A native of Buckhannon, West Virginia, Michael Zebuhr graduated summa cum laude from Davis & Elkins College in Elkins, WV, in May 2005 with degrees in mathematics and chemistry. Mike discovered his passion for biomedical research as a research intern, working at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida during the summer of 2003, and in the Biomechanics Laboratory at Clemson University during the summers of 2004 and 2005. Mike joined the Clemson Bioengineering Department as a Ph.D. student in August 2005. His drive for success, creativity and impressive thirst for knowledge made him stand out as a graduate student and colleague.

On March 18, 2006, while visiting family on spring break, Mike was fatally shot during a robbery in Minneapolis. To honor the memory of Mike’s strong work ethic, dedication, and love of life, Clemson University has established the Michael A. Zebuhr Memorial Fund. Through the Michael A. Zebuhr Memorial Fund, students will be able to apply for funding to enhance their own biomedical research projects. Students from the Clemson Bioengineering Department will be invited to submit proposals to apply for funding, which will be reviewed annually. Recipients will be chosen based on their research proposal, as well as the qualities that Mike personified - intelligence, creativity, practicality and enthusiasm for original research.

Mike was an outstanding student and a true role model. He had only just begun his research in orthopaedic biomechanics, and met every challenge with determination, fed by his solid sense of how his work fit into the “big picture.” Through this scholarship fund, it is our hope that new generations of students will come to understand these qualities that made Mike such a valued member of our research team, and will strive to live their lives as he did.
Through the Michael A. Zebuhr Memorial Fund, the Clemson family hopes to carry on Mike’s vision of making the world a better place through biomedical research, and to help us all remember to live life to the fullest, as Mike did.

Take nothing for granted.
Nurture your curiosity.
Smile generously.
Figure out what you want to do, and work really hard to do it.
Fix things.
Care deeply.
Think deeply.
Love life.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to the Michael A. Zebuhr Memorial Fund, please fill out this form, indicate method of payment, and return to the address below.

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