

My name is Tane Timling and I live at [REDACTED] Fairbanks, Alaska. I am testifying in support of House Bill 316 amending Alaska statute 09.17.010..

I thought I would have many more years with my dad.

One of my favorite things to do with him was watching science fiction. He introduced my sister and I to the Stargate franchise, a show that none of our peers knew. We would bond over it for many years. We would discuss plots and characters as he would analyze and chat with us about where the science ended and the fiction began. It opened up a whole world of imagination and creativity that stays with me to this day. Recently, I went to see Project Hail Mary in theatres with some of my friends. While I enjoyed being there with friends, I couldn't help but shed tears. I shed tears not only because of the emotional impact of Ryland Grace and Rocky saving the stars, but also for the fact that I can't experience that story with my dad sitting next to me.

My dad died in a tragic helicopter crash along with three other people in the summer of 2023

In the years I thought we would have together, he would have witnessed milestones in my life, I could have learned more from him and sought out his help in my moments of need.

Now he is gone.

He can no longer be there to help me with my housing construction project, where he would provide advice on how best to plan out construction and what to look out for.

He can no longer be there to see me graduate college and see me get my degree.

He can no longer be there to see me get married.

He can no longer be there to become a grandfather, and hold his grandchild in his arms.

He can no longer be there to travel with me to museums and learn about new things together as some of my fondest memories recall.

He can no longer be there to share his love of science fiction with me and I won't be able to share with him the science fiction I love as we had done for my entire life.

He can no longer be there.

I would have had decades to share life experiences with my dad, but that was cut short.

I will never be able to get his advice, I will never be able to ask his opinion, and I will never be able to ask him any questions.

These are life experiences that I will not be able to share with him.

I hope that you will take the time to ask your loved ones the questions you always wanted to ask, to get their thoughts and opinions. I hope that you will never have to experience a bond to a loved one get severed in such an abrupt way as I have. It is a loss I will have to grapple with for the rest of my life.