

David Cook Rich

David was born on October 14, 1972. He passed away in his sleep January 10, 2015. He was a healthy, perfect baby. As the pediatrician said, "He's a keeper".

As the years went by and David grew into a child, there were signs that he was not that perfect boy. He had trouble with relationships, focusing on tasks, and following rules. Trying to find the problem and a "cure" went on for years, but things spiraled from bad to worse. As a young adult he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, but resisted therapy and treatment. He also struggled with addictions to alcohol, drugs and food. In spite of his witty and charming demeanor, his relationships deteriorated and the ability to stand on his own two feet was never accomplished.

As a family, we have chosen NAMI OC as the organization for friends and family who wish to donate in David's name. Mental illness not only affects the diagnosed. Family and friends surrounding the individual are also challenged with common social stigmas and can struggle to navigate relationships and avenues of support. We hope your generosity will help bring awareness, education and support to both victims of mental illness as well as their families.

