

"Apu's Hardware was the first forum I've ever registered to. At that time I was unemployed so all I did was just be there day after day. In fact, I was the winner of the first giveaway for most posts in a week or something like that. Mortin and I communicated very often back then and we had our differences sometimes but overall I think of him as a friend and the one responsible for all of us being here remembering him. Where ever you are Keith, God bless your soul and **thanks** for giving us good times, good friendships, great memories and that wonderful place called Icrontic."

"Thanks Mort for your time and effort in making your vision a reality of bringing those in need of help to a place where answers to problems could be found. Many of us dream of things like this but never take action. ***You did***, and its obvious by all of the responce here your vision touched so many in so many different ways, RIP dude."

"i know my site never amounted to anything, but mortin was the guy that inspired me to try it. i thought if a 17 yr. old kid can do this, i can to. i was wrong, it's much harder than it looks."

"I always respected him right from day 1 and that respect never faltered. He was always supportive of me personally when we pulled the "Icrontic Folding Team" together (A Humanitarian initiative to decipher disease through the donated use of personal computers by everyday people, running a small software program, distributed and maintained at Stanford University by Dr.Vijay Pande officially named Folding@Home) and took it to the next level. **Keith gave us the community and resources to pull together and participate in a truly ambitious project.** He was always very generous in donating his time & energy in anything the "Team effort" needed to do. He donated multiple times, cash and computer hardware components to the ICx and even what is now the SMx project (An undertaking by folding team members of then, Icrontic and what is now Short-Media, donating money and components to build whole computers which are then awarded to a member of the team, intended solely to participate in Folding@Home). Strip down the layers; it was him and his ambition that brought all the people that are here today together; WOW. Bottom line is this; Keith was a very ambitious guy, very talented with so much potential. His generosity was great. We can only give so much but still a teenager, he gave so much and I will never forget him. A quote I pulled up from Keith this year, "i'll be folding team 93 forever !". **He fulfilled that goal.**"

"Mortin was a friend and created our ultima online community Icronticshard and worked hard for us for a long time, the community lives on today thanks to him and this is our way showing how much you meant and how sad we feel about what has happened. You might be gone, but the things you've done will not be forgotten."

"I never met morton in person; actually I don't know anyone from here in person. But I do know good people when I meet them. Keith was one of them. And the world seems is a little bit colder a little bit darker when we lose someone who brought it so much. I consider most people on this forum more my friends then most people I've actually met in real life. Keith "Morton" Whitsit brought us all together. *I thank him for that in more ways then he can imagine.* His site and his work let me into a community, one in which people were there for each other, opening their heart, minds and homes to help out their fellow man. **I used to think the world was a very difficult place where everyone was out to get each other and that there was no room for a nice guy. Keith and everyone in this place has proved me wrong and I am eternally grateful for that.** Rest in peace Morton and godspeed. You and your family are in my prayers."

"I've been hearing about this "Icrontic" thing for so long and never really knowing what it was. After reading all these posts I think I finally understand what it meant to so many people. I'm about the same age as he was and can't even fathom the amount he accomplished in his few years. My condolences go out to his mother and father, I'm really just amazed that something like this could happen. From someone that in a round about way truly got interested in hardware from one of the originators I thank you. Rest in peace."

"**The whole spark that began all this was the leadership of a 14 year old.** I'm impressed, and always will be. When I first accepted a moderator position working for Mortin at Icrontic, I was old enough to be his father. It didn't squash my ego at all; heck, *I was proud to work for him* and serve his Internet community. Many of you may read some of the threads and think to yourself, "Ah, they are just romanticizing things to spare the deceased from dishonor". You would be incorrect. Mortin did have his problems, sometimes bordering on disaster for his site. But due to Mortin's perseverance and willingness to learn from mistakes, two great tech communities are thriving today."

"I know that in Keith's passing we are losing what was one of the most talented voices in the hardware arena and judging from the outpouring of condolences and remembrances a very talented and gifted all 'round guy personal troubles notwithstanding. What we need to remember though is that though his body might be gone and we might not be able to "hear" his voice his voice is with us nonetheless in the love of this infernal machine he's inspired in so many of us. Even though I was never a member of the old Icrontic I've been touched by Mortin through a lot of you that knew him and were inspired by him and the site he created and as long as the spirit of good fellowship that exists today here at Short-Media and the new Icrontic continues to exist Mortin will be with us and never far from these pages. His passing was a tragedy but **his life was an example of what a determined person can do when they apply their god given talents** and while I know that we mourn the passing of his body his spirit will live on in what he's fostered in us, his extended family. In short let's not just mourn his passing, let's celebrate his life and the gift he has given us...each other and take comfort in knowing that he's still here in spirit."

A few words from the people around the world whose lives were affected by Keith.

*From his friends all over the internet,
assembled at www.short-media.com*

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"I don't know how many people know of or remember Keith, but he's the high school kid that started Icrontic.com and **made it something through his hard work**. He was my best friend in high school, and I will always remember him fondly. Almost everyday after he started Icrontic, I would go over to his house after school to work on the site."

"I've spent the last several hours sitting here at the computer trying to contact various people who've worked with him on the internet over the years to try and let them know about this tragic event. I can't claim a true friendship with him, but I'll be damned if this news didn't hit me like a kick to the stomach. For those of us who feel like these people posting with us are our second families, Mortin was a sort of patriarch who **made it all possible** and held the various branches of the community together by a common association."

"I never met Keith "Mortin" Whitsitt in person but I knew him well in our digital world. **I cannot say one bad word about him**. He was my mentor at the time and he always had a good word for me. Many around him took forum life too seriously. He never did. He never let it bother him. He always kept it in perspective. He could push back from the keyboard and laugh at himself. He created quite the community in those days of Apus and Icrontic and many had expectations of him far greater than anyone Keith's age should take responsibility for. But he did and for a long time the digital world of Apus and Icrontic thrived and grew. I could read something in Keith. **He had charisma**. He had good friends. He had all the makings to be very successful. I watched him slide. I watched him stumble but he got back up again. I'm nearly twice his age and I always said this to Keith: "Hey boss. When you run the world...I'll come work for you."

"The Keith I remember is the person I **respect** and remember fondly. All of this would not have been if it weren't for him. He never wronged me. He always supported me. He will always be a part of my life. I wish he had that chance to "run the world"...I'd work for him and with him in a heartbeat...**the Keith I knew was a very good person.**"

"I hope those who were closest to Keith or who attend the funeral can see **what a difference he made.**"

"All i can say is that if you are here in this forum getting advice and tips, finding friends, having fun, etc. etc. If it was not for Keith, this forum probably would not have been here. **He has affected your life or routine some way or the other.**"

"I will never forget how Icrontic helped me with the KT7-Raid FAQ and the forums. RIP Keith, your services to all of us will never be forgotten."

"I would also like to thank Mortin for creating the best hardware site and for all the time and effort put into it. I will miss you"

"Please take this donation and use for whatever purpose you deem best to show the Whitsitt family about what Keith meant to us. **I hope we can convey how positively that young man impacted us.**"

"Never new him, but S-M has grown from what he started by all accounts. For that alone a small contribution for a beer or two so his family & friends can pay their respects. "

"Keith was truly a very special person. **He touched so many lives - hundreds** who knew him personally, and **untold thousands like myself** who never met him yet owe him so much."

"In the end Keith was always more than the sum of his parts, **he was the creator of everything we have here**, the reason everyone at Icrontic and SM are friends still. His loss is our loss."

"I think in large part Mortin was largely misunderstood but I always liked Keith and I'm greatly saddened by this news. My prayers are with you Celcho, Keith's parents, family & friends. Keith was a great supporter of the Icrontic/SM folding Team, he donated much cash and H/W to the ICx/SMx project for which I was always proud of him for. This is truly a sad day for IC/SM. **Thanks Keith for all you have done.**"

"Thanks for starting a great online community Mortin. God Bless."

"It's the unusual people you meet in life that define what it truly means to live. He will be missed."

"Icrontic was the first forum i ever bothered reading let alone get involved in, and mortin was the 'big boss' behind it all. Although I've moved onto other time-consuming things, icrontic and short-media will always have a parking space reserved in my heart, I still come back here when i need help. I can't describe the debt i feel towards mortin and the rest of the staff, you guys became and still are my first e-family."

"Keith and I never did meet personally, but I felt like I knew him at least peripherally. I remember the day I received the Icrontic case badge from him. It was an honor to receive it from the founder of Icrontic, a web site that attracted people from **around the world** for it's rich technical guidance on via chipsets and early AMD K7 processors. And that site was created by a **14-year-old with fire inside him**. Good things to remember though: Keith, thank you for showing me how satisfying do-it-yourself computer building and troubleshooting is. You've helped many people. I have rich memories of the early Icrontic and the great community it was."

"I just have no idea what to say, except that Keith was the reason I got into all this in the beginning. The site he created was also the first forum site that I visited, registered at, and got involved with. That involvement led to this, which is now a large part of my life and is a big reason that my life is richer for having so many new friends all over the globe. The people here have changed my life and have been members of my family. My kids call some of you "uncle".. All this is **directly because of Keith**. Interconnectedness works in wonderful and beautiful ways, and all I can say as testimony to his tragically short life is that all these good things came out of it. So let these friendships and relationships serve as Keith's wonderful eulogy. Thank you, Keith."

"I only got involved in forums because I found Icrontic. I loved it to bits but had only been a member there for a few months when it went down. I know Keith upset a few people but never knew why or cared really, I just thought it was a great site. I can only wish the best to his family and friends in what must be a truly horrific situation. If he hadn't set up Icrontic I probably wouldn't be here and **I'm grateful to him for that**. Thanks Keith, God bless."

"He was good to be around and good to me."

"Without Keith & Icrontic half of us wouldnt be the "friends" we are now."

"I don't even know what to say. I never spoke to him personally, but his efforts at Icrontic were the foundation of nearly all of my computer interests and my involvement in Short-Media. It was always nice to know he was still out there, even long after the fall of the original Icrontic. He'll be missed, and my thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends."

"I still have the envelope that Keith's mom sent out with an Icrontic "Spudz" case badge. I have that case badge on my case today too... Thank you Mortin, for all the knowledge and information I've gained from the communities you've created from ApuH > Icrontic, and hoping that you can finally find peace."

"It's amazing how things like this work. Without him, we wouldn't be here. When stuff like this happens, stuff that worked out in such a precise way, and then the original link is broken ... it really makes you step back for a bit and think. **While I didn't know him personally, I'm grateful for all that he did**. Thank you and God bless, Keith."

"Mortin made a Ultima Online life possible for ALOT of people, *we have all so much to thank him for* what he done for us and the good time he made for us possible, the whole community that lives today are shocked and sorry about what has happened. Mortin might be gone, but to us he will never be forgotten, there is not a week when he is not mentioned and spoken, he as a fair and good administrator and did hard work for us, rest in peace mortin and hope to see you again someday."

"By running Icrontic, Keith offered us all a community in which we could meet fellow tech enthusiasts, share ideas and create friendships. Icrontic was one of the first online hardware forums that I joined and quickly became one of my favourite sites to spend time at daily. It also became one of only 2 websites that I felt completely compelled to give back to the community by becoming a staff member and helping as many people as possible."

While the original Icrontic no longer exists in its' previous form, the close-knit community that was created there still largely exists today in the form of many of Short-Media's active members. **Thanks Keith for providing a community from which all of us have gained so much**. The legacy of Mortin & the original Icrontic shall live on, and each of us are a small part of it."