



## Jacob William Sofranko

February 2, 1977 - August 4, 2019

Jacob William Sofranko (“Jake” to his family and friends), age 42 (born February 2, 1977 in Youngstown, Ohio), of Dublin, Ohio, passed away peacefully surrounded by his immediate family holding him in prayer on Sunday, August 4, 2019, at 11:23 PM. He was preceded in death by his uncle Daniel J. Witt as well as his grandparents Helen and Frank Sofranko, and Howard Witt. Jake is survived by his parents William and Juliana Sofranko (Dublin), his siblings John and Jackie Sofranko (Boardman), Chrissy and Koonal Patel (Chicago), grandparents Barbara and Joseph Viti (Tallmadge), as well as many other beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins who deeply loved Jake.

Jake is a graduate of Boardman High School, attended The Ohio State University and graduated from The Ohio Media School (OMS). Referring to Jake as an avid Ohio sports fan would be an understatement. Jake had a robust career in sports media and broadcasting in Columbus which included teaching at his alma mater OMS, co-founding and co-hosting the podcast and website *WithAnOhioBias*, producing at *EBSN.com*, as well as serving as program director for *ScoreOnAir.com*. Jake was also a hockey player, a hockey referee, a baseball umpire, and a little league coach. He was a friend of Bill and that community meant the world to him.

Beyond these things, what was most important to Jake were his relationships. Jake was a devoted grandson, son, brother, nephew, cousin, friend, and teacher. He was an example to us all, always finding a good word to say, a kind deed to do, and a funny story to tell. He had a quick wit and an easy, contagious laugh. He was compassionate, sensitive, and loving.

He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. We will strive to carry on Jake's memory by being the best, most charitable versions of ourselves and by laughing hard and often.

Funeral services will be held at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 3924 Home Rd, Powell, OH 43065, on Monday, August 12, 2019. Visitation with Jake's family will be from 10 AM to 12 PM, followed by a Christian funeral service at 12 PM. Friend of the family, Rev. John Hohe, will be officiating.

Arrangements by Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell, 450 W. Olentangy St, Powell, OH 43065. Please send condolences to [www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com).

In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to this GoFundMe account ([ww](http://www)

w.gofundme.com/f/jakesofranko). Funds received will be used to help pay for final arrangements as well as charitable donations in Jake's honor.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 12. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
3924 Home Rd  
Powell, OH 43065

## Christian Memorial Service

AUG 12. 12:00 PM (ET)

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
3924 Home Rd  
Powell, OH 43065

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jacob William Sofranko*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *I offer my deepest and sincere sympathy to the Sofranko family for your loss. May God give you strength to get through this very sad time. May you find solace and peace with all the stories, tributes, and prayers from everyone who knew Jake and loved him. He was a great, giving, personable man who would do anything or give anything to a friend, who would light up a room with his beautiful smile and contagious sweet laugh. We will always remember him and the time spent with him. Jake was a true friend to my sons and to our whole family. I remember all the times he would come to our house to just visit, hang out, talk and laugh with all of us. Even when the boys were gone and I was working he would come over and just hang out with Fred. One time he received a phone while he was there and he told the caller he was just hanging out with a friend. We loved him and will truly miss his presence in our lives.*

*Love, Janet Young*

Janet Young - August 14, 2019 at 10:09 AM



*Thank you Janet. Your words are so comforting. I will miss him forever. His kindness was immeasurable. I was so glad to see you. Julie* 🕊️💕



Julie Sofranko - August 15, 2019 at 03:38 PM

CL

“ Jake was a man who would do anything to help his fellow man. He was a sober, hard working young man and he will be missed by more than you will ever know.

Charles Lease - August 12, 2019 at 09:23 AM

MW

“ We are so sorry for the loss of your son. We are beyond words when it comes to expressing the sadness we feel for you. We can only hope that the tributes, memories and other words left by others will give you some measure of comfort and peace. Please call on us if you need anything.

Bill and Mary Ann Westfall, Westerville, OH

MaryAnn Westfall - August 12, 2019 at 07:20 AM

JS

Thank you Mary Ann and Bill. That is very comforting to us. He was loved dearly by so many and especially us. We treasured our precious son and will miss him forever. 🙏🕊️💜

Julie Sofranko - August 14, 2019 at 07:44 AM

TL

“ Jake was a terrific honorable, hardworking and fun loving man. I enjoyed working with him on EBSN Online and The Rivalry Podcast. He was always willing to lend a hand or a piece of advice. I am stunned by the loss and my sympathy goes out to his many friends and family. Condolences with a heavy heart, Tom Levenick

Tom Levenick - August 11, 2019 at 10:21 AM

JS

Thank you Tom. While we grieve for the loss of our beloved, treasured child we also grieve for all who loved and cared about him. Peace be with you. 🙏🕊️💜

Julie Sofranko - August 14, 2019 at 07:46 AM

SW

“ *Sandy W lit a candle in memory of Jacob William Sofranko*



---

**Sandy W** - August 10, 2019 at 11:13 PM

ML

“ *We are saddened to hear of Jake's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are for all of you. Sincere condolences from Russ and Mary Lamping and family*

---

**Mary Lamping** - August 08, 2019 at 09:30 PM

ST

“ *So sorry for your loss ! I didnt know him but work with his father ! wilkl keep the family in my prayers !*

---

**stephen tobin** - August 08, 2019 at 06:49 PM

MK

“ *Sending sincere condolences to Bill and Julie. Your entire family are in our thoughts and prayers. Love from the entire Leonard family. Including Marty & Mary Ann (Leonard) Kanetsky, Colleen (Leonard) Schmitt, Dave & Karen (Leonard) Thigpen, Nancy Orlando, Chris & Sue (Leonard) Crowe, Tim Leonard, Ed & Christine Leonard, Dennis Leonard and Mark & Patty ( Leonard) Brewer.*

---

**Mary Ann Kanetsky** - August 08, 2019 at 12:26 PM

JS

*Thank you Mary Ann. I really appreciate your kind words. We continue to pray for your family in the losses of your brothers. They will always be in our hearts as we grieve their daily presence in our life. Jake was a tender, sweet guy and I will miss him forever. Peace and love to your family. 🙏🕊️💜*

**Julie Sofranko** - August 14, 2019 at 07:51 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Jacob William Sofranko.*



August 08, 2019 at 12:13 PM

CC

“ *Sincerest sympathies to Bill and Julie and their family.*  
*Chris Cataffa*

**Chris Cataffa** - August 08, 2019 at 11:48 AM

JS

*Thank you Chris.*

**Julie Sofranko** - August 11, 2019 at 08:47 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jacob William Sofranko.*



August 08, 2019 at 08:47 AM

GM

“ A great guy and a class act. Will miss you brother

Gary markuz - August 08, 2019 at 08:38 AM

MR

“ Prayers to Bill and the family of Jacob god bless everyone. Marty Riggs

marty riggs - August 08, 2019 at 07:37 AM

ET

“ My deepest condolences to old friends, Ed Tamulonis

ed tamulonis - August 08, 2019 at 02:39 AM



“ Serene Reflections Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jacob William Sofranko.



August 08, 2019 at 12:01 AM

DD

“ A very good guy and a great friend. Thanks for a countless number of great memories. -Dan And Todd

Dan D - August 07, 2019 at 10:05 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Jacob William Sofranko.*



---

August 07, 2019 at 08:32 PM



“ *Jake was a very talented individual who brought out the best in people.  
he had a passion for communications and had a positive influence on so many students and coworkers.  
he left us too soon ... my thoughts and prayers are with your family.  
May God bless and keep Jake...*

---

**Pete Burczyk** - August 07, 2019 at 08:16 PM



“ *Debbie Maloney sent a virtual gift in memory of Jacob William Sofranko*



---

**Debbie Maloney** - August 07, 2019 at 07:49 PM



*Thank you Debbie. 💕*

---

**Julie Sofranko** - August 11, 2019 at 08:46 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jacob William Sofranko.*



---

August 07, 2019 at 06:39 PM