

WELCOME TO PLANET PJZ

Option: PLACE LOGO AT TOP LEFT CORNER OR TOP CENTER WITH SKETCH OF PJ HOLDING THE WORLD (maybe a song like "He's Got The Whole World In His Hands" or another cooler song plays under opener. To discuss.)

HOME PAGE-OPENER

Rough Draft 1

Welcome to Planet PJZ. This site is dedicated to the loving memory of Peter "PJ" Zguzenski, devoted and much loved science teacher, environmentalist, outdoorsman, water and snow sportsman, musician, son, brother, and friend.

When PJ passed away suddenly in August 2008, our family decided to set up a scholarship fund in his name. The outpouring of love and support we received was beyond our expectations and allowed us the bittersweet pleasure of awarding the first scholarship in PJ's name in May 2009 to an outstanding student at the high school where he taught, a student whose future scientific and environmental studies would carry on PJ's mission of making sure we leave the earth better than we found it.

But we know PJ's legacy is larger and we are hoping to keep his spirit alive by creating ongoing alliances with organizations and other concerns dedicated to cleaning up our environment, preserving and maintaining our parks and natural resources, and ultimately making sure the earth remains the delightful playground it was for PJ.

In his all-too-short life, PJ's desires and goals extended far and wide, from the lakes of Connecticut where he grew up and challenged himself with wakeboarding and wake surfing stunts and maneuvers that left his friends and students in awe, to places like Stowe, Vermont, where he ran the Gondola just after college, and the mountains of Colorado and Wyoming, where he mastered the slopes as an expert skier and snowboarder. His further travels to such far-away places as Australia, where he studied the Coral Reefs, and his work with the Jane Goodall Foundation's International "Roots and Shoots" Program, as well as his work with Connecticut's PROJECT CLEAR program, which educated young people about sustainable living near lakes and reservoirs, served as a testament to his passion for the outdoors. Add to all of this his love of science, teaching, camping, hiking, rock climbing, gardening, and his greatest love--attending live music concerts in as many outdoor settings as possible, preferably from the open door of his bright orange 70's Volkswagen Bus or 1976 Land Rover--and you get the picture: individual self-expression mixed with a desire to enjoy the great outdoors, connect with people, make them laugh, and truly reflect joy back to the world by first putting himself in the path of it.

That was PJ, and that is the goal of PLANET PJZ: To send as much joy back into the world as PJ brought into it, if not more. This tribute page on FACEBOOK shows

how he affected more lives than he realized

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Our hope is to have PLANET PJZ serve as an umbrella foundation under which we will create programs, alliances, events, products and outreach services that share his concern and enthusiasm for nature, people, music, preservation, conservation and the great outdoors.

Our upcoming 2nd Annual "SKI FOR Z Day" on January 16th 2010 in Patterson, NY, just a hour north of New York City, is part of that effort. We hope you will join us! Details at this link: _____

Thanks for stopping by. Check in often and feel free to sign our book _____ so we can keep you posted on future cool happenings, on and off the slopes. ☺

Peace!

The Zguzenski Family