



Chicago photographer dies after collapsing at Out in the Park

By Brian Troutman

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CHICAGO, IL -- Prominent Chicago photographer Scott Barnes passed away Saturday after collapsing at Six Flag's "Out in the Park" event.

[According to DNAInfo](#), 50-year-old Barnes had been walking around with friends after enjoying some of the rides when he suddenly became ill and collapsed.

He was taken to Advocate-Condell Medical Center in Libertyville where he was pronounced dead.

According to his website, Barnes was nominated as Best Emerging Artist at the GLAAD Art Auction in 2011 in New York. His work has been featured in books and calendars that have sold internationally as well as in art galleries in New York, Chicago, Quebec City, Miami, and Indianapolis.

"As a photographer, I run into so many people with self-image problems. But here's the deal: If I'm photographing you, I think you're beautiful," he posted on his site. "It's that simple. Let's leave our hang-ups at the door and have a fun, inspiring photo shoot."

Many who knew Barnes remember him not for his photography, but for his character.

"I am still trying to wrap my head around this with everything else that's going on," posted Jared Curry to Facebook. "I just spoke with Scott last Thursday. In true Scott fashion he was expressing his concern to me about me staying here through the storm. He cared deeply about those he cared about."

"Besides being my friend, he also mentored me when I set out on my creative journey," posted fellow photographer Jake Weiger. "He often had a way of inspiring me and pushing me outside of my comfort zone. I am so very thankful that our paths crossed in this life and that I have the pleasure to call him a friend."

Barnes' memorial service will take place at the Geisen-Carlisle Funeral & Cremation Services 613 Washington St. Michigan City, Indiana with the viewing on Friday, Sept. 15 in the afternoon and evening and the funeral on Saturday, Sept. 16.

A memorial event will be held September 20 from 7-9p.m. at Elixer Bar in Andersonville. Proceeds from the event will be donated to a favorite charity of Scott's on his behalf.