



## **Matheson, Zane J. Wallace**

2005—2023

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Zane Matheson, a 17-year-old beloved son and brother from Baggs, Wyo., left to be with the angels and his family waiting in heaven May 14. He was born July 13, 2005, to Chris Matheson (of Bridgeport) and Danielle Romero in Wheat Ridge, Colo., where he joined his older sister, Cylee, to complete the family.

Cylee took her job as Zane's big sister seriously, and she was his protector and his best friend. Wherever one sibling was found, the other was not far behind. They completed each other.

Zane was known for making people laugh. He filled his parents with joy and pride. He was a mama's boy and was not afraid to show it. He learned how to love, be kind and to be of service to others from his mother. He brought great peace and happiness to her life. He learned how to be an outdoorsman and how to hunt and fish from his father. He loved being outside and would leave the house when the sun went up and would come home at dusk with a handful of treasures. A day

didn't go by when he didn't say, "I love you."

Zane's family moved to Baggs from Weldona, Colo. in 2015. He found a home and a community family in the Little Snake River Valley. Young or old, it didn't matter to him; he wanted to make everyone's life brighter with a smile, kind words or just a silly joke. If something was needed, everyone knew to call Zane and he'd be there to help. Little did people know, work wasn't work for him, it was just another opportunity to have fun. He worked in many jobs around the Valley. When he was just 11 years old, Zane saved his family when he realized their home was on fire in the night and helped get them out. He was honored with a "hero" award by the school district.

As a member of the Little Snake River Valley School Class of 2024, Zane was involved in just about every school activity possible, including FFA, student council and National Honor Society (NHS). He was a three-sport athlete, and while he was quite talented, he was also humble and a hard worker. Every time he laced up his shoes and threw on his jersey (No. 18 in football and No. 3 in basketball), his face would light up with a smile from ear to ear. He played with his whole heart and loved every minute of it. He helped lead the Little Snake River School in many of its achievements as quarterback and defensive back on the football team, a guard on the basketball team and three years on the track team. He also had a talent for true leadership in the offices he held in FFA, NHS and student council. He showed pigs at the county fair each year. He was also learning to play the guitar and was a talented artist. Zane was amazing at everything he tried, but he was also dedicated to developing his talents through many hours of practice and working to fulfill his responsibilities.

He also excelled academically, although he did have a knack for waiting until the last minute to complete assignments, which didn't always make it easy on his teachers. When Zane did get in trouble, he could quickly be forgiven by smiling with his silly grin. He was loved by so many that he may have been a little spoiled. Even the lunch ladies called him considerate and polite, which helped him discover where the good snacks were and how to get them.

Zane lived his life with great joy and compassion. His smile would light up a room, and he could make friends with anyone. In addition to his parents and sister, Zane is survived by a paternal grandmother, Reta Shurbet, a paternal aunt, Misty Miller, and numerous cousins. He was preceded in death by maternal grandparents, Marvin Romero and Lynda Salas, a paternal grandfather, Jewell Shurbet, and paternal great-grandparents Otha Dee and Junior Wallace Stinnett. A celebration of life will be held 2 p.m. Thursday, May 25 at the Valley Community Center. A reception dinner will follow. Flowers and donations are both welcomed and appreciated. A fund has been established and money can be given to Joel Thomas or Lew Waldron. See [casadacares.com/obituaries/zane-matheson](https://casadacares.com/obituaries/zane-matheson) for more information.