



Mark J. Backes

February 27, 2013

May 18, 1974 – February 21, 2013 Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 27, 2013 at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Richmond, MN for Mark J. Backes, age 38, who died Thursday as a result of a snowmobile accident in Madeline Island, WI. Burial will be in the Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Cemetery. Relatives and friends may call from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Tuesday at the Wenner Funeral Home in Richmond. Parish Prayers will be at 4:00 p.m. Visitation will continue from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Wednesday morning at the funeral home. Mark Joseph Backes, son of Ronald and Betty (Hemmesch) Backes, was born in St. Joseph, Missouri on May 18, 1974. He received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation at Co-Cathedral of St. Joseph, MO where he also was a mass server. He graduated from Central High School in 1992. Was a member of the National Honor Society, played multiple sports every year, and was the sports editor of the school paper his senior year. He loved music, took piano lessons starting at age 5 and then switched to guitar in his teens. He composed a few songs but only for his and his friends' enjoyment. He also appreciated nature's lakeside sunsets and snow capped mountains "That's what it's all about!" Mark graduated in 1996 from St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. After graduation he worked a few months to earn money for his 3 month tour of Europe with three other Johnnies. He was a free spirit who moved around with his job in the restaurant industry; spending ten years in Denver, Co and recently moved to Madeline Island, WI. He enjoyed meeting and learning

about new people. No matter where he was he made friends quickly. He had a generous heart whether he knew you or not. Mark enjoyed but also challenged his two older sisters like any younger brother. He loved to play cards with his family and friends. His family will always remember his laugh, his smile and carefree spirit. He will be missed by all who knew him. He is survived by his parents; two older sisters, Rhonda (Kurt) Loeffelholz and Brenda Backes; nephews, Nickolas and Travis Loeffelholz. He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Ambrose and Jeanette Backes, Nicholas and Miranda Hemmesch, and his uncle, Lynn Hemmesch. A special thank you to the Madeline Island rescue departments and Jay (his boss).

Tribute Wall



“ *Mark J. Backes*

January 29, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ *So sorry to hear about your loss Backes family. Stay strong in this tough time. Thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Megan Slover (Luedtke) - February 28, 2013 at 09:16 AM



“ *The Murawski Family sends our prayers to you for the strength to endure the loss of Mark. We have great memories of him.*

Michell Murawski - February 27, 2013 at 11:46 AM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss, being a neighbor and remembering Mark when he was very young, and now this happens. I just can not believe it what fine young man he was, I feel like I just got hit in the stomach. We will pray for you all, so sorry.*

Ron Roderick - February 26, 2013 at 07:43 PM



“ *Mark and I met at Central High School and I have to say he was one of the funniest people I have ever known. His version of wit and humor were one of a kind. We shared many laughs and innuendos and I have two pages of his ideas and theories in my yearbook, all masterfully done in green crayon! That was Mark. God Bless his family and friends.*

Denice Ferguson Hector - February 26, 2013 at 09:59 AM

KC

“ Dearest Brenda, Rhonda and Family, Please accept my deepest sympathy on the loss of your brother Mark. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Kerry Cornett - February 25, 2013 at 11:45 PM

MG

“ So sorry to hear Backes family. Stay strong in tough times.

mark giddens - February 25, 2013 at 08:41 PM

LK

“ Brenda, I was sorry to hear of the loss of your brother. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Larry Kruse

Larry Kruse - February 25, 2013 at 07:59 PM

JP

“ I am so sorry to hear of Mark's accident. My heart is so heavy for your unimaginable loss. Thinking of each of you with love during this difficult time.

Julie Pierce - February 25, 2013 at 05:49 PM

K(

“ Brenda, Rhonda, Mr & Mrs Backes-I am so very sorry to hear about the loss of your brother/son, Mark. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Sincerely Kristen Taylor (Nelander)

Kristen Taylor (Nelander) - February 25, 2013 at 04:16 PM

JZ

“ *Mr and Mrs Backes, I am very sorry to learn of Mark's death. My heart goes out to you and you'll be in my prayers.*

It may have been a long time ago, but growing up on 36th Terrace was a great experience. Thanks for being good neighbors.

Josh Zaroor

Josh Zaroor - February 25, 2013 at 03:25 PM

BL

“ *Brenda, so sorry to hear about your brother. I hope you can feel some comfort in the fact that others are sending their prayers along with me and my family.*

Brian Lewis - February 25, 2013 at 02:53 PM

CD

“ *Brenda, so sorry to hear about your brother. Praying for him and the comfort of your family.*

Carole Dunn - February 25, 2013 at 02:35 PM

S(

“ *Brenda and Rhonda,
I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your brother. I pray that God wraps you in his arms during this difficult time. My deepest sympathy goes out to you all.*

Sally Douglas (Geha)

Sally Douglas (Geha) - February 25, 2013 at 01:54 PM

ST

“ *Brenda and Rhonda-very sorry to hear about your brother-everyone in St Joe is thinking of you during this difficult time-*

Staci Thornton - February 25, 2013 at 01:48 PM

LP

“ *Brenda, I am SO sorry to hear about your brother. My heart hurts for you and your family. My thoughts are with you.*

Launa Patrias

Launa Patrias - February 25, 2013 at 09:26 AM

PD

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family.*

Pam Ditter - February 25, 2013 at 09:12 AM

JR

“ *Dear Backes family. I am sorry to hear of Mark's death. You all are in my prayers and thoughts while you are grieving. Although my only memories are when he was such a young boy, Mark sounded like a wonderful brother and friend to all. Sincerely, Julie*

Julie Stevenson Redinger - February 24, 2013 at 07:28 PM

PH

“ *Brenda and family - My deepest sympathy to all of you. Mark sounded like an exceptional young man who lived life to the fullest and never loss sight of the simple things in life that are the most important such as family, friends, exploring new areas and sunsets. May family and friends be a great source of support along with memories of times together.*

Paula Henn - February 24, 2013 at 04:45 PM

BF

“ *Brenda and Family -
On behalf of the entire Butler Family, I send our deepest sympathy to you for the loss of your beloved Mark. We hold you in our thoughts, hearts and prayers.*

Betsy Butler Forman - February 24, 2013 at 03:49 PM

TC

“ *I was saddened to learn of Mark's untimely passing. He was a great friend of my son Brandon. I knew Mark from his days at Central High School with Brandon. He spent a lot of time at my home, and summers around our pool. He was always a joy to be around and the life of the party, which was a pretty tall task given Brandon's group of friends. Later, Mark came to work for us at Acme for a short while. During his time at my company, everyone here loved being around Mark. I missed him when he went on to his next adventure. I can't imagine your loss. I will pray for you all and keep all of you in our thoughts. I will forever remember Mark for his great smile, laugh, sense of humor, wit, and his love of friends and family.*

thomas cobb - February 24, 2013 at 02:59 PM

SB

“ *Our heartfelt sympathy to all the Backes family on your sudden loss. We have fond memories of Mark's time on Cape Cod with us. Richard and Susan Black (Jen Black's parents).*

Susan Blacck - February 24, 2013 at 02:55 PM

DE

“ *Dear Brenda and family,
My heartfelt sympathy to you at this most difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers. A huge hug to you Brenda.*

Dani Emry - February 24, 2013 at 02:10 PM

CL

“ Brenda- Sending you and your family love and comfort during this unspeakably difficult time. May memories of Mark and the love and support of colleagues, students, friends and family surround you! Please feel my warmest hug!

Charisse Litteken - February 24, 2013 at 12:01 PM

DS

“ My sincere condolences to all of Mark's family. I enjoyed working with Mark and appreciated his warm personality. I wish I could have gotten to know him more.

Dolly Schneeberger - February 24, 2013 at 11:45 AM

LH

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Mark was a wonderful addition to the Madeline Island community. He was very kind and friendly and I am very grateful for the opportunity of meeting him. He is truly missed and will not be forgotten.

Lori H. - February 24, 2013 at 10:45 AM

SW

“ Brenda, prayers to you and your family, surrounding the loss of your dear brother. May your memories sustain you always.

susan walsh - February 24, 2013 at 10:06 AM

MW

“ My deepest sympathy to the family I remember well from my teaching at Hawthorne School as the PE teacher. I had Mark in class each year and fondly think of him as a polite, kind, talented, and hard working student. I know he earned several PE awards over the years and actively participated in sports and other activities. Mark was in my sons graduating class at Central and I can't imagine the heartache of losing such a vital cherished son and brother. Take care and have comfort in knowing so many people will cherish memories of a wonderful individual.

Merrilee Whitson - February 24, 2013 at 10:06 AM