

Jeffrey Aaron Winborn (June 10, 1967 – March 24, 2015)

Jeffrey Aaron Winborn, 47, of Harrisburg, PA, died Tuesday, March 24, 2015, after a battle with ALS. He was born June 10, 1967, in Groton, CT, to Victor Gerald Winborn and Lynn Lee Loofbourrow-Winborn. He graduated from Princess Anne High School in Virginia Beach, VA, in 1985 and attended St. Leo College, in Norfolk, VA, where he majored in English Literature and Education. He had a passion for learning anything and everything, and was self-taught in numerous fields, including education; computer science, programming, and web development; graphic design; medieval European and 20th century American history; philosophy; advanced mathematics; and music.

A longtime champion of freedom, democracy, and community, he displayed these commitments in all aspects of his life. He was an advocate for democratic education, working and volunteering in various capacities to this end. He taught at School in the Community and New Century Charter School in Chapel Hill, NC; he was on the staff, the Board, and President of the Corporation at the Greenwood Sudbury School in Hampton, CT; and he was on the Board of Trustees at The Circle School in Harrisburg, PA, from 2008 to 2014, serving as its Secretary from 2008-2013.



He was also devoted to open access technology, and spent much of his life developing open source computer software. He worked as a computer consultant and web developer for Advomatic from 2006 to 2013 and as a consultant for Zivtech from 2013 to 2015. He was an active member of the Drupal community until his death, organizing Drupal Camps and developing code used worldwide, specializing in Drupal media modules. Because of his work, he was honored at the Drupal NYC Camp, where he presented as part of the keynote address, and he was recently the focus of a [Drupal.org Community Spotlight](#). The Drupal Community Working Group, with the support of the Drupal Association, has created an award in his honor, [The Aaron Winborn Award](#), honoring individuals who demonstrate personal integrity, kindness, and above-and-beyond commitment to the Drupal community.

His advocacy extended to other projects, as well. He worked as the International Program Director for Elisabeth Kubler-Ross's Life, Death, and Transition Workshops and volunteered on her Healing Waters Farm. He worked as a canvasser for Greenpeace. He did volunteer work for Sustenance Farm, Paperhand Puppet Intervention, and Youth Voice Radio in North Carolina. He wrote and did layout for a newsletter about creativity, *The*

Catalyst, and did volunteer work for the Mickleton House in Great Britain. He also worked as a puppeteer with Grasshopper Arts in Willimantic, CT.

He had a passion for reading, writing, music, and gardening. He published two books, *Drupal Multimedia* (2008) and *Where Did Daddy Go* (2014). He was a painter and graphic artist; played flute, piano, guitar, and dulcimer; and enjoyed puppeteering, Judo, and Tai Chi.

He is survived by his wife, Gwen Pfeifer, and their two daughters, Ashlin and Sabina Pfeifer-Winborn; his father, Victor Winborn, stepmother, Jane Raymond-Winborn, mother, Lynn Loofbourrow-Winborn, and siblings Stephen Winborn, Joseph Winborn, Laura Winborn-Gecas, Diana Winborn-Matchett, James Winborn, Robert Bergstrom, Jr., and Peter Bergstrom; his uncle, Leslie Fortune; his aunts Diana Loofbourrow-Fortune and Betty Winborn-Weldon; as well as an entire community of volunteers who have come together to support Aaron and his family throughout the last four years.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 28, 2015, at 2 pm at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg at **1280 Clover Lane**. Memorials in lieu of flowers should be made to:

- **Hope Loves Company** - An organization supporting children who have or have had a family member living with ALS. Ashlin has attended their annual weekend camp free of charge for the last few years. [Website](#) [Donate](#)
- **The Circle School** - Ashlin's and (soon) Sabina's school. Aaron served on the school's Board of Trustees for several years. Supporting and working at such schools was one of his long-standing passions. [Website](#) [Donate](#)

Messages of condolence or offers to help may be sent to messages@gwenandaaron.com.