

On December 30, 2023, my closest friend, Kaden Moses, died by a gunshot wound to the head. On the same day, before the time of his death, I was waiting for my girlfriend [REDACTED] Moses to get off of work. I would occasionally go into Kaden's room every few minutes to see what Kaden and his friend were doing. Every time I entered the room, Kaden would be playing the game with his girlfriend through online games, and his friend, [REDACTED], would be covered up with a blanket on Kaden's bed in the corner of his room. At some point, I brought some of my Pokémon cards into Kaden's room. I gave Kaden the cards telling him that he could have them if he'd like. He was very happy to receive them and wanted to know about them. After I explained the cards to Kaden I went over to Hunter, who was still on the bed. He was covered up with Kaden's blanket from his feet to his face like he was cold. He was

on his phone with the phone covered by the blanket, so I couldn't really tell what he was doing. I walked back to [REDACTED] room and waited for her to arrive. Once [REDACTED] arrived from work we talked about exchanging Christmas gifts. She starts by giving me gifts to open. I loved all of the gifts she had gotten me. Then, it was my turn to give my gifts to [REDACTED]. She was opening one of her final gifts when we heard a loud pop that made us jump. We look at each other surprised at what the noise could have been. I thought it could have been a waterbottle that popped because the kids were playing around.

[REDACTED] and I got up to see what caused the noise and left the room. After opening the door to leave the room, Kaden's room door also opens. It was [REDACTED], I think I asked him if he heard the loud noise, but he told [REDACTED] and I that Kaden had shot himself. [REDACTED] tells [REDACTED] not to joke around like that but [REDACTED] wasn't laughing. [REDACTED]

didn't seem like he was scared or worried. His eyes were just a little widened. I look in the room and everything went slow motion. For the next 3 seconds, time froze. All I see is Kaden, arms wrapped around his gaming chair, his body very tense like he just finished working out, the smell of gunpowder, and the sound of blood, pouring out of his head and hitting the floor. I turn away quickly and everyone was around me except Kaden's mom. [REDACTED] and I run towards Erika Moses's room, [REDACTED] and Kaden's mom. We knock on the door and call her name thinking she is asleep. She opens the door in panic and we try to tell her what happened. Speaking was almost impossible as the emotions had already set in. She runs to Kaden's room and everyone tries to follow. [REDACTED] stops me and tells me to take the kids over to the neighbor's and [REDACTED] follows. The kids follow me over to the neighbors and I knock on their door. They answer and the

kids go inside. I run back to Erika's house to try and help. [REDACTED] was outside trying to tell me something. He asked me multiple times, "[REDACTED], what do I do, my fingerprints are all over the bullets." I didn't know how to help him. Eventually the police were called along with friends and family. I stayed at the neighbors pacing in and out of the house. I was asked to get pictures taken of me by a woman with a camera because I needed to take our dog out of the house along with our puppies. I ended up sleeping at my neighbors for the night, and the next day I went to my girlfriend's grandma's house for a couple of days, away from the house Kaden died at.

