

Skip to ma

SUBSCRIBE



Winsted dog training facility plan set for public



League of Women Voters to present history speaker Jan.



Torrington Lions Club makes holiday donations



Rep. Cook sworn in for seventh term



'A perfect storm': COVID, family death force fitness

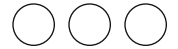


NEWS

Area teen dies in jet ski crash

DAVID HUTTER

Aug. 10, 2007 | Updated: Aug. 29, 2017 11:43 a.m.



Register Citizen Staff

HARWINTON - Family members and colleagues of 18-year-old town native Kollin DeNegre remembered him Thursday as a caring person, a skilled outdoorsman and a volunteer firefighter who would not hesitate to help a stranger in need.

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad

Kollin died Tuesday of injuries when the jet ski he was riding collided with another on Lake Gaspon in Roanoke Rapids, N.C. A June 2007 graduate of Lewis S. Mills High School in Burlington, Kollin was vacationing with friends at the time of the crash.

His father Mark DeNegre described Kollin as a giving person who joined the Harwinton Volunteer Fire Department after attending an American Legion program more than one year ago.

"He cared about helping out the community," Mark DeNegre said. "That conference had a profound effect on him."

Kollin enjoyed spending time outdoors and had a passion for fishing and baseball, Mark DeNegre said.

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad

"That was something he loved his entire life," Mark DeNegre said. "My wife and I brought him outside when he was a kid and spent a lot of time with him outdoors."

Kollin, an aspiring firefighter, would have entered college at the University of Connecticut this fall and would have majored in environmental studies, Mark DeNegre said. He planned to transfer to the University of New Haven after two years, where he would have graduated in two more years with a degree in fire technology, Mark DeNegre said.

Diana Limon-celli, Kollin's aunt, remembered him as a courteous and good-humored young man who enjoyed spending time with his little cousins. She recalled a gathering of the extended family that occurred at Easter this year.

"He would tie Easter eggs onto his fishing pole and then move the pole. And his little cousins would chase the eggs, amused," said Limoncelli, a resident of New Haven. "He was always the jokester of the family and he looked out for the little ones."

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad

Damian DeNegre, Kollin's uncle, recalled memorable times he spent with his nephew during fishing trips in Kennebunkport, Maine.

"He was such a good person and he would do anything for anyone," said Damian DeNegre, of North Branford. "And he was never in trouble. It's just a real tragedy."

Besides his work with the Harwinton Volunteer Fire Department, Kollin was vice president of the Lewis Mills student council and a

MOST POPULAR

- 1.** CT mother charged with shooting children returns to court

- 2.** Justice reform director charged with violating probation

- 3.** Affidavit: Litchfield teen lost control of speeding car in double-fatal crash

- 4.** Feds: Man charged with 2013 drug-related Hartford murder

- 5.** Police: Child, adult seriously injured in I-84 crash in Farmington

- 6.** 'A perfect storm': COVID, family death force Thomaston fitness studio closure

- 7.** Officials: Rabid bobcat attacks 2 people, dog in Southbury

member of the school's varsity baseball team.

Vic Rinaldi, the varsity baseball coach, remembered Kollin as a thoughtful person whose death is being mourned by many people.

"It was an absolute pleasure to know Kollin, first and foremost, and secondly, to coach him," Rinaldi said. "I am still in a state of shock. He was a wonderful young man."

Rinaldi praised Kollin as an offensive powerhouse and a dedicated teammate who led the Lewis S. Mills High School baseball team to a state title in 2006. He played first base, designated hitter and catcher.

"He was always the first kid at practice and always the last to leave," Rinaldi said. "And he always gave 110 percent. The younger players looked up to him."

Rinaldi offered his condolences to the entire DeNegre family as they mourn his death.

"I would ask everyone to keep Kollin and his family in their prayers," he said.

Ryan Foster, a firefighter at the Harwinton Volunteer Fire Department, remembered Kollin as a "fun, outgoing and easygoing" colleague who could gracefully take a joke at his own expense. His death leaves a void among his fellow firefighters, Foster said.

"It's a shame," Foster said. "He had just graduated. He was way too young."

Kollin Francis DeNegre was born in Torrington on May 28, 1989.

In addition to his father Mark DeNegre, Kollin is survived by his mother Janice DeNegre and 13-year-old sister Ronnell DeNegre, numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, his maternal grandmother and paternal grandparents.


Friends may call at the Gleeson Mortuary, at 258 Prospect St., Torrington, today from 2 to 8 p.m. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Church, 78 Harwinton Road, Harwinton.

David Hutter can be reached by e-mail at newhartford@registercitizen.com.

Written By

DAVID HUTTER

 Comments will return with an improved experience in 2021

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

ABOUT

[Newspaper Delivery Safety Procedures](#)

[Privacy Notice / Notice at Collection](#)

[Your California Privacy Rights](#)

[Interest Based Ads](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[Careers](#)

[Advertising](#)

CONTACT

[Contact Us](#)

[FAQ](#)

[Today's e-Edition](#)

CONNECT

[Subscribe Today](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

