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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Left to Right: 1984 UCHS graduate Chris Valeriotte; 2019 UCHS graduates Kayla Merrill and Domonic Torno; and UCHS Principal Michael Peoples. Missing from picture 2019 UCHS graduate Makayla Jones.

## Darren's Lions2Tigers Foundation Awards Mizzou Scholarships to Three University City High School 2019 Graduates

**University City, MO** – The non-profit **Darren's Lions2Tigers Foundation** has again generously funded scholarships for University City High School graduates accepted into the University of Missouri.

Three students were awarded \$2,500 each toward their freshman year at Mizzou, the college once attended by the Foundation's namesake, Darren Valeriotte, a 1988 UCHS graduate. This year's Lions2Tigers scholarship recipients are 2019 UCHS graduates **Domonic Torno, Kayla Merrill** and **Makayla Jones**.

Valeriotte graduated from Mizzou in 1993 and went on to establish a successful home healthcare business. He passed away suddenly in 2016 at 45. A group of UCHS classmates who attended Mizzou with him established Darren's Lions2Tigers Foundation in his memory.

(more)

*On February 21, 1911, with a City population of only 2,417, The School District of University City was officially established. Classes began in September 1912 with a total school population of 769. Today, you will find outstanding educational programs serving a student population of approximately 2,800 with a preschool, four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. In May 2018, University City High School held its 107<sup>th</sup> formal Commencement Ceremony.*



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
UNIVERSITY CITY  
Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!

# NewsRelease

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Valeriote attended the district from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, and went to Flynn Park Elementary, Brittany Woods Middle School and University City High School. He cherished his longtime friendships with fellow UCHS grads, some of whom went on to study with him at Mizzou.

“Darren was always so proud that he was a U. City grad. He developed a lot of friendships during his time at U. City that lasted his entire life,” said his brother Chris Valeriote, UCHS class of 1984.

Darren Valeriote is survived by his wife, Stacey, of Eureka and their sons, Steven and Alex. Steven will enter his junior year at Mizzou this fall. Alex will be a senior at Eureka High School.

Darren’s Lions2Tigers hosts an annual fund-raising golf tournament in October. To learn more about the Foundation visit [www.ucityschools.org/Lions2Tigers](http://www.ucityschools.org/Lions2Tigers). For information on the scholarship, contact Dr. Samuel Martin, UCHS Dean of Students at (314) 290-4104.

**#UCLionPride**

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