

Armstrong Parker Zortman, 3

May 8, 2005 - April 9, 2009

AVOCA — Hello, my name is so long. It might be easier if I use my nick name "Army" while I tell all of you my story. First, I was born May 8, 2005, in Sioux Falls, SD. My mom and dad are Rik and Lindsay (Lake) Zortman. I lived in South Dakota for a while before coming to Avoca, a few months ago. My mom became a counselor at Jackson Recovery in Harlan and we found a house here in Avoca while my dad was overseas. I was baptized at Trinity Lutheran Church and was ready to start school here until last November when I got sick. Cancer is Yucky. By the way, that is the theme for the tee-shirt that I helped design. It was used as a fund-raiser because I have been in and out of the hospital a lot. Since I've had surgery and chemo treatments, my family has had to sacrifice a lot. They visited me all the time and brought my best friend, Diego, to see me as well. Go Diego Go. He is a TV character that helps us preschoolers develop a better relationship with animals and our planet. He even speaks to us in English and Spanish.

My life ended on April 9, 2009, at Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan. I was only 3 years, 11 months, and one day old. My life was short, but I received many gifts: my mom and dad who live in Avoca as well as my brothers Robert, Montgomery and Jackson (I teased Jackson a lot because I could do things like talking before he could) and my sister Isabella who live at home. Before I got sick, I loved to run. I didn't just sit around you know, except when I watched "Diego". Before I stop telling my story you should know I am and always will be loved by my mom and dad, my brothers and sister and my grandparents: Laurie and Robert Milburn of Medford, OR, Lesley and Ken Welch of Washta, and Doc and LouAnnie Zortman of Sioux City; my great-grandparents: Gene and Charlotte Zortman of Onawa, and Nancy Unger of Sioux City; other relatives and all my friends.

Pastor Dennis Reich conducted the 10:00 AM funeral service at Trinity Lutheran Church in Avoca. Casket bearers were Tony Ashley, Blake Beeson, Casey Lake, and Tony Pryor. Interment was held at Graceland Cemetery in Avoca.



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