Family tribute to Darren Gilpin

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The family of Darren Gilpin have today paid tribute to him.

The 29-year-old was in a two-man canoe, which capsized on Loch Tay on Sunday 4th July, resulting in a major search operation. His body was recovered later that evening.

In a statement issued through Police Scotland, Darren's parents, Kevin and Carol said:

"We are all shocked and utterly devastated at the death of our beloved Darren.

"Darren was the comedian of the family and had a great sense of humour. He was always laughing and smiling and his infectious personality made him a joy to be around.

"As well as being a loving son and a wonderful friend, Darren was also completely devoted to his partner Elaine, who he had been with for the past 11-years.

"The pair loved to travel and together with the rest of the family holidayed at a number of different countries around the world.

"Darren loved all types of music, computer gaming and sport — in particular football. He was an avid Hearts fan and attended many games.

"The past few days have been incredibly difficult for our family, but we would like to thank the emergency services who assisted in the search for Darren and for the support they provided to us following his death.

"We are also very grateful to our local community for all the kind words of support they have offered. We now ask that our privacy is respected while we continue to grieve for Darren."