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Garrett Finley, 37, Loved Photography, Music, the Ocean, Cooking and All Animals

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With deepest sorrow we announce that our son, Garrett William Finley, of Portland, Maine, died on June 15, 2022. He was 37.

Garrett was born Nov. 4, 1984 in New York City and spent most of his childhood in Darien. He graduated from Oxford Academy in Westbrook, where he developed his love of photography and continued his love of music. He attended Northeastern University, New England School of Photography and the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

His love of Boston and Manhattan was contagious; he loved experiencing the variety, diversity and stimulation of the museums and city life.

His keen eye, amazing sensitivity and fascination with technology fed his interest in all visual arts — particularly photography. His love of music of all kinds was a part of every friendship throughout his short life. Garrett's big, empathic heart touched many people as he shared his love of the ocean, Vermont, Nantucket and of course, all animals. He was deeply attached to family and friends; he loved cooking good

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food and sharing in the chaotic fun of our large family gatherings.

Garrett was a proud father and loving son. He is survived by his son, William Richards Finley of Kennebunkport, Maine; his mother, Leigh Flowe Finley and stepfather, Dennis Stevens of Norwalk; his father, William Finley and stepmother, Susan Michaelson Finley; a stepbrother, Thomas Finley, all of Wilmington, North Carolina. He treasured his Connecticut stepsisters — Heather, Hope and Alexis — and their families. He leaves behind a large extended family of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Garrett was predeceased by his stepsister, Rory Michaelson, whose memory remained close to his heart always.

His family will hold a remembrance service at 4 p.m., Sunday, July 24 at Talmadge Hill Community Church in Darien.

Memorials may be sent to two grassroots organizations that support his lifetime commitment to two initiatives: the safety of animals and locally grown, sustainable foods.

— [Spay It Forward](#), P.O. Box 1210, Concord, NC 28026.

— [Rural Vermont](#), 46 E State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602.

— [This obituary](#) was published on *Legacy.com* by *Hearst Newspapers*. [Condolences may be left online](#) at the *Conroy-Tully Walker Funeral Home of Portland, Maine*.