



Tyler Browning Flynn Jr.

October 6, 1971 - February 18, 2026

Tyler Browning Flynn, Jr. of Ardmore, PA died unexpectedly on February 18, 2026 at the age of 54. Born October 6, 1971 in Framingham, MA to Tyler and Letha (nee Forbes) Flynn, he loved exploring the outdoor world, and celebrating his birthday and Christmas.

Tyler graduated from high School in Dublin, OH, received his BA degree from Miami University of Ohio and a PhD in American History from Penn State University. His years as an educator at the college level were the most satisfying years of his working life.

Tyler discovered that he had a gift for brewing beer thanks to the mentoring of George Hummel & Nancy Rigby at Home Sweet Homebrew. He joined Philly's tight community of craft beer lovers and homebrewers, enjoyed brewing award-winning beer with Yards head brewer, Andrew Howard. Tyler's love of history came to include the history of beer, thanks to his warm friendship with Dr. Pat McGovern.

Tyler had a lifelong faith in Jesus Christ, which sustained him in the final months of his life. He is survived by his beloved parents, Tyler and Letha Flynn; sisters, Alyson Flynn and Carolyn Gunther and their families.

His Memorial Service will be held on Saturday March 14. at 1 PM in St. Mary's

Episcopal Church, 36 Ardmore Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003, where the family will receive guests after 11:30 AM

Contributions may be made in Tyler's memory to St. Mary's Episcopal Church Food Pantry.

Tyler's Memorial Service will be live-streamed at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6833376542>

Previous Events

The family will receive guests

MAR 14. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Ardmore
36 Ardmore Avenue
Ardmore, PA

Memorial Service

MAR 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary's Episcopal Church Ardmore
36 Ardmore Avenue
Ardmore, PA

Tribute Wall

JK

“ I just Googled Tyler a moment ago. I just found out that our research has an intersection. I will be citing page 86 of this paper of his in my upcoming book. https://etda.libraries.psu.edu/files/final_submissions/6125

It's really special. I have been researching this topic for years now. Tyler is the first person I have found to have written about it at all.

Respect.

Jason Kirin - Yesterday at 09:46 AM

TT

“ This is a home Tyler Flynn Jr. lived in when he was a Campus Minister for the Coalition for Christian Outreach. It's on Lincoln Way in White Oak, PA. It's 1.5 miles away from Penn State McKeesport where he worked. I was a Penn State student at the time. He generously bought two tickets to a Radiohead OK Computer tour at Metropol in Pittsburgh, PA and we went there on August 13, 1997. It was the best concert I ever saw in my life, it blew my mind. Then he showed hospitality when we came back to his home to hang out.

Rest in peace



Todd Teacher - May 11 at 11:52 PM

“My cousin Tyler was a historian. When Tyler did his doctorate at Penn State, he studied areas close to family history and close to his heart: the Presbyterians of Pittsburgh, and the life and work of our grandfather, Alan Forbes, founder and long-time director of Youthtime Evangelism Fellowship in Buffalo, New York. But Tyler did not simply stay close to his roots. He nourished those roots. He cared for his lineage and what was best in our common past like a gardener tends her most precious flowers.

Tyler loved atmospheres. He knew the deep magic of place and locality, neighborhood and niche, a murmuring creek outside Harrisburg, a sunrise on Lake Ontario, a backyard bonfire in South Philly. Tyler lived for the meaning hidden in sensation, the enchantment of tastes and smells, the alchemy of seasons and times. He cherished what the great English Romantic poet George Herbert once called “the dearest freshness deep down things.” Knowing history is not simply knowing what happened, or how things once were. Unfortunately, our age shows a profound incapacity for that even most elementary form of history. But to know history, as Tyler did, is not merely to know what was, but what might have been. The essence, the meaning of history is also that which is lost to history.

Human beings see only glimmers of what we could be, brief and fading glimpses of what we truly are. We see our own glory, as much as the divine, in a mirror darkly. Films and music, two passions I shared with Tyler (along with food and celebrating people) preserve time out of mind. Great movies and good music, like good books, allow us to slow down, to linger. They let us savor a life that otherwise disappears in the wake of our days, the relentless press of our concerns, the brutal machine of our so-called “productive” grind.

Tyler lived a dream, a vision of what America could be. That dream, then and now, perhaps only exists as poetry. Tyler lived that poetry. He embodied a nobility and courage promised by the scale and proportions of mid-century architecture. He relished the enduring strength of hand-crafted materials. He nourished us, and sustained himself, on ancient recipes, time-tested ingredients, and that crucial

defense of our human frailty known as hospitality.

Tyler lived a solitary life, a life verging on the monastic. I hear the monks make decent beer. Tyler's beer was legendary, multi-award-winning in one of the most storied and competitive home-brewing regions in the world. Tyler's beer reflects the paradox of who he was: a quiet and consistent person of great care and attention to detail who offered his community fabulous and extraordinary gifts of pleasure, comfort, and welcome.

I will remember Tyler most in his laughter, in the humor he brought to and found in almost every moment we were together.

In a world that brutalizes us with cruel and seemingly endless, pointless labor, Tyler invited us—indeed enabled us, to pause, to slow down, and to witness and celebrate all that we are, all that is best in us. Tyler's gift as an educator, as well as a host, was to remind us of the goodness we all shared in, the goodness that has always been here, that still is here, in spite of the horror, drudgery, ignominy, and loss that marks our brief and fragile time on this precious and wondrous earth.

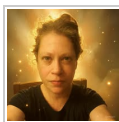
We have lost Tyler. May we preserve his gifts in our hearts and our lives.

Joshua Ramey - March 17 at 10:32 AM

AF

This is a beautiful tribute, Joshua. Thank you for taking to the time to thoughtfully compose this.

Alyson Flynn - March 24 at 08:37 PM



Beautifully said

Emily Rich - April 11 at 11:06 PM

GH

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



George H Hummel - March 15 at 05:14 PM

GH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



George H Hummel - March 15 at 05:12 PM

DP

“ *Tyler was a wonderful colleague and friend. He had such a genuine and caring approach to others. I always knew that when we talked, whether it was about committee meetings, teaching, history, his passion for brewing, or his love of the NE Patriots, he loved hearing what I thought and cared about. He was a true friend and colleague who meant a lot to me during our years teaching together. He will be missed! My condolences to his family for their loss.*

Darrell Pearson - March 14 at 10:40 AM



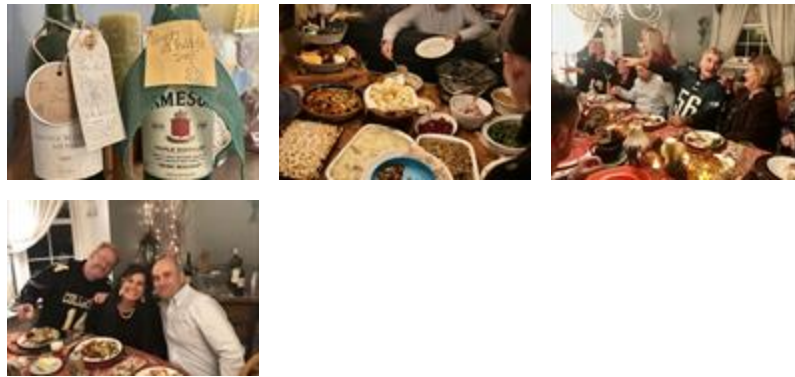
“ Tyler was a part of a brewing team (Chris Gill & Ken Burgess) with St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. Those 3 always had a good time together. RIP, Tyler, you will be missed.



Jeanne Todd - March 14 at 10:06 AM

IG

“ Tyler came to several of our St. Patricks Day parties over the years and also some family gatherings. A friend of our nephew we welcomed him as a part of the family. He was a beautiful soul and always so interesting to have a conversation with. Every visit he brought a sampling of his latest brews. We are very sad about his passing and will miss him! Kurt & Irene Gutzler



irene gutzler - March 14 at 08:13 AM

CL

Tyler was a sweet and brilliant soul. We loved having him as part of our family. He brought his wit and love to each event. He will be truly missed ❤️

Chrissie Lucey - March 14 at 08:25 AM

EH

“ 1 file added to the album *Pictures of Tyler*



Eric Hartline - March 10 at 12:12 PM

AF

Thank you for sharing this picture, Eric.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:50 PM

YL

“ *This is the way I will forever remember Tyler (thank you for the picture, Barry) - curious, perceptive, thoughtful, analytical, introspective, an old soul, gentle and kind. We spoke about life and books - I, as a young parent and a new immigrant, and Tyler, who was just two years older, but spoke with an interest and curiosity of an older academic. He was in his early 20's. I am very sorry to the whole Flynn family for your untimely loss.*
~ Yana



Yana Lirtsman - March 08 at 09:22 AM

AF

Thank you, Yana, for these sweet memories of Tyler.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:50 PM



I'm very sorry for your loss, Alyson. I read people's comments and I hope that it is comforting for you to know that he left so many beautiful memories. ❤️

Yana Lirtsman - March 13 at 08:11 PM

NA

“ I met Tyler at Ardmore Presbyterian Church, and he became one of the most thoughtful and supportive friends I’ve known. He had a gentle spirit and cared deeply about people.

We loved talking about art and movies and could spend hours discussing *Amélie* and Van Gogh. The last film we talked about was *Malèna*. Tyler also loved photography and had a wonderful eye for capturing meaningful moments. Over the years we shared many pictures. He shared so many positive memories about his niece.

He adored Mr. Kitty, the cat patiently helped trust people again.

Some of my warmest memories with Tyler are simple ones: hiking in Haverford, shopping at Whole Foods in Wynnewood, watching *Amélie*, listening to Nina Simone, and talking about Paris.

Tyler was a deeply kind, thoughtful, and empathetic person - an awesome friend. I feel blessed to have known him.

Tyler, rest in peace. I’m sorry our last conversation never happened, but I will always be grateful for our friendship.



Nataliia - March 07 at 02:02 AM

AF

Nataliia, thank you for sharing this window into Tyler's life. I know he was grateful and forever changed by your friendship.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:54 PM

ND

“*Professor Flynn was a chaperone on the trip to the Adirondacks mountains with the Templeton Honors College in 2007. I remember when this photo was taken, Professor Flynn and I decided it would be funny to spar with the kayak paddles, and everyone laughed at our antics. Dr. Flynn was fun and funny. I remember being sad when I realized on the trip that I wouldn't end up taking any history classes with him. He made one of the most formative trips of my life memorable and full of laughter and for that I'll always be grateful. May he rest in peace and love.*



Nora Devlin - March 04 at 11:35 AM

AF

Nora, what a cool memory and photo of you with Tyler! I'm sure he loved that trip—the outdoors were a passion.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:53 PM

MA

“ Tyler was my neighbor for several years and I watched his cats long after i moved out of the building. He was always kind and soft spoken and peaceful. We used to joke that when we were all in the building (along with another neighbor) was the "golden age" of living there because we all got on and were casual friends and neighbors. Those memories and times will stay with me- so happy and peaceful and simple. Tyler was a good soul and will continue to be a good soul in his next place and I wish him happiness where he is. Rest in peace and joy Tyler- you deserve it.
Forever friend and neighbor -Marah

Marah - March 03 at 01:20 PM

AF

How sweet for me to hear that Tyler made good friends with his neighbors. Thank you for sharing.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:54 PM

ON

“ I was a member of Tyler's doctoral dissertation. He took a couple of courses on Chinese thought from me and worked for me as a Teaching Assistant in a course on world civilizations. Since he left Penn State, we had never lost touch. He always made a point to keep me up-to-date with the goings-on in his life. Every now and again, he would send me a long note that was not only a reportage but also a musing on life. He wished me bon voyage when I was about to leave for Hong Kong for a semester-long visiting professorship back in August last year. Our last communications were the Christmas greetings we exchanged in December.

What a beautiful person he was! As a practicing Christian of devout faith, he had the moral gravity of a Stoic and the aesthetic sensibility of an Epicurean. He also told me many a time of his deep appreciation for the Confucian ideals of civility and sociality. He was a kind soul, a connoisseur of the good life animated by ceaseless cultivation of himself and unswerving loyalty to his family and friends, interspersed by periodic imbibing of a stein of beer and tumbler of whiskey. Knowing that he was a sartorial fan of Brooks Brothers, one time, I sent him a box of silks ties out of the blue. Beset with adversities, instead of railing against fate, he faced them with grace and grit. I cannot tell you how much I admire his fortitude in the midst of setbacks. To me, he will always be a gentleman and a scholar, or, in Chinese, a *junzi*, a paradigmatic noble person who takes great joy in being good and doing good. I miss him sorely.

Respectfully,
On-cho Ng

On-cho Ng - March 02 at 01:12 PM

AF

Thank you sharing this reflection of Tyler, Dr. Ng.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:57 PM

GC

“ I was Tyler's PhD advisor and knew him as a historian and sensitive and caring observer of life through conversations and emails over the years. We had planned to meet in the Spring. I admired his spirit despite disappointments. I wish I could attend the service and meet the family, but will be unable.

Gary Cross - March 01 at 05:37 PM

AF

Dr. Cross, how lovely your connection with Tyler spanned decades. Thank you for sharing this with me.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:56 PM

MR

“ Last year I got the pleasure of meeting cousin Tyler with hubby Philip, the moment he met me he was the sweetest and so very welcoming; made us each our own charcuterie boards paired with his own brewed beer; man what a talent, he even had a wedding gift for us, so very thoughtful. Fly free, fly high now Tyler and be at peace! Until we are all together in his glory rest easy cousin. ❤️🙏

Mary Soto Ramey - February 27 at 10:08 PM

AF

Thank you, Mary. How lovely that you saw the cousin side of Tyler.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:59 PM

CF

“ To the Flynn family. I did not know Tyler. I worked in the building below his apartment. I just wanted to say that we are praying for you all in this time of loss. So thankful to see that Tyler had a relationship with Jesus. May he rest with his Lord for all eternity. God bless , Carlo Faragalli

Carlo Faragalli - February 25 at 11:07 AM

AF

Thank you for your compassion and prayers, Carlo. They are greatly appreciated.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 08:58 PM

CG

“*Thank you so much, Barre. Fully agree with your reflections of Tyler Jr. His love for history also flowed over into being a family historian. And his interests were diverse... was fun to see the days of his ADVENTURES where he'd take the youth of the family out — on a hike, to a pet store (to pull the cute animals from their cages and enjoy them), and for certain special movies (I think of his love for Lord of the Rings). His faith was strong though not loud... clearly his life was fixed with a strong foundation. Tyler is sorely missed, though is at peace and on to a forever adventure with the Lord.*

Craig E. Gunther - February 25 at 07:45 AM

BF

“*28 files added to the album Pictures of Tyler*



Barre Flynn - February 24 at 07:50 PM

BF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

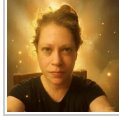


Barre Flynn - February 24 at 07:48 PM

BF

“ Tyler was my Nephew. We shared many exciting adventures. I knew Tyler as a person whose faith in Christ ran his life. He was born into a Christian family and throughout his life journeyed to a very rich experience with his walk with God. He was compassionate to the poor and needy and those who struggled in life. His spare time was spent enjoying God's creation in western NY and on Lake Ontario. Tyler was very thoughtful in his faith. He reached beyond the box of his heritage to explore many Christian denominations, seeking insights for his life. He demonstrated a simplicity of life. For most of his life, he had no car and lived a modest life. He enjoyed a good beer, and, with his perfectionism and creativity, became an amazing brewer. I learned a lot from Tyler in our conversations. Tyler leaves behind many insights for us all. One is the simple life, another is to be kind and generous. Because of Tyler's gentle and kind spirit and sensitivity, it was very difficult to find his place in our world. Tyler was the gold hidden in the rock, surrounded by a crazy world that rarely stopped long enough to really appreciate the gift Tyler afforded to all of us. Today Tyler stands with his friends and his family in Heaven. It is a beautiful day there. His death needs to push our desires towards heaven and forsake the world we live in. Rest in Peace, Tyler...Thanks for a great time!

Barre Flynn - February 24 at 07:47 PM



Beautifully said

Emily Rich - February 25 at 01:14 PM



Thank you for sharing this perspective of Tyler. Barre, you were his dream uncle! So much fun and one of the sources of Tyler's childhood obsessions. You brought so many adventures to your nieces and nephew and Tyler took those qualities from you and gave them to the young people in his life.

Alyson Flynn - March 10 at 09:02 PM