



## **MATTHEW PETER SCHELLSMIDT**

January 30, 1961 - November 29, 2020

MATTHEW PETER SCHELLSMIDT, age 59, of Caledonia, entered his eternal rest on November 29, 2020.

Matt was born in rural Caledonia on January 30, 1961. He was a wrestler and football player while attending high school and graduated from Caledonia High School in 1979. Matt joined the United States Marine Corp. on June 28, 1979. He retired from the military with the rank of Sergeant, having traveled the world and receiving several distinguished medals, on June 30, 1999.

Matt returned to Caledonia after his retirement and opened a boxing gymnasium for local youth. Matt used his experience as a boxer in the USMC to give back to his community and traveled to Rochester with his students for boxing matches.

Matt was also a nurse at Gundersen Hospital. He was a caring and giving person and loved all of his patients.

Matt loved woodworking, gardening, fishing, and spending time with family

Matt was a beloved son, brother and uncle. He is survived by his parents, Evangeline Schellsmidt and Robert Schellsmidt of Caledonia; brothers: Steve (LaCrescent), Pat (Wanda) (Lansing), Tom (Caledonia), Daniel (Lawrenceville,

GA), and James (Steffanie) (Caledonia); and sisters: Shirley (Arnold) Zezulka (Dorchester, IA), Judy Schellsmidt (Onalaska, WI), Kristy Benrud (Holmen, WI), Barbara (Jose) Gomez (Calhoun, GA) and Connie (Jason) De'Arvil (Dixon, IL), a stepdaughter, Crystal (Seneca) Collier (Grayson, GA) and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by both maternal and paternal grandparents, several aunts and uncles, a brother-in-law (Darrel Benrud) and a nephew (Jared Mahr).

On Monday, December 7, 2020 there was a private family viewing at McCormick's Funeral Home, followed by a military burial at the Preston Cemetery.

The family would like to thank McCormick Funeral Home for all of their help during this difficult time.

As Matt was a distinguished member and veteran of the USMC, in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Veteran's Administration, The Wounded Warrior Project, or other veteran's charities in his memory.

Memories are a way we hold onto the ones we love. Matt loved being a Marine and was known to shout "Semper Fi" proudly. Rest in peace. The Few. The Proud. The Marines.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Julie A Merzenich lit a candle in memory of  
MATTHEW PETER SCHELLSMIDT*



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**Julie A Merzenich** - December 07, 2020 at 09:02 AM

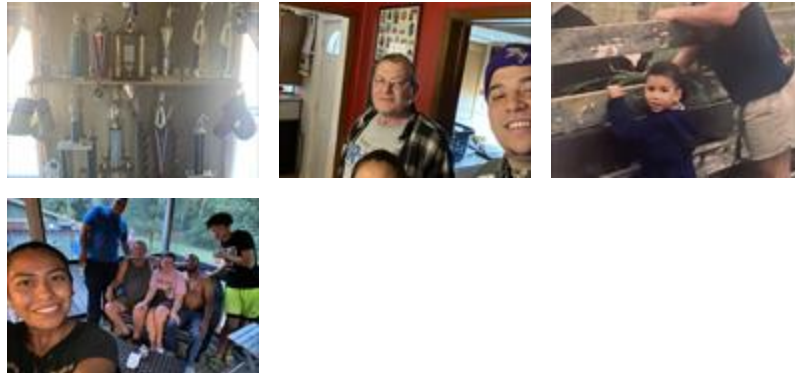
DS

“ Dear grandpa,

*As a kid you were my hero, and as an adult you still are! I still look up to you like you are the only person in the world who knows right from wrong! You taught me a lot about being a man, and how to go about life not being afraid of anything or anyone! As I got older, I told myself I want to be like you! You taught me how to fish, hunt, fight, and let's not forget how to project my voice so it always sounds like I'm yelling! As I continue to get older, all I want to do is make you proud, as well as my parents! The one thing I took from you most, is that no matter what was going on, you always kept your sense of humor. Oh and let's not forget our shared hate for turtles. You are my biggest idol. I would not be the man I am today without you grandpa! You would have Jacob and I out there doing yard work with you every summer! And then when winter came, we are out there shoveling the driveway with you! But right after that we are all in there baking peanut butter cookies! Now I remember where my love of peanut butter comes from! When I got married I told my wife, that the only other person she has to get approval from is my grandpa. And when we get here, you two are over there exchanging embarrassing stories about me. At that point I knew she was the one, and you helped me get to that place. Even when you found out she was a cowboys fan, me and you sitting there in our Vikings jerseys and she there in her cowboys jersey. You still let her stay in the house! I'm still trying to figure out how she did that! Grandpa, I could go on and on and on about our memories but some I will just cherish forever! You have taught me so many life lessons, that may have angered me as a child but I understood as I got older and learned that I needed it. I just wanted to let you know that I will love you forever! I would come back home 2 times a year every year, for about 2 weeks at a time. I did that just to make sure you were great because I owe you a lot, and I can never repay you for everything you have done for me! I love you so much grandpa, and idk how life will ever be the same without you! I will make sure that everyone knows the legacy of "The Gunny"*

*Till next time Grandpa! Semper Fi*

*Your Loving Grandson  
DeAndre*



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**DeAndre Smith** - December 06, 2020 at 11:48 PM

CO

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**connienDeAevil** - December 06, 2020 at 12:32 AM

CO

*My brother, He said to me , I wish we would of been closer in age, we could of hung out together more!!! What a tribute to our relationship. I love ya Bro.*

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**connienDeAevil** - December 06, 2020 at 12:34 AM

RP

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Rest In Peace - December 05, 2020 at 07:51 PM

FA

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Family - December 05, 2020 at 06:49 PM

LF

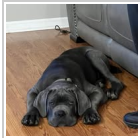
“ During a hospital stay @ Gundersen he was Burton's nurse. Very professional & kind. Sorry for your loss.

Lois Fruechte - December 05, 2020 at 02:32 PM

SL

“ Matt you have been a good neighbor for a long time and we will miss our back yard chats. Rest in peace. Sympathy to you family!  
Mike and Sue Lee

Susan Lee - December 05, 2020 at 11:12 AM



“ My dad, his last visit with grand babies!! Forever ever in our hearts!! Loved always forever missed!! Sempre fi!!



Crystal Collier - December 04, 2020 at 10:27 PM

KS

“ Our deepest Sympathy to all the family of Matt! He was a great person to know. He will surely be missed by many.  
Kathy Schuttemeier and Steve Popplewell

Kathy Schuttemeier - December 04, 2020 at 09:50 PM

SF

“ Our sincere condolences and sympathy to the family, keeping you in our prayers and thoughts!



SUSAN L FRANK - December 04, 2020 at 03:58 PM

PL

“ Schellschmidt families,  
So sorry for your loss! I enjoyed working with  
Matt at ABLE! Great guy with a lot of  
knowledge! Please know you are in my  
thoughts & prayers! R.I.P. Matt



Pat Lemke - December 04, 2020 at 02:40 AM

BE

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Bernie - December 03, 2020 at 11:19 PM

LA

“ Our family will be placing a brick under the USMC flagpole located  
at Darkhorse Lodge in Tenn. Bricks are inscribed with name, rank  
and dates of service. Matthew's memory brick will eternally honor  
his service to our country under the flag he loved. Matthew has  
found his Peace in Heaven and Darkhorse Lodge will help all  
veterans as it provides a place of peace and rest for all our service  
members.

Liz De Arvil - December 03, 2020 at 07:04 PM



BD

“ *My big bro had an even bigger heart. Always a friend to many, and always a sly joke or smile.*

*I'll miss you big bro, but I will see you one day again.*

*Barbara Schellsmidt*

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**Barbara Duke** - December 03, 2020 at 11:58 AM

TF

“ *The Garlow Family purchased the Distinguished Service Casket Spray for the family of MATTHEW PETER SCHELLSMIDT.*



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**The Garlow Family** - December 02, 2020 at 08:46 PM

SD

“ *RIP Matt...you will be dearly missed.*

*Sue*

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**Susan Dibley Duerkop** - December 02, 2020 at 02:37 PM

JM

“ *I will miss Matt ,he was good man as well as a good friend ,hold on to the good memorys,thoughts and prayers are with everyone who loved Matt*

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**Jamie Jones Meiners** - December 02, 2020 at 10:28 AM

LC

“ *My heart is so heavy for the entire Schellschmidt family. There is so much sadness losing a loved one. I always enjoyed visiting with Matt. He was also a member of the Caledonia Police Reserve so I would get to catch up with him when he was volunteering at town celebrations throughout the county. He always had a smile and would kid around. He will be missed.*

Linda Coffield - December 02, 2020 at 08:45 AM

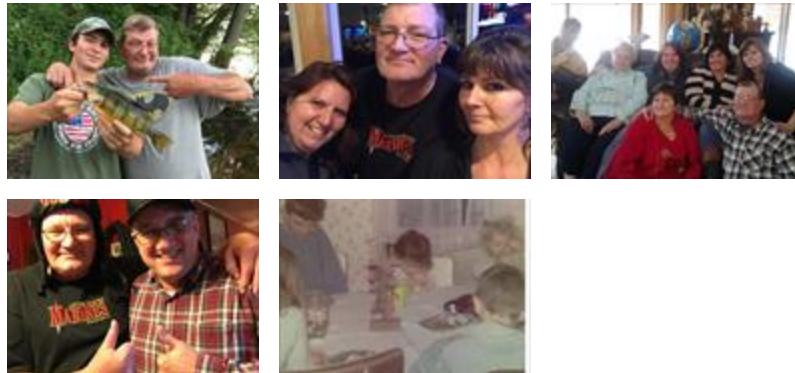
DS

“ *Schellsmidt family: So sorry to hear of Matt's passing at such a young age. We had a lot of good times in hs. May his memories linger on!*

Dave & Wilma Schoh - December 01, 2020 at 09:54 PM

CT

“ *9 files added to the album Memories Album*



Connie Thimmesch - December 01, 2020 at 09:14 PM

KN

*Connie and the rest of the family: I am very sorry for the loss of Matt! Ran into him a few times over the years at the hospital and when he found out I was from Caledonia and Richard was my brother, we had good conversations and he was always upbeat and happy! May the good memories help to ease the pain of losing a brother! You have my deepest sympathies!*

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**Karen Ness** - December 03, 2020 at 02:47 PM



*My condolences to the family. I am so very sad to hear. Matt was a very kind hearted, giving man. He used to bring me some of his favorite recipes to try. RIP Matt, you will be missed by many.*

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**Barb Peters** - December 03, 2020 at 07:03 PM

MK

*Matt was a wonderful man. Always enjoyed our visits. Our hearts go out to the Schellsmidt family. Many wonderful memories growing up with them as neighbors and family friends. You have our deepest sympathy. Matt will be dearly missed. God's blessings to you all. Love, Myron and Jean Kinneberg*

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**Myron & Jean Kinneberg** - December 04, 2020 at 11:54 AM

MP

*SSgt Schellsmidt was my supervisor on Camp Pendleton in 1995, then became my boxing coach. Awesome Marine that's the way he would be described. Great person, it saddens me to see he has passed. I see him in his uniform, tuff person. Gifted with knowledge and could carry a conversation about it anything. Great person who cared for everybody he was around. You will be missed and the impact you left on me is still helping me conquer life's challenges. Thank You GySgt Schellsmidt for everything!*

*Matthew Plake*

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**Matthew Plake** - October 31, 2022 at 10:49 AM