

**LOGAN 'CITO' KAUSMAN
Sidewalk memorial**

A dozen self-described brothers mourned the mysterious death of a fallen Tenderloin neighborhood son at a Sept. 1 memorial held on a Leavenworth sidewalk, a hangout spot in front of an apartment building where some of the young mourners live.

Grim and silent, most wore the uniform of street youth — oversized white T-shirt, baggy pants and baseball cap askew. Next to the building, they had created a shrine of candles, bottles, bouquets and small paper images from cell phone photos of the dead man, Logan "Cito" Kausman. He was 20. A few photos showed him holding his year-old son, Jeremiah Cito Kausman. "Cito" had been scrawled on the wall in several places.

Mr. Kausman died of a gunshot wound Aug. 27 at 9:58 p.m., his friends said. But details were hard to glean.

"He didn't die in the Tenderloin," said Capt. Joe Garrity the next day. "It was in the Northern (police) district, in a side alley, and we don't know if it was a homicide or suicide."

Sgt. Troy Dangerfield of SFPD media relations said there was no police report.



FAMILY PHOTO

Logan Kausman and son.

The medical examiner's office said it is investigating the cause of death.

Rev. Glenda Hope conducted the memorial at the behest of a neighborhood woman, she said. Traffic and other street noises practically drowned out her words as she faced the crowd, her back to the wall. She had been told erroneously that the young man had grown up there at 245 Leavenworth St. and had died at that spot on the sidewalk. But Mr. Kausman had grown up around the corner near Eddy and Hyde, his friends later said, and as an adult had acquired his own apartment in the same building.

Hope asked the mourners to share any memories. A black woman said she didn't know the deceased as well as the young men had but concluded he was "a passionate young man" and thanked them for letting her "celebrate" with them.

No one else spoke. The black woman hurried away. The young men lingered, looking lost, some leaning on cars.

Michael Viera, 21, said he was Mr. Kausman's best friend and had known him all his life. Mr. Kausman had gone to Los Angeles in 2006 and earned a welding certificate and a high school diploma, Viera said.

"He said it changed his life," Viera said.

Mr. Kausman had a job with DPW through stimulus money and worked at Glen Park, another said. He had been employed since his son was born. His girlfriend, the mother, took care of the child during the day.

"Yeah," said one young man, "he had his own apartment, a car, a job, a kid — he was cutting it pretty good, doing better than the rest of us."

They said he was always smiling, had good vibes, never argued, always wanted to do things for people — "about the best person you could ever meet, a brother," said Ty, a tall, thin black man who kept lighting votive candles even after the memorial was over.

Mr. Kausman was laid to rest Sept. 9 at Holy Cross cemetery in Daly City. The next day his friends were back at the patch hanging out. The shrine, which had become a mess, had been removed by the police. ■

— TOM CARTER



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