

# 12

## Jacob Oaks Memorial Fund

*"...well done, good and faithful servant"*

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Some things you just don't understand and the older I get, the more I feel like we aren't supposed to. I am learning that we must rely on our Faith and our Maker's plan. December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 was one of those days for me and a lot of people.

Driving home from the College of Charleston to study for exams, 19-year-old Jacob Oaks stopped on the side of highway 385 to help a stranded motorist. It may sound odd for a college freshman to do that, but anyone that knew Jacob would know that was his norm...helping others.

While Jacob sat in his truck, seatbelt on, the stranded motorist used Jacob's phone to make a call for help. Then the unthinkable happened...an 18-wheeler ran off the road crashing into his truck. The crash trapped Jacob inside.

Heaven gained an angel that morning. An angel that for 19 years was known by most as a quiet, hard working kid...by some as "goofy and outgoing" ...but by all as kind hearted and caring. Jacob was a Godly young man who lived a faithful and obedient life.

"We have a peace knowing that God is looking at Jacob now and He is saying 'well done, good and faithful servant'." - Kaitlyn Oaks (Jacob's older sister)

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Jacob began playing for the Upstate Mavericks at 14 years old. He was a quite kid that was athletic and had a good arm. He finished his travel ball career with us, pitching in the Perfect Game World Championship in Jupiter as a mature 18-year-old that was committed to play baseball at the College of Charleston. The loyalty Jacob had to the Mavericks isn't seen much anymore, and for that we are forever grateful.

In the spring of 2017, we will be retiring the number Jacob proudly wore in a Mavericks uniform and also the date of his passing... "12". All players and coaches will now wear a patch on their hats remembering Jacob.

Along with the retiring of his number, we are starting a **Jacob Oaks Memorial Fund**. The donations raised for this fund will be used to help players in financial need have the same opportunity as those more fortunate. This includes, but is not limited to, assisting with travel accommodations, meals, uniforms, equipment and college camps. We will also be awarding college scholarships to graduating seniors that display the same loyalty and character as Jacob from both the Upstate Mavericks and Southside Christian School (where Jacob graduated). Just as Jacob would have wanted, our goal is to help as many others as possible while honoring the life of an incredible young man.

Donations can be made to any Wells Fargo Bank or by check made out to: **Jacob Oaks Memorial** and mailed to Chris Nall at the address below.

Jacob Oaks Memorial  
C/O – Chris Nall  
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