



Noah Kristofer Genner

August 27, 2024

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Noah Kristofer Genner on August 27, 2024. Noah leaves behind his perfect-match, life-partner, love and best friend, Annette Synowiec, and their beloved dogs, Murphy and Malina. A caring and loyal son, brother, uncle, and friend Noah will be deeply missed by his brothers Ari (Rhonda) and Devin (Alyssa), his stepfather Peter (Nancy), his nieces and nephews (Aly, Isaac, Otto and Anna), the Synowiec family (Stan, Elizabeth, Joanna, Michael), and his close-knit circle of friends. Noah is predeceased by his parents Donald Genner (of Wallaceburg) and Connie Genner (of Guelph) whom he loved and cared for very much. His warmth and kindness touched everyone he met and will be forever missed. Noah was an extraordinary person. He quietly but unwaveringly followed his heart and was deeply loyal, and unafraid to take on risks. He bravely lived his life to the fullest regardless of the challenges it brought forward and was determined to never give up. He cherished his time with Annette as they shared together their love of family, friends, the outdoors, travel, great food, biking, books, and movies; as well as encouraging one another to fulfill their life goals, always in full support of one another. Cycling was a major passion for Noah who's perfect weekend would always include some rides and tinker-time with his bikes.

Noah was a born leader which he demonstrated even in his social life, participating in real-life sports as well as organizing fantasy-sport leagues of

all types including a baseball pool of dear friends, founded more than 30 years ago. Noah led his “Arkmen” to victory countless times while avidly following his favourite teams, players, and data. No event was ever safe from Noah's love of data! Noah taught us that life’s most meaningful moments lay in savouring the simple joys that make up everyday life. He most enjoyed the often lower key and uncelebrated get togethers and events; the small details that rarely get stars drawn around them on the calendar. Fiercely independent and self-assured, Noah’s professional life was uniquely his and hard to compare. From becoming Canada's youngest licensed projectionist in the cinema to being a part of the development of the supply chain side of Canada's first online bookstore, bookshelf.ca whatever he wanted to accomplish he did. Noah pursued his studies in geography at the University of Guelph and lent his leadership skills helping to support many aspects of Project Canoe for a summer. Noah's enduring love of books and technology led him to the publishing industry working at BookNet Canada, where, in less than five years, he became President & CEO. As a leader, Noah was never someone who sought fame or unilateral power, but instead sought to empower others and to be fair. He cared for his friends and colleagues at BookNet like his family. During his twenty-year tenure at BookNet, he guided the company to unprecedented success and international renown, with ripples of impact felt in the Canadian publishing industry and beyond. His relentless dedication, positive attitude, and innovative mind changed the publishing space.

Noah’s wit, judgment-free attitude, and consideration for others are truly irreplaceable but it brings us peace to know that his once-in-a-lifetime energy has left a lasting legacy—he was a timeless classic in his own right. Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at the University of Guelph Arboretum on October 27, 2024. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Toronto Mount Sinai Hospital and/or the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated.

Tribute Wall

BW

“ 18 files added to the album *Baseball, Canoeing, Golf*.



Bo Wandschneider - October 17, 2024 at 08:06 AM

SP

“ *My condolences to Noah's family and BookNet colleagues. His contributions to the library sector are exceptional and appreciated. Such a loss. In sympathy, Shelagh*

Shelagh Paterson - September 12, 2024 at 07:00 PM

AS

“ *So sorry to hear of Noah's passing. Many of us in the publishing/data/tech space followed Noah's work closely and he made an indelible impact on the Canadian book industry.*

Adam Stewart - September 11, 2024 at 04:26 PM

CD

“Gutted to learn the news yesterday. Noah was a lighthouse in many of the early day digital book events we all attended. One of those events remains etched in memory - a Digital Book World in New York in late January as a winter storm later coined 'Snowmageddon' blanketed the city.

We found ourselves on the last flight out of LaGuardia only to be told after the 3rd de-icing attempt that it wasn't going to happen. Even worse we told we were going to have to spend the night on cots at the airport as there were no more taxis to be hailed. Together with our friend and colleague Ashleigh Gardner, refusing to spend a night in what was then 'the worst airport in the world' we somehow managed to manifest and convince a cab to drive us back into Manhattan.

It was a harrowing journey. As vehicles spun out and were abandoned in the deepening snow, our taxi struggled to ascend a slight incline on the FDR Expressway. Without hesitation, following Noah's lead, we exited the vehicle and began pushing it through the storm for what felt like an eternity, our bare hands stinging from the cold and the rhythmic assault of the rear windshield wipers.

Our perseverance paid off as we finally reached the sanctuary of the Ace Hotel. There, we warmed ourselves and reflected on a remarkable adventure, our laughter echoing into the early hours.

Noah was always a constant and reliable presence in our book industry. And on that night, he was also a fellow traveler, facing adversity with determination and good humor. I'll miss the opportunity to reminisce with him about this time together, the memory however, of Noah's indomitable spirit, will always remain with me.

Cameron Drew - September 11, 2024 at 09:49 AM

LR

“ I was so saddened to learn of the passing of Noah last week. While I did not have the pleasure of working with Noah directly, as soon as I started working with Metadata for books, he welcomed me warmly into the community.

Any time I had an issue, he would address it directly, which for a CEO seemed so foreign to me. I will always remember his heart work and love for the publishing and book industry within Canada. My condolences and love to his friends and family.

Thank you, Noah, for being such a wonderful role model and mentor.

Lynsey Robson - September 10, 2024 at 03:29 PM

LS

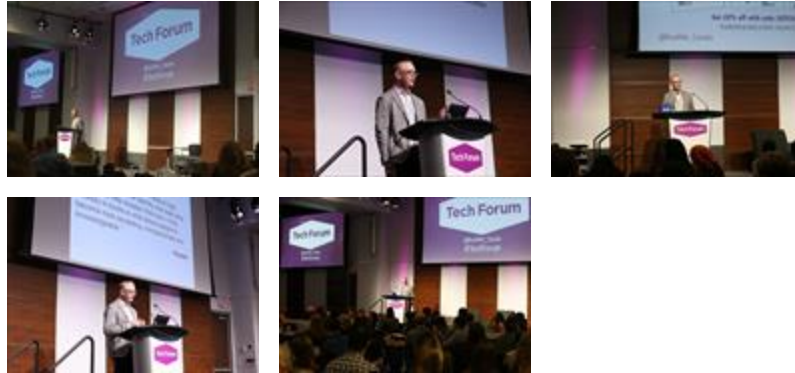
“ 13 files added to the album Book Conferences



Lauren Stewart - September 10, 2024 at 09:51 AM

LS

“ 13 files added to the album Book Conferences



Lauren Stewart - September 10, 2024 at 09:32 AM

DS

“ I never got to know Noah, but I always felt a connection to him through our common cancer experience and of course through my brilliant friend Annette. I'm so glad I had the chance to meet him a few times as these tributes showcase a truly extraordinary person. My sincere condolences to all family, friends, and colleagues.

Dan Smit - September 08, 2024 at 06:59 PM

MM

“ Noah was the adult in the room for the baseball pool. He laughed and joked like the rest of us (when we giggled like 13 year olds at silly jokes) and even contributed once in a while. But he kept us on track. His love of baseball was obvious as was his love of the pool. He was the level headed one.

Noah was funny, kind, tolerant, and giving. I met him through the baseball pool (I was not in from the start but joined in year one or two) but I believe our friendship was more than that. He was simply a genuinely good guy. I will miss him.



Michael von Massow - September 06, 2024 at 03:49 PM

SN

“ Whenever I saw Noah at a book conference I immediately felt more comfortable and looked forward to the many conversations to come. He was so generous with his time and knowledge and always made you feel included. Data was a clear love of his and he knew how to interest everyone in the room in the most obscure data points. He will be missed! My condolences to Annette, his friends and family, and his special BookNet family.

Suzanne Norman - September 06, 2024 at 02:11 PM

HS

“ 2 files added to the album *Book Conferences*



Heather Sanderson - September 05, 2024 at 10:56 PM

HS

“ *Noah and I worked together in the early days of BookNet and became friends. I am happy to have known such a remarkable person who was always kind, genuine, funny, smart, and easy to spend time with. Sending love to his close family and friends.*

Heather Sanderson - September 05, 2024 at 10:53 PM

EH

“ *I had the great pleasure of working with Noah in his role with the Green Book Alliance. I didn't have the opportunity to meet him in person and he will live in my memory under the sun on the tropical beach of his online meeting background. He was a truly wise and dedicated man. He gave selflessly of his time, knowledge and effort. We will miss him greatly.*

EJ Hurst - September 05, 2024 at 06:15 PM

JW

“ I didn't know Noah well but always found him to be generous with his knowledge and time. I pitched him a bunch of project ideas over the years and his thoughtful responses included ideas on how to strengthen the concept, or flag where some of the data challenges might be. I just looked back over old emails and one from him starts "I wanted to give this some dedicated thought before answering." Nobody does this!! It is very rare. I am so sorry for Noah's friends and family and for the Canadian Book Publishing industry. An enormous loss.

Julie Whelan - September 05, 2024 at 05:18 PM

KC

“ Noah had a tremendous impact in his life—on the people who knew him, the industry he worked in, and the world he lived in. He will be greatly missed.

Kayla Calder - September 05, 2024 at 03:54 PM

BF

“ I never met Noah, but I wanted to say that his incredible contributions to Canadian bookselling are greatly appreciated and used daily by the entire industry. With gratitude!

Brandon Forsyth - September 05, 2024 at 02:51 PM

MC

“ A truly good guy. We are a smaller, lesser place without him.

Marc Côté - September 05, 2024 at 02:47 PM

PH

“ *When we were starting to get into electronic data at Dempsey Distributing Noah was so helpful and charming on the phone to a total newbie. I followed his career and was delighted to see how well he was doing and the things he was achieving. So sorry to hear this news. - Penelope Hedges, Dempsey Distributing*

Penny Hedges - September 05, 2024 at 02:09 PM

BM

“ *Beatrice Mariani lit a candle in memory of Noah Genner*



Beatrice Mariani - September 05, 2024 at 01:24 PM

JH

“ *Coollest and smartest dude with the kindest heart. Noah was fiercely loved by those who knew him and his death is devastating for us all. Strongest and bravest man ever. A perfect match with Annette. He will be remembered always.*



Joanna Holley - September 04, 2024 at 04:16 PM

AS

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



annette synowiec - September 03, 2024 at 07:20 PM