

Hilary Besson

Michael Rothberg Scholarship

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In A Blink of An Eye

All it takes is a split second. Being at the wrong place, at the wrong time can end it all. Michael Rothberg's story is one of many unfortunate tragedies of sudden death. A calamity such his is rapidly multiplying in today's society as the issues of terrorism, gun violence, and brutality consistently remain in the headlines. From 9/11 to the Boston Marathon bombing, harm is at every corner. It feels unescapable. Michael Rothberg's horrific event is what brings me back to the reality of this: I am not invincible. If it can happen to Michael it can happen to me, or even worse, a loved one, and that is the devastating truth. This is why it is my personal goal and commitment to myself to seize every moment of every day as it could be my last. Tomorrow is not guaranteed, so I strive to make each day worth so much more than a twenty-four hour cycle. I recognize every breath I take is a blessing in its simplest form. I understand that life is so incredibly fleeting without warning, which is why it is my duty to appreciate every positive aspect that life has to offer. There are so many things to be grateful for, which is why I brought my appreciation for life, and my love for videography to create a video that I titled, *100 Reasons To Smile*.

Not only does his legacy inspire me to be grateful, but it motivates me to work hard. I want to make each day count. I have an appetite for greatness and I am hungry to constantly improve on my skills in order to be outstanding across the board like Mr. Rothberg was. He was

a generous benefactor, skilled athlete, and successful businessman. He left his mark on the world before he departed and I strive to do the same. It is the legacy of Michael Rothberg that motivates me to stay positive, grateful, and driven because the evanescence of life in general, along with his personal demise is not ignored.

To view my Youtube video, *100 Reasons To Smile*:

Link to my Youtube video: <https://youtu.be/YshoFgHUzTo>

If this link does not work, go to www.youtube.com.

Then, type “100 reasons to smile xoxohilary” in the search bar.

It should be the first video that comes up.

(The thumbnail is a picture of me smiling with a white box that says 100 Reasons to Smile).