

Gazing through my memories of May

Like many friendships that start online it was pure luck that brought May into my life. We were mutuals for awhile, we both played melee and we both played counterstrike. Eventually one day she asked me if I'd like to play CS with her sometime, which is good because I don't do well reaching out to make friends. That was never May's problem though, and she never had a problem making new friends either. This was during a time in my life where I had felt alienated by my current friendgroup and having such a bright, funny, welcoming girl invite me to play games with her and her friends made me feel like everything would be okay.

We quickly became close playing games almost every night. We would queue competitive nuke with whoever would play with us until the sun rose. She always loved the scout and would often buy it whenever she wanted much to my chagrin. We would gamble on cases and lament our losses and celebrate our wins. We would make friends along the way and even pick up a few enemies to boot. She was always playing CS, or Binding of Isaac, or some souls game, and maybe melee if she wanted to play silly falco games. During that year I beat all of the souls games often streaming in discord to her and she loved watching. I never had a fan quite like May. She would always laugh at my stupid jokes and react to my "sick clips" and I couldn't ask for a better hype woman. During a time in my life where my long standing relationship was crumbling and my friends were few and distant, May made me feel like I mattered, like I was special and wanted.

Eventually we decided to finally meet and we went to a casino in Cincinnati. We had fun gambling and exploring the city, we played lego star wars in the hotel room and I showed her old vods of her favorite CS team (Worlds #1 NaVi fan). We started dating after this and she moved all the way to TN to be with me. And we were happy for a time. We played R.E.P.O and CS during the nights and watched the X-Files and Star wars movies together (also Worlds #1 Star Wars fan). She loved playing with my dog Bruno and he was ecstatic to have such a fun mom. She traveled with me to Full Bloom where I had one of my best major runs ever. I don't think I could have done it without her behind me cheering. It's hard to put into words how the effects of having such a supportive and caring partner at the time made me feel, when everything else in my life was going wrong.

Ultimately May decided that she missed her home and left me in TN. I always told her that I appreciated her trying such a big life change and that I would understand if it was too much which ultimately it was. We kept in touch and were still good friends for a long

while. We drifted apart as is so common with exes for one reason or another but would still check in every so often. May gave me confidence, and drive to be the person I want to be, and not slump into the lazy comfort of watching my life pass. I would not be who I am today or where I am today without her. She had so much more life to live, and my one regret was not spending more time with her while I had it. But there was no way of knowing the time remaining was so unfairly short.

She touched many lives and I know many people will remember how she touched theirs.

I want to never forget.

I loved her and will miss her dearly.