

REMEMBERING SCOTT YOUNG

Each year, Camp Wenonah welcomes 10-15 campers during Period Five from The Scott Young Foundation which was established to remember the remarkable life of a man whose example touched a great many. Marlyn and Doug Young, Scott's parents, offer their memories of their son.

When Jeff Bradshaw asked us to share some thoughts about our son Scott, many emotions came up for us. We were filled with gratitude to Jeff and the team at Camp Wenonah for keeping Scott's memory alive in such a generous and caring way. We also felt tremendous pressure to express this gratitude and to introduce Scott to those who never met him, but may have benefited from his story.

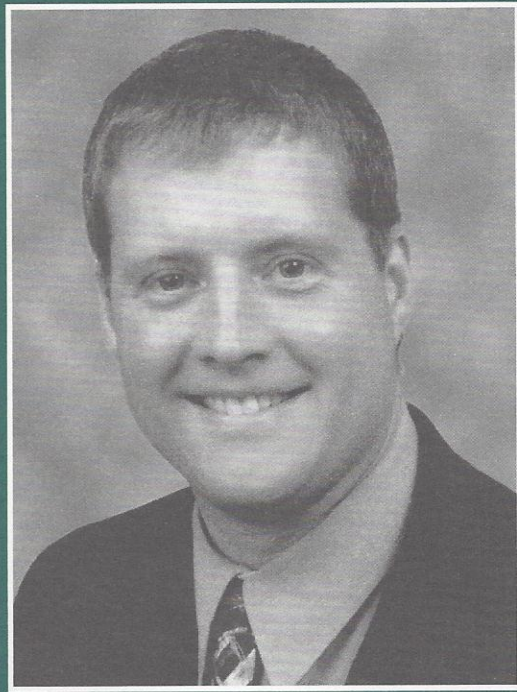
Born in 1964, Scott was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis at age 4 when the life expectancy was age 12. He died in 2003 at the age of 39, well beyond what was expected. Many medical advances prolonged his life, and in 1992, Scott had a double lung transplant that gave him several more years of good health. He continually beat the odds, so what was it about Scott that contributed to his longer life?

Scott loved his life, even with its pain and struggle. He once said he wouldn't change a thing because it all shaped who he was to become. He faced every challenge with courage and hope – the courage to get through the difficult times, and the hope that it would all be worth it. He also had a great sense of humour that fed his spirit, even as his body grew weaker. He approached these battles as a gentle warrior with dignity and grace – never complaining or questioning why. He just did whatever it took to meet the challenges head on. He was also willing to accept whatever the outcome might be.

Scott was a role model and an inspiration. He didn't seek this role, but it gave him a powerful sense of purpose. In some respects he was quite bashful, not fully aware of his influence on others. He always expressed compassion for others who were struggling, and he was more concerned about the effect his life had on his family and friends than on himself.

Scott loved children, although he did not have any of his own. He managed to maintain a child-like appreciation for the little things in life. This allowed him to connect with children at a wondrous and deep level. It's so fitting that a major piece of his legacy is making a difference in the life experience of children through the generous gift of Camp Wenonah.

During one of our last conversations with Scott, he said, "I don't want to be forgotten" We are forever grateful to all of you for honouring his wish and keeping his story alive.



QUOTES ABOUT SCOTT YOUNG

"Scott was someone I could turn to for perspective when my sights were set in the wrong direction. Scott is a friend I will never forget, he had such a positive impact on my life. I plan to use Scott and his perfect character as a guiding light in the development of my two sons."

"When I feel sad about Scott I remember his amazing life and spirit. All the wonderful and precious times that we shared and I remember how much better I am as a person for having had Scott in my life. He touched everyone who knew him"

"Scott was so appreciative of the gift of transplant that he was given he showed his gratitude a million times over and helped so many others"

"In his too brief lifetime he knew more moments of pure joy, appreciation, and acceptance for what is than most ever know or understand. His depth of character was forged in the struggles he faced and overcame. In all the roles of his life he brought joy and hope to those he touched, the joy of his tender spirit, his compassion, his quiet wisdom, and the hope he provided that we can endure any of our own struggles when compared to his own, and realize how very blessed we are."

