



## Nikola Richard "Niko" Bekavac

November 12, 2007 - October 14, 2023

Nikola Richard "Niko" Bekavac, age 15, of St. Augustine, passed away on October 14, 2023, at Flagler Hospital. Niko was born in Jacksonville and grew up in Pittsburgh and St. Augustine. He attended Crookshank Elementary School, Sebastian Middle School, and was attending St. Augustine High Virtual School. Niko was a light in this world, and a joy to everyone around him. He was a happy, loving boy who was sensitive to everyone he met and inspired the best in them. His kindness, his passion, and his love for those around him was contagious.

He loved school, his teachers, and his classmates. His favorite subject was American Sign Language. Niko was an avid sports fan. He faithfully followed the Jacksonville Jaguars and The Golden Knights. He also followed the games and stats of all his loved one's favorite teams, updating us regularly on players' statuses and accomplishments. Niko liked following air-travel, particularly when anyone in his family was flying. He could tell you exactly which plane was flying overhead at any given moment. He loves to track his family's flights, letting us know we landed as we were landing.

Niko was the epitome of love and acceptance. He was happiest when spending time with his family and friends. He loved when everyone was together. He adored fun-loving pranks and good-natured teasing, and he would laugh to tears when a good prank succeeded.

With his infectious smile and happy personality, he made friends easily. He was recognized around town, and often even surprised his parents with the number of people who would call out “Hey Niko!” and give him a fist bump.

He is survived by his parents, Taylor Greenough and Brett Marcinell; sister, Eva Bekavac; maternal grandparents, Rick and Patti Greenough; and his aunt, uncle, and cousin - Myla, Scott and Sean Aronson.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his name to the Spina Bifida Association at <https://give.sbaa.org/give/465225/#!/donation/checkout> and give Taylor or Brett’s name when you checkout.

A Celebration of Niko’s Life will be held on his birthday, Sunday, November 12 from 2:00-4:00 pm at the Raintree Restaurant.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

TD

“ *Love your laugh and smile Niko! You are a shining light :)  
Our heart aches for the family at this difficult time. Hugs.  
Mark and Tish*

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**Tish Danner** - November 12, 2023 at 02:47 PM

CF

“ Okkk, RICHARD/ Laskers/ Fred/my sweet heart... I'm not going to drag this out long.. well I might. HAHA jk . I wont ..BUT still might..— silly conversations like that were so us. The back and forth. -Never ever being serious, yet sometimes being serious. Yet always knowing what each other was thinking. I never had to think when I was with you. Bubs, just your presence made my stresses of everyday “adult” life melt away. We say “adult” in quotations because you always questioned if I really ever was one ! Let's be real tho... I was never an adult when it came to you and I. You brought out the best and funniest side of myself. You changed me and made me look at everything differently. I am not bugs without you. I needed you more than you needed me this lifetime...The train tracks will always be a little louder these days, my conductor.

Trying to remember all the little memories together and write them out is hard. I guess I should start out on Carter Road. This was back when life was innocent. I will never forget my first time walking into that magnificent castle of a town home. It smelled and sounded like the most comforting place on earth; Cinnamon, apples, the crisp of fall, some random incents Mother was burning, sassy InkaDo dander , and the sound of two beautiful children laughing and getting ready for a Jags or Steelers game! Eva was so into her LOL dolls and slime she couldn't see straight!! I remember being with Niko for the first time. I was quiet and hesitant. Words were never something we exchanged that day but little did we know a bond was created that would be a force to be reckoned with !! From that day on, Sundays were my excitement, not only to spend time with a gal who's walls were so thick I had to break them down with a sledge hammer. To a young girl who I would be going bankrupt over to buy the next LOL or squishy or dunkin coffee for! But most of all to the boy who would be my biggest hype when I come in the room. The one who would learn to hate/love the way I eat MAYONAISEEE, always encourage my drinking of a “cranberry” yet giving me side eye when I drank to many.. or if I and Mother over did it. To always waiting for my rump would give another TOOT!

*I promise your home will always have me there, with football on and something smelling delicious on the stove. Being around you was the excitement, yet you being around me was yours. Only you know just how intertwined our souls truly are. I will always love you, more.*  
*-BUGS*



**cheyenne Fraser** - November 11, 2023 at 11:49 PM

RW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Ryan wages** - November 09, 2023 at 10:08 PM

RW

“ *Niko, you are truly one of a kind. A loving soul that really knew how to bring people together. I will miss your texts. And our laughs.*



**Ryan wages** - November 09, 2023 at 10:04 PM

KA

“ Rest easy Niko sweet angel, we love you ❤️  
Thank you for your kindness and beautiful spirit



kat - November 09, 2023 at 04:52 PM

KE

“ Niko, sweet boy, my office buddy...neither one of us stayed at Garrett Park too long, but you brightened my days - everyone's days, while you were there. What a special soul to have shared time with us here on earth. Rest easy, sweet boy. Sending all my love to Taylor, Eva, and the whole family. 💕💕



Kelley Eiskant - November 09, 2023 at 03:10 PM

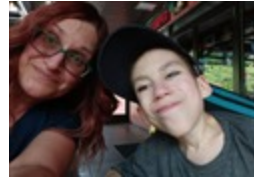
MR

“ I'm praying for peace for you and your family

mike Rocha - November 09, 2023 at 12:46 PM

DF

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**Danielle Ferguson** - October 30, 2023 at 06:35 PM

MP

“*Niko was absolutely the epitome of LOVE and ACCEPTANCE. I only knew him for a couple years but I am SO GRATEFUL I had the opportunity to meet him and hang out with him for the short time he was here. The first time I saw his adorable face and sweet disposition, I knew I was meeting an Angel. There was never a time I didn't see him smiling, or giving high-fives, or simply just wanting a hug. I loved when he would observe people during gatherings, silently stroll around in his hot wheels, and listen to people's conversations and if you were lucky enough, you would be able to witness the most adorable and contagious laugh coming out of nowhere from this little guy. I will never forget Father's Day 2023 or September 16th.*

*Father's Day - While hosting a surprise Fathers Day gathering, Niko took interest in watching me cook and set up and hung out in the kitchen right beside me most of the time. Together we played, laughed, and teased the dad's. I had him laughing hysterically while trying to keep the flies from eating all the food (there were that many). I have never heard him laugh so hard and hearing him belly laugh made my heart smile. He would occasionally take the fly swatter from me and playfully swat me instead and then burst out with an incredibly contagious laugh.*

*September 16 (last encounter) - Made plans to drop off a motorcycle and briefly visited the family. Niko was in his room watching Sports News and when he saw me approaching his room his face just lit up. He flashed that sweet smile of his, reached out his arms and gave me the biggest most loving hug I have ever received from him. I will miss those, and Niko, you are already heartbrokenly missed each and every day. Rest In Peace sweet beautiful boy.*

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**Molly Piner** - October 26, 2023 at 02:54 PM

DP

“ *Deb Povia lit a candle in memory of Nikola Richard "Niko" Bekavac*



Deb Povia - October 26, 2023 at 11:16 AM

MI

“ *Niko was such an amazing kid! He always lit up the room. It was a joy to work with him at Crookshank and art camp. If you need ANYTHING please let me know.*



Michelle - October 25, 2023 at 08:51 PM

GM

“ *That picture,,, Right There,,, says it ALL! ,,That's NICKO!!!*

gerald marcinell - October 25, 2023 at 05:32 PM

AF

*Niko, you will sure he missed. You were one of the coolest kids I have ever had the pleasure to know. God sure gained one heck of an Angel . Love ya kiddo. Anne Fell* 🧡🙏

Anne Fell - October 25, 2023 at 08:01 PM

LC

*Niko, you are gone so young, but you will never be forgotten. I remember when I first met you. The first thing you gave me was a hug and to this day, I still remember your smiles and hugs that I received every day from you when you saw me in the hallway here at Crookshank. I always asked your grandfather about you and he shows me photos. Yes, you loved your sports. God took a wonderful person from us and left us with wonderful memories that will last a life time. We now have this wonderful Angel watching over us and smiling down from Heaven and yes, still talking sports with all and giving hugs and smiles as well. Niko, I will miss you dearly. Prayers for the family. Lisa Cogar*

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**Lisa Cogar** - November 13, 2023 at 08:26 AM