

January 29, 2025

Attention: US Congress

Derek Maltz, Acting Administrator, US Drug Enforcement Administration

Regarding: Jordan Garmatter 5/3/93 - 4/6/19

Fentanyl Took His Life

Jordan was always a sweet outgoing child. As he grew older into a teen I couldn't be more proud of him. He had a part time job and went weekly to Teens for Christ for awhile. He was very close with me and we talked a lot. Even after moving out of the house he always would come back to my house and stay for 1-2 nights so we could spend time together. That all stopped on April 6, 2019.

On April 5, 2019 at about 3:30 pm was the last time I saw my son. He went off to work and the last thing he said to me was – I love you Mom. Those are the last words from my son and I didn't even know it would be the last words he would ever speak to me.

On April 6, 2019 at about 6am I was awoken by Jordan's younger brother telling me something was wrong with Jordan. I went into his room immediately and he was lying on the floor and I could tell immediately that he was dead. CPR was attempted but it was too late. All I could do is scream. The thought of him not being in my life anymore was so hard to deal with and part of me died that day too. It's the hardest thing I've ever been thru in my life. And now I find myself crying as I write this letter. It is almost 6 years now that Jordan has been gone and no, it doesn't get better with time. The pain is with me every day. And this shouldn't happen to any child, teen, adult or parent. This unrelenting pain has affected my entire family. It's so hard on all of us. We all miss Jordan so much. The holidays are not the same and it's hard to be happy.

My son Jordan started experimenting with drugs at some point after graduating high school. This was unbeknownst to me as at this point he wasn't living at home and I only seen him usually once a week. In the year 2022 he came to me and told me he had an addiction and needed help. So I got right on it and found him a place for outpatient treatment.

Jordan seemed to be doing well and was working consistently. But in September of 2023 my oldest son told me he thought Jordan was using drugs again.

So I called Jordan and told him to please come live with me and let me help him and I could be more involved with him daily in person. He agreed and moved in with me. We got him more help again, he got a new part time job he liked and it felt like he had his addiction under control and he was acting like he used to. Things were going so great, until Mid March 2024. Jordan's face swelled up on the right side and it appeared he had a wisdom tooth that was growing in wrong. He made an appointment to one of the

only dentists around that took patients with no insurance. So they set his appointment a little over 2 weeks out.

In the meantime Jordan continued to work even though he was in a lot of pain. But 1 week away from his dental appointment he made the bad choice of getting his drug to ease his pain. I only learned this after his death and I looked into his phone. He had told his friend the night before he made his choice to use again that he didn't feel like getting online to play X Box Live because his tooth pain was melting his soul away.

My son Jordan suffered from SUD's – Substance Use Disorder. He started off using cocaine and then a friend at a party one night introduced him to "boy" which is the word that means it's a powder like cocaine but it wasn't white. It was an off color and it was heroin. He was told it was like cocaine but lasted longer. And then h was hooked.

But whether someone dies from a One Pill Kills scenario or because someone with SUD's relapsed and dies from Fentanyl laced drugs shouldn't matter. Especially when young people make bad choices and die as a result. The point is they didn't want to die. They didn't ask for Fentanyl. My son Jordan didn't ask for Fentanyl. But he got it anyway and was gone in an instant.

And now on to the bigger issue. Fentanyl, via China and Mexico, have already taken a whole generation of lives away in America. The Cartels are heavily involved in trafficking lethal illicit drugs to our American children, teens and adults. The Cartels have now been designated as Terrorists. They need to be dealt with as Terrorists now. American citizens have not been protected properly pure and simple.

As a result of my son Jordan's death from Fentanyl, I founded APALD – Association of People Against Lethal Drugs. APALD is a 501c3 non-profit organization. We strive to bring awareness and education via our APALD Annual National Events which consist of many locations across America hosting events on the same day to bring much needed awareness to our general public.

Please crack down on China. Please stop the Mexican Cartels and other Cartels. Please do whatever it takes to protect our American children and people. And lastly please secure ALL of our American borders.

Sincerely,

Diane Urban
Founder/President
APALD


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