

***In Memory***

***Of***

***Michael Cabaj***

**October 4, 2011**

*Today is a sad day at Garfield Middle School.*

*Yesterday, at approximately 4:50 p.m., Michael Cabaj, a seventh grade student at our school, was fatally struck by a train at the Outwater Lane crossing, on his way home from cross-country practice.*

*Today, we remember Michael as a really good and special young man -----one who respected himself, his family, his teachers, and his peers. He was highly motivated and worked very hard to get good grades. Michael was a great athlete and an excellent runner on the Middle School cross country team. He enjoyed all sports, especially football, basketball, and running, and fishing, and was truly a team player.*

*Most importantly, Michael was a positive person who was always smiling and brought great joy to all of those around him. Students remember Michael as a kind and gentle friend, who truly cared about them.*

*Michael was very proud of his family. He often spoke about his brothers in the Marines and was part of our Blue Star Program. Michael loved his parents and his family very much.*

*We can honor the memory of Michael Cabaj by being kind and respectful to one another and working hard like Michael did to achieve our goals.*

*As a school community, let us unite as we remember Michael Cabaj, a great friend, a great student, and a great athlete.*

*Michael will be greatly missed at GMS. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.*