

Once a JackHammer, Always a JackHammer

Anytime a person, whether it is a man, a woman, an infant, a girl, or even a young boy, exits this world unexpectedly, there is always a reason. Sometimes when a life is cut short it doesn't make sense and may seem unfair. Do we as people have any say in what takes place on this planet? Could it be that people are put on earth for a certain amount of time just serve a purpose or to progress for the betterment in something special before the afterlife in accordance with God's plan?

Ben Lowe was a JackHammer baseball player on earth for roughly four months. Ben passed away Sunday, January 4, 2009. Can anyone please tell me why did that happen? How could a boy like Ben be taken away from his family, his friends, and his team so quickly and unexpectedly? As a coach, I feel there were many things I could have offered through my teachings to help Ben prepare for the next level in baseball and possibly in life.

Although I have coached Ben in several practices, I am still having a tough time remembering his facial features. To my knowledge, I have only really looked at Ben's face two times. The first time I saw his face was at JackHammer tryouts during September whereas the last time was when he brought Coach Steve and I homemade cookies for jump starting his Mom's suburban in sleeting rain. Why did I only look at Ben's face twice? The only answer I could come up with was the fact that I was mesmerized by the way Ben carried himself as a ballplayer and an outstanding young man. See, I wasn't just looking at Ben's face; I was looking at the total package of a polished, well-educated, finely tuned, hungry, and sponge-minded ball player. When it comes time for me to pay my last respect to Ben, I will make sure to take an extensive look to ensure that his face will be embedded into my mind forever.

Reflecting on the unfortunate event that has occurred, it can be easy for anyone to dwell in sorrow for the tremendous loss that the Lowe family has encountered. However, those who knew Ben should not dwell on his departure but focus on the arrival and new beginning of his life in heaven. Although I did not have the chance of bringing Ben to that next level in baseball, a sense of peace sets in as I am positive that the faith of Ben and his family has brought him to a place far better than anyone can imagine. The question that was asked earlier, "How could this happen to a boy like Ben", can be looked at and answered in one's own mind. The way I look at this is, Ben served his purpose here and was taken because it was God's will. God has acquired Ben as his new shortstop and leadoff hitter for his elite team in heaven. Right now Ben is playing in front of millions of fans on a majestic field with perfectly cut grass, straight white painted baselines, fresh manicured dirt, and using pearly white baseballs. Once a JackHammer, always a JackHammer