



Application for Park Naming / Renaming

Proposed Name for the Park: Morgan Moss BMX & Skatepark

If proposing the name of an individual, include a biographical description of nominee:

(Attached)

* Please see packet of letters, bio, photos of Morgan.

Describe the individual's involvement in the Austin community:

Morgan was a UT-Austin graduate 2009. He worked part time for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing. Morgan was a photographer and avid skateboarder in the Austin community. Morgan was gracious in taking pics at SXSW, Fun, Fun, Fun Fest, and ACL.

Describe the individual's connection to the park or park system, if any:

Donations were taken and currently there are 2 park benches in Morgan's memory at the skatepark.

If proposing a name that is not an individual, summarize the reason for the name:

(NA)

Biography of Morgan Moss

Morgan Joseph Moss , was born in Houston, Texas, on August 27 1985 to Mike and Betsy Moss. He was the first born son, so active, smart, very happy baby. He was walking at age 9 months and could ride a bike and throw a mean pitch at a very early age. Morgan always enjoyed singing at Gymboree classes, cooking with his Grandmother and had a fantastic imagination, playing Ninja Turtles and Ghostbusters. He had such a curious nature and loved being outdoors which also he continued until his death.

When Morgan was 3 he became a big brother and loved irritating his little brother Mason. They were great friends and had many adventures together. By age 12, he attending numerous tennis camps, played soccer and baseball until he became interested in skateboarding. This became his passion.

He loved the sport of skateboarding and that is where he focused a lot of his free time growing up in his high school/ college years. He was very well known in the skateboard circles in Austin/ Houston and loved the sport. He attended Westlake High School his freshman year in Austin, but graduated from Bellaire High School in 2004. This is where is found his second love- photography. He had a keen eye for those great photos. He won some city wide contests in High School which helped him get into the UT Art School. He was a very talented artist and spent 2 years in the Art school before transferring to the Radio-TV and Film school. Morgan took his camera everywhere. He often sent in pictures and had some published in skateboarding magazines and other publications of music festivals. He also has done advertisements for skate shops. He was a perfectionist and would stay up all night if needed to work on projects to get them just right. .

Morgan also had a love of music. He taught himself guitar and enjoyed playing. He would not ever miss a SXSW and ACL festival. The past few years he was thrilled to obtain a press pass to take photos there and festivals in other states. Other hobbies besides skateboarding and music included, biking around Austin, camping in Big Bend, snowboarding in Colorado, Utah and New Mexico, and his latest adventure skydiving, while he was living in Mississippi. Morgan also loved animals and had adopted his cat, Hobbes, from the Austin SPCA. He would take Hobbes on trips to visit friends and had a special bond with him.

He graduated from the University of Texas- Austin in 2009 and received a BS in Radio-TV-Film and Bachelor of Journalism. He attended the UTLA campus the summer of his junior year, working at Pier 59, a leading production studio in Santa Monica. He came back with a boosted passion for photography after that experience.

After graduation and the economy was struggling, he worked part time Houghton Mifflin Harcourt setting up bookrooms around the state and working in the Austin / San Antonio area for various sales reps. In May of 2010, he was given the opportunity to work for TRG- a consultant company for the BP oil spill, where Morgan was working in Gulfport, Mississippi. This is where his life ended in a tragic automobile accident, the day before he was to return to Austin. He was dating a girl from the Gulfport area who was also killed in the accident. They were returning from a day in New Orleans, when a driver

cut in front of their vehicle and spun their car into oncoming traffic. Morgan was such a giving spirit and his giving continues through the Organ Donor program. He was able to provide his two kidneys and other organs to patients in need.

Morgan's plans were to return to Austin and start his own Photography business. He loved the city and was well know in the skateboard community. Morgan was always taking professional pictures and not charging skaters for his services. He loved the sport and enjoyed taking those special shots. He frequently was seen at the Austin Skatepark before it closed and the Round Rock Skatepark taking pictures at events, or showing visitors around the city to share the love of Austin. He was a loyal friend to many in the skating community and a wonderful son that will be sorely missed all.

Nov. 30, 2013

Dear Austin Parks Department Director and Board members,

I am writing to proposal the current Austin Skatepark be named after my son Morgan Moss, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident about 2.5 years ago. He had been working on the BP Oil Spill in Mississippi and was traveling home from New Orleans when he was cut off of I10 by an uninsured motorist. His plans were to come back to the Austin area, where he was living until the accident, and start his own photography business.

Morgan was loved by so many in the Austin / Houston skating community. He was a graduate of UT-Austin with a degree in Journalism and RTF, a professional photographer, loving son and loyal friend to so many. He generously took pictures at skating events and music festivals at no charge. In attached letter you will see many other events Morgan participated in around the Austin area.

I have been an Account Manager with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, off Mopac and Braker, for the last 18 years. I service the Houston area currently and our corporate offices and employees generously contributed and the company matched donations for there to be two benches placed at the park in Morgan's Honor. We let his friends decide on the quotes for the plaques and it is a remembrance park for them and the memories they had skating with their good friend. Each time I visit the park they are being used for skaters, parents, grandparents and friends to sit and watch. There was no seating at the park before we had these benches placed and with the reminder of the money was used to help fund the trees around the benches. One day I hope they will provide lots of much needed shade at the park.

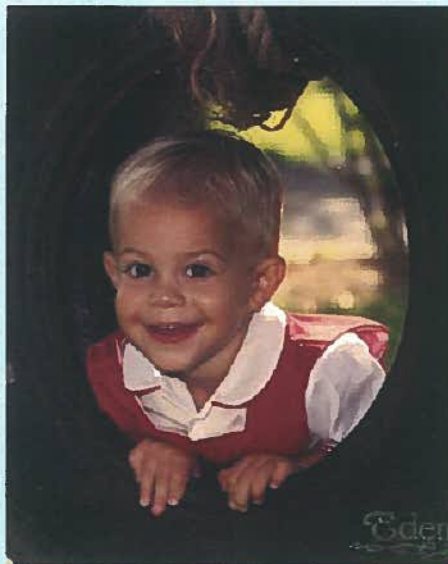
I have attached Morgan's Biography and in it you will see what an inspiration he was to so many others and true spirit he had around the skating community. We have been waiting for over 2 years, until all the processes were changed with the Austin Parks Dept and are delighted that we can now submit our paperwork. We have gathered many signatures to recognize the community is behind us in hopes we can get the park renamed: **Morgan Moss BMX and Skatepark.**

I have also included a wonderful video about Morgan, that his friends made for the memorial service, as well as photos he took of skaters ,nature around Austin, SXSW, and letter and notes from his good friends. I hope you will take the time of review these and see what a wonderful person Morgan was to all so that we can accomplish our dream and get the park named after my son, Morgan Moss. We also started a 501C3 in Morgan's memory to purchase cameras and equipment for high schools in the Austin and Houston area. I am including a card for the Morgan Moss Foundation.

Thank you for this consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind Regards,

Betsy Moss



mm

A Celebration of the Life of

Morgan Joseph Moss

August 27, 1985 ~ April 10, 2011



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*Saturday, April 16, 2011
Unity Church of Christianity, Houston, Texas*

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Opening Prayer
Reverend Howard Cesar

"Lord's Prayer"
acoustic guitar Larry Carlton

Scripture

"Believe"
Lenny LeBlanc | sung by Michele Pillar

Eulogies for Morgan
Reverend Howard Cesar

*Friends: Randy Davila, Thiago Sa, Andrew Parker,
Daina Huntington*

Multimedia Tribute to Mo

"Here There and Everywhere"
Lennon/McCartney | sung by Michele Pillar

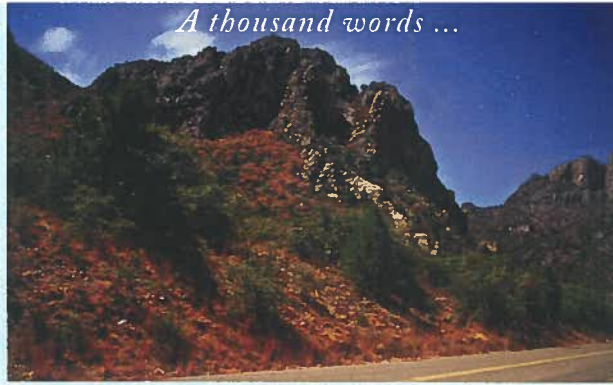
Closing Prayer | Psalm 23
Reverend Howard Cesar

"Somewhere Over the Rainbow"
sung by Michele Pillar

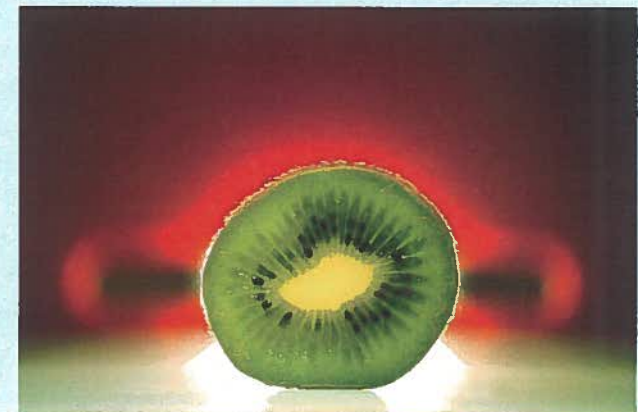
*"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who
believe in me even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me
will never die"*

John 11:25-46

A thousand words ...



"We're talking about a metamorphosis
We're talking about going from a caterpillar to
butterfly.
We're taking about how to become a butterfly.
I mean: the caterpillar isn't walking around
saying: Man I'll soon be a butterfly.
Because: As long as he's busy being a caterpillar
he can't be a butterfly.
It's only when caterpillarness is done
That one starts to be a butterfly
And that again is part of this paradox
You can not rip away caterpillarness.
The whole trip occurs in an unfolding process
Under which you have no control."



Morgan Moss
Foundation



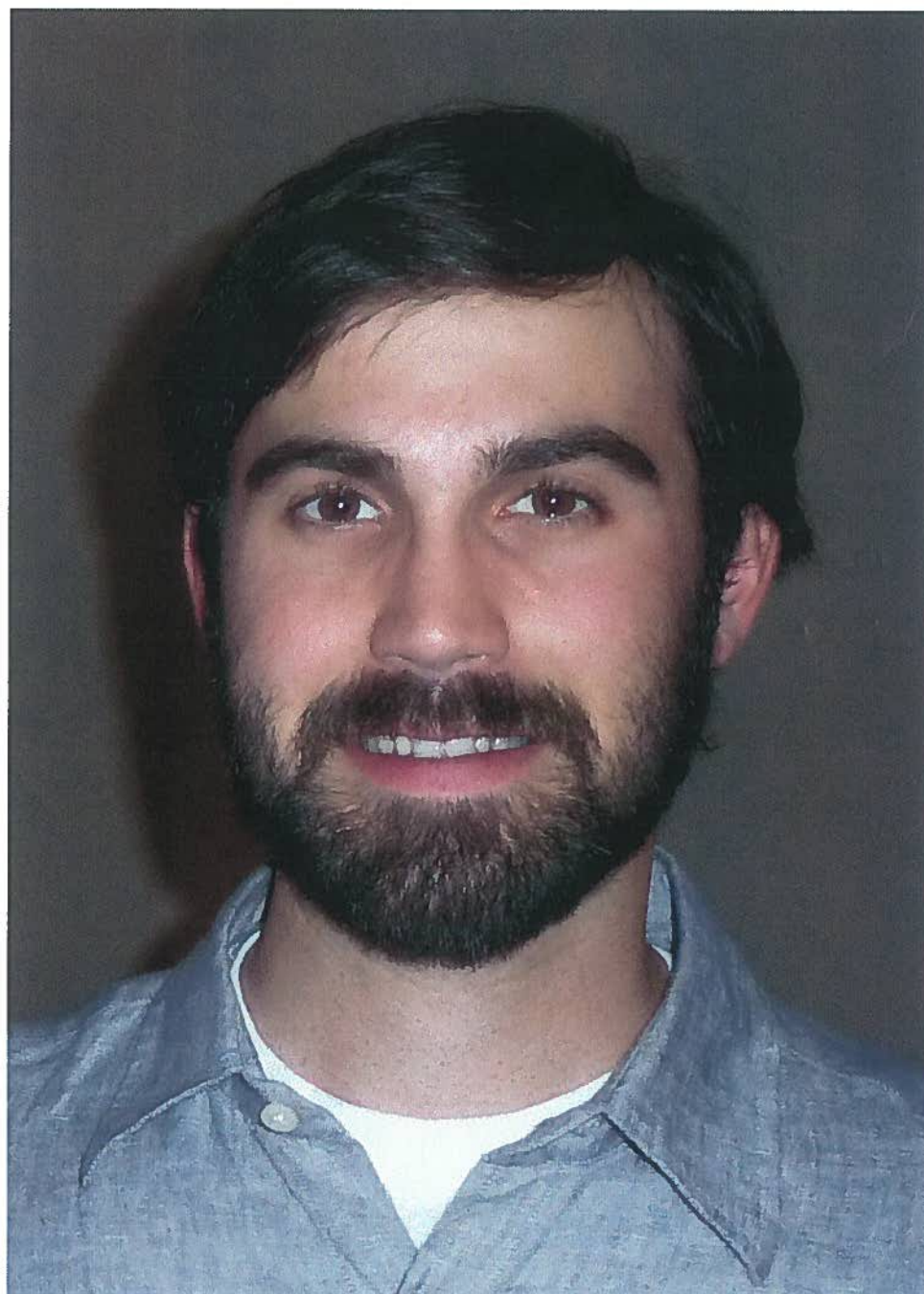
A 501c3 non profit organization

*Supporting photography in
schools*

www.morganmossfoundation.org

For more information 832-741-6058 or
713-305-5060

morganmossfoundation@gmail.com



Morgan Joseph Moss



Morgan Joseph Moss Morgan Joseph Moss, 25, of Houston, passed away on April 10, 2011, in a tragic auto accident. He was born on August 27, 1985. Graduate of Bellaire High School 2004. Earned Bachelor of Journalism/BS in RTF from UT Austin in 2009. He was currently working for TRG in Gulfport, Mississippi as an IAP Technology Specialist. Morgan possessed a passion for photography. He was also well respected for his artistic talents, keen wit, creative mind and kind heart. He was active in the skateboard community. Morgan also enjoyed biking, snowboarding, camping, music festivals and his newest adventure skydiving. He is survived by his beloved mother, Betsy; father, Michael; younger brother, Mason; and "supercat" Hobbes. He is also survived by grandparents, Joenne and Marvin Lewis, Barbara Busbey, Dick and Lilli Moss, Bob and Nancy Busbey; aunt Kendall and uncle Craig Schenkel; aunt Toni Moss; uncle Bruce and Carol Busbey; and cousins, Austin and Brooke Shenkel, and Melanie Busbey. Morgan is also survived by half sister, Mia Moss. Memorial services will be held on Sat. April

16, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at Unity Church of Christianity, 2929 Unity Drive, Houston, Texas 77057. Celebration reception following. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to: Lee and Joe Jamail Skatepark, C/O Houston Parks Board, 300 North Post Oak Lane, Houston, TX 77024. Please note: In Memory of Morgan Moss. Donations for a park bench/ tree in Morgan's memory. or "Longhorn Film Showcase"- UT Austin: Richard Graw, College of Communications, UT Austin, 1 University Station A0900, Austin, TX 78712. Please note: In Memory of Morgan Moss. In keeping with Morgan's loving and generous spirit, he gave the Gift of Life through Organ and Tissue Donation. The family wishes to thank the loving ICU and Neurology staff at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport for the excellent care and devotion to our son.

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