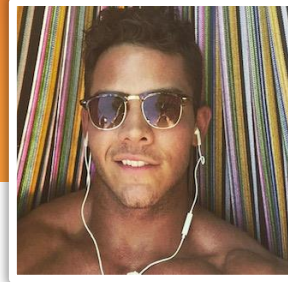


Johnny Mahovlich

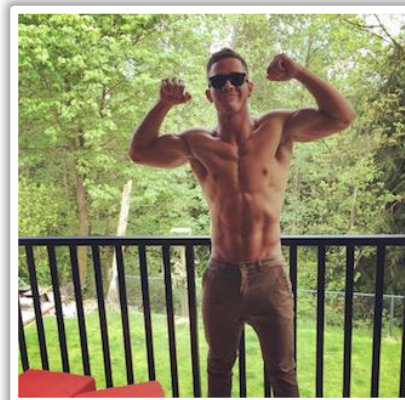
May 06, 1989 – February 8, 2019



It is with the greatest sorrow that we have to announce that our Son Johnny Mahovlich has passed away.

Johnny was born and raised in East Vancouver. At the tender age of only 7 months old he was diagnosed with a hip disorder that required him to be in a two-leg cast for 6 months. That cast didn't impede his development into walking, as he figured out a way to hop along. After his long therapy of 3 years wearing braces and additional foot casts, the ortho doctor told us that he did all he could for him and not to expect him to play in any competitive sports. Boy was he wrong.

We enrolled him in figure skating at the age of 4 hoping that the mechanics of skating would help build up his weak muscles from his hip disorder. Johnny took to skating very well and within a year he had moved up to skating with the 10-year-old competitive skaters. We were thrilled at his development and thought he had a great future in figure skating... that didn't last long. Once Johnny found out he needed to attend dance class to supplement his on-ice skills he quickly told us he didn't want to do figure skate anymore. As a family we still skated at the local rinks in East Vancouver and Burnaby, that's where Johnny discovered hockey. He was super enthusiastic about playing, so we enrolled him in Hastings Minor Hockey. His first year he played one age level up due to his great skating ability, he didn't have the



greatest hands but that came towards the end of the season. Our last game of the season was against the Power House Burnaby Winter Club Team. All the parents were saying that we were going to get spanked so many didn't even come to the game. Johnny had a great game, we only had two lines and he got to play a lot more than usual.

That summer Johnny was recruited by Scott Macleod of the Burnaby Winter Club to play for them.

Johnny's experience at BWC was great, it was a very competitive atmosphere; coaches like Scott Macleod, Bill Hunt and Cleve Astle were able to instill a great work ethic yet maintain a fun atmosphere where the kids were eager to come and play.

At the age of 16 he played Junior in the BCHL for the Merritt Centennials. In junior hockey Johnny learned about the business and politics of hockey which made him despise the sport at times. He had to retire at the age of 20 due to not being able to get a medical clearance from his doctors.

It was at this time that he turned his focus into training his little brother Scott who was 10 years younger. Johnny discovered he had a gift of being able to transfer his skills and enthusiasm to a new generation of athlete.

Johnny had a passion for working out and eating healthy. It was all about his body image. He made sure he would get at least one gym workout a day, but usually it was one in the morning and one in the evening. This is why he could only join a 24-hour gym. There was the endless Tupperware of specific foods that he took everyday measured specifically with the right balance of proteins to help him with his endless diets. It was all about the six pack and beach body. Let's not forget about the constant tanning he did, the darker he got the more he thought he had to go back.

In 2012 he became the youngest ever hockey Director of VMHA. He loved training the kids in Vancouver, parents were easy going, kids would eat up his advice that would translate to teams doing better. He enjoyed seeing the smile of the kids and Johnny always played the kids fairly based on how they were playing that game. There never was in



his mind a so called first, second, third or fourth line.

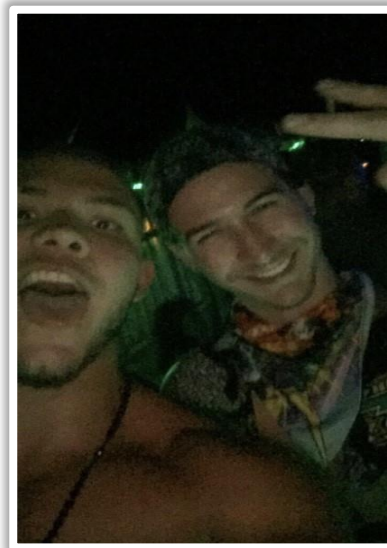
Johnny continued developing kids until the start of 2018. He stepped away from hockey development after getting sick in the winter of 2017. After his illness he fell into a bit of a depression. The depression was the result of many factors, one of those factors was two close friends that has passed away in 2016 and 2017.

It wasn't until May of 2018 that Johnny sought help from a doctor... the doctor prescribed him with a bipolar medication that within 2 weeks of taking it he was back to the Johnny we knew and loved. Johnny went back to school getting certificates in first aid, mining and oil exploration. He did this so that he could go work up north in the oil and/or gas field industries. Johnny and his friend were scheduled to go work in the oil fields in Alberta in September of 2018, but due to the excess of oil supply and low cost of oil it was delayed to a future date.

Johnny had another life changing experience in the late summer of 2018, his friend Nate was kind enough to get Johnny tickets to an outdoor weeklong festival "Shambala", at this festival he found a new group of friends, so full of love and non-judgmental, he called them his hippy friends. Johnny told me it was a life changing experience.

Johnnys next adventure in life was working, of all places, at a Dispensary in Vancouver called the Cana Clinic. This was Johnnys kind of job. He loved talking to customers and meeting new people everyday. He would call me at the end of the shift everyday saying how he had the most sales of the day and quickly within two weeks became a manager. He was so happy despite only making one third of what he was making at his other job.

Johnny also has a Doberman, he named her after his favorite place on earth "Maui". Maui as a pup had cataracts and after a recent vet visit, he was told that she would need expensive cataract surgery to stop her from going blind. That's when Johnny decided he would look back into working up North to make some extra money to pay for her surgery.



Johnny would talk to me about funerals and or celebrations of life that he attended for his friends. He hated that everyone was sad, even though he said he was sad and understood why everyone was. Johnny spoke of how if something were ever to happen to him, he didn't want a large gathering, didn't want any money wasted on paying for a hall, food, and the such, that we were to use his money to have him cremated and his ashes one day spread in Hawaii. Johnny also said that before we did that, to give the ashes to his long-life friend Marcello, that he knew how he wanted to have a going away party with all of his friends.

He also said jokingly that he was a legend, that legends don't need to have funerals or celebration of life. That people in his different circles will know how to pay tribute to him without shedding a tear and learn to "step forward" with life, ... That was Johnny for you. Half heartily joking, yet still believing his own hype to a degree.

We thank all who have reached out to us with their condolences. We would love to get photos or stories that you would like to share with us. Pictures and/or stories can be sent to us via this page and/or to johnnymaui2027@gmail.com.

Thank you,

Mahovlich family, John, Claudia, Jenny and Scott.



