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**Mark Collmer** - June 03 at 08:03 PM

MC

“ Proud to call Clint my student and friend. A talented and caring man.



Mark Collmer - June 03 at 08:02 PM

RH

“ I knew Clint through my brother in law, his brother Todd, and my sister Adrienne. I always enjoyed seeing how much Clint loved his son and his mom. Every photo of them and his smile showed that. I loved seeing his creativity in his artwork and photos. He just seemed like he brought joy and light to everyone around him. That light will stay with all of those he left behind, as well as the wonderful memories.

Robyn Hartnett - June 03 at 05:59 PM



“ I had the pleasure of having clinton as a friend. he will be truly missed. Sending my condolences to the family.

Alesandra Graves - June 03 at 05:51 PM

HP

“ Clint was such a unique, beautiful, creative, intriguing and intelligent soul. One word to describe him is just Cool. Such a cool guy. This is a great loss to so many I love, also a great loss to those who didn't have the opportunity to yet meet him. His art will be a lasting legacy for all to enjoy. Rest now cousin ❤️

Heather Meister pone - June 03 at 03:58 PM

AL

“ I had the pleasure of calling Clint one of my absolute best friends for 25 years. I was always so impressed with his capacity for kindness and compassion. He always had time to reach out and check to see how his loved ones were doing, usually sending silly messages and pictures, and making you laugh while you were supposed to be working. He was always there when you needed a good cry and he gave wonderful warm hugs that always let you know that you were loved. I am so lucky to have been part of his life and I will carry his spirit with me for the rest of mine. Thinking of all of his family and friends and sending much love.

Amber Lakatosh - June 03 at 03:39 PM

BW

“ I got to know Clint through his mother, circumstances are not important. What I grew to know was that he was a beautiful old soul inside and out and what a talented artist he was with so much promise. I never heard a mean word come out of his mouth. I know he will be watching over everyone that he loved. Rest easy Clint. You are loved



Becky Wright - June 03 at 03:21 PM

NT

“ I got sober with Clint. I was always glad to run into him and stayed in touch after he moved to Michigan. Definitely a guy who had his own path. He probably never realized that he helped me in early sobriety just by being an easy guy to approach and talk to... I'll miss our conversations. Rest In Peace Clint

neal tracy - June 03 at 03:19 PM

CM

“ It was by sheer luck that I met Clinton and my American cousins online. Though we did not have a lot of time together, I felt a deep connection from the beginning. His kindness and talent were beyond measure. Truly unique in every aspect of his being.

To Gale, Tom, Erin and Aidan, let me extend our deepest and sincere condolences from our family here in Ireland.

Rest in peace, Cuz.

Caolán McAleese

Bellaghy, Ireland

Caolán McAleese - June 03 at 03:05 PM

NM

“ I worked with Clinton in the choices program. We had many chats on a variety of subjects, from family and food to of course art. He would assist me with coming up with different crafts for our participants to do, even though he would tell me “I am an artist, not a crafter”. We would laugh about it and then get to work. Though he was a fabulous artist, he DID have a crafty side as he came up with some great craft pieces. I will truly miss our conversations and his presence in our program.



Nancy Malesh - June 03 at 11:38 AM

LT

“ Clinton will definitely be missed. I had the opportunity to work along side him in Choices in 2019. Immediately, he displayed his love and compassion for the population we serviced. Needless to say, we shared our work experiences through the years as this included the love of family and friends. Having those conversations was evidence that he was loved by those he interacted with as he showed love. Many thoughts and prayers to the family.

*Lillian Thompson*

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**Lillian Thompson** - June 03 at 10:01 AM

PS

“ My heart goes out to Clinton's family, friends, and colleagues. Prayers and times of comfort to all who knew and loved him.

*-Phyllis Scripsick*

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**Phyllis Scripsick** - June 03 at 07:10 AM

DW

“ Clinton was someone whom I shared many laughs with, he was also a great person to work with and be around. His passion for art will always stand out to me. He loved and has established personal and loving friendships with those whom he served. One participant in particular told me, how Clinton was his friend, any time he was having a bad time I would go get Clinton and without hesitation he took out time to talk with him. Clinton you will be missed around the J. Praying for the family.

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**Dorene Wheeler** - June 02 at 05:45 PM

SS

Clinton was an artist in the truest way. He often spoke with Pride about his family whom he loved, especially his son and fiancé Erin. He shared with me with delight what he did on Valentine's Day for Erin and he was so happy! He was a lover of whimsy and just last week I gifted him two of my late Mama's Corning ware glass pots. I will always cherish this. Please accept my sincere condolences for this great man

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**susan silva** - June 02 at 08:19 PM

AM

I had the pleasure of meeting Clinton about 3 months ago, not to long after starting JVS. He was very welcoming and kind. Though I didn't know him well, I could tell Clinton definitely had a passion for what he did. My condolences and prayers are with the family.

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**Angel Mayberry** - June 02 at 08:37 PM



*Clinton was very a nice guy, he was a great person to work with and had a big heart. His art and his ethic was wonderful. You will be missed Clinton. Praying for the family.*

**Christopher Hopkins** - June 02 at 08:47 PM

NL

*I had the pleasure of working with Clinton while working with Vocational Services. He kind, loving, and thoughtful of others. One incident happened when we were at the park. Clinton went and bought pizza/ pop for the participants and staff. He will truly be missed. You the family are in my prayers. May God continued to uplift you all during these difficult times.*

**Nellie Logwood** - June 02 at 09:10 PM

DD

*Clinton, tell Sid I was a fan too, when you get the chance...*

**Dan Duranso** - June 03 at 10:49 AM

ML

*I never knew you personally but your ART said it all Patience ,love calmness and most of all so polite always answered w/ a thank you or love I'll miss watching you*

**Margie Lucas** - June 03 at 05:47 PM