

# A Life Remembered



Shevlin Tell Whitaker was born Nov. 22 1987 in Lancaster California (the first child his dad chose a name for). He came into this world with a big start 10 lbs. 1oz. with crazy black hair that would never be tamed.

He was a serious and different thinker from the time he was a child. Once his Mom was telling him about how bees used wax to make honey combs for their honey. He contemplated for a while and replied "I didn't know bees had ears". There are many other stories that show his unique way of thinking. He had lots of school teachers that he made an impression on and he became special to them.

Shevlin was diagnosed with Pulmonary Arterial hypertension at the age of 12. He always pushed himself to his physical limits. Soon after his diagnosis he was trying to run laps in gym carrying a large bottle of oxygen; when he couldn't go up the stairs any longer he sat down, scaring the other students and the teacher. He lifted weights, played racquetball, and was always ready for a hike. He was never



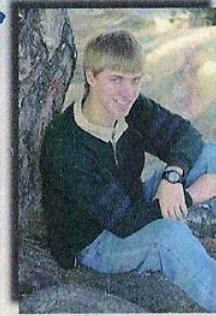
Mission 2007-2009

satisfied with just sitting around.

Shevlin excelled in school; he took hard classes, and it was important to him to get good grades. Everywhere he went he was accompanied by his personal body guard, his younger brother Lan. They were best friends.

Some of Shevlin's greatest loves were the outdoors, guns, and hunting. He loved the Big Horns and had plans to cross them...in the middle of winter, on foot. He was able to hunt elk in the lower elevations of Casper because of The Outdoor Dream Foundation. Pogo, Alana, Lan, and Shev spent a week constantly hunting. They shot geese, ducks, raccoons, skunks, prairie dogs, and when it got dark they spotlighted jackrabbits until 2 am. Shev shot a deer and a nice elk that is mounted in our home. The family has great memories from that week. He also spent a memorable week with his Dad in Alaska where they fished for salmon, shot a moose and a huge grizzly bear. Make a Wish sent the family to Florida shark fishing. These trips were a high point in his life and memories were made that will be cherished and last a life time.

Shev served 2 years in the Montana Billings Mission, despite being excused from the responsibility. He wanted to serve and between Pres. Hopkin and Pres Fisher everything was worked out so he could go. He loved being a missionary and serving others. Upon his return he spoke of miracles and how he being able to serve was a miracle. Many lives were blessed because of him.



Graduation 2006

He was always trying to blow things up. He used a nail and a hammer on a bullet primer. When it blew up the metal went into his hand. He also tried to blow up propane bottles and was a little disappointed that there wasn't a big explosion.

Shevlin always found something to do that he enjoyed. As his health declined Shevlin began to enjoy riding horses. It was a great way for Shev to get around and see things while still obeying the doctor's orders. Over Thanksgiving Shev was able to ride almost every day with his brother Trevor and others.

Shevlin didn't talk a lot but when he did it was because he had something to say. He never said anything negative about others and he loved his friends unconditionally.

Shevlin was a special young man who blessed everyone who came in contact with him through his gentle spirit, and love for life. He was a wonderful son, brother and friend and our memories of him will be cherished until we meet again.



Outdoor Dream Bear Hunt in Alaska - August 2005

