



## Posthumous Degree Request Form

Request Initiator: William Pockman, Professor and Chair Contact: pockman@unm.edu; 505-620-7320

Relationship to student or UNM: Chair of Biology, Student's major department

Would you like the Dean of Students to contact the family regarding this request?  Yes  No  
not necessary, but might be appropriate

Dean of Students Notification: \_\_\_\_\_ appropriate

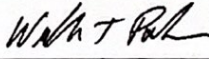
Student Name:	Brandon Ray		
Student ID:	101597873		
College:	Arts and Sciences	Degree:	BS
Major(s):	Biology		
Concentration(s):			
Minor(s):			

The University of New Mexico recognizes that earning an academic degree is a matter of legitimate pride in achievement not only for students themselves but also for the family members and friends who provide students with vitally important support and encouragement during the course of their studies. UNM also recognizes that not only the degree, but also significant progress in an academic program is, under certain circumstances, an achievement which warrants special recognition.

Accordingly, the University of New Mexico will make available "posthumous degrees" of appropriate type and level to be bestowed upon a student who dies before s/he is able to complete his/her program.

These degrees may be granted under the following circumstances and terms:

1. The student must be in degree status and either currently enrolled or enrolled in the academic year previous to his/her death; **yes**
2. The student must have completed a minimum of half of the credits required for the degree; **yes**
3. Requests for posthumous degrees may be initiated by the student's family, the faculty of the department and/or college, or a UNM administrator; **department initiated**
4. The department, the college and the Faculty Senate must approve requests for posthumous degrees. The Senate Graduate Committee must also review and provide recommendation on requests for graduate level posthumous degrees;
5. The degree will be noted as "posthumous" on both the diploma and the transcript.

Approvals	Name	Signature	Date
Department :	William Pockman Professor and Chair	 Digitally signed by William Pockman Date: 2021.01.19 20:24:10 -07'00'	1/19/21
College :			
Grad. Committee (if necessary):			
Faculty Senate:			



DEPARTMENT OF  
BIOLOGY

**William T. Pockman**

Professor and Chair

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January 28, 2021

TO: Lisa Lindquist, Program Director, Lobo Respect Advocacy Center

FROM: William Pockman, Chair, Department of Biology

RE: Posthumous degree request for Brandon Ray (101597873)

I'm writing to request that the University of New Mexico award a Posthumous degree to Mr. Brandon Ray. Brandon transferred to UNM after starting his studies at SIPI, where he maintained a 4.0 GPA. Brandon was a Biology major with senior standing, 188 CR earned across SIPI and UNM, and needing only a single upper-division course in Biology and a single supportive course to complete his degree. He passed away in November 2020 before he could complete his degree. Brandon's former mentor at SIPI may be able to provide a summary of Brandon's path to UNM but from the perspective of the department his transcript and work make it clear that a posthumous degree is appropriate to honor his accomplishments.