



## MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN

October 7, 1959 - February 19, 2021

### MELVIN LEWIS CHRISTIAN

Mel was born in Madison WI on October 7th, 1959 to Ruth and Victor (Bearcat) Christian and was the 4th of 8 children.

He worked hard alongside his Father and Brothers at Schiltz Farms and graduated from Caledonia High School in 1977. Mel enjoyed the art of auto body work and received his degree from South East Technical College. He worked at Walt Hammond Buick for three years, found himself dedicating 33 years to Kwik Trip Corporation, and then worked as a Waste Management Professional with Onopa Services on the Fort McCoy base. He also enjoyed bartending at The American Legion Post 595 and Pete's Bar where lifelong friendships were created.

He married Allison Conrad (Eglinton) in 1979, they later divorced. He was then joined in marriage with Mary Hagen (Anderson) in 2008.

Mel was not a man of few words! He always had a story or a joke to tell. His sense of humor and the personal nicknames he gave were just a small piece of the goodness and fun he shared with all.

It was obvious to all who knew him that he was so proud of his family and

cherished all times spent together, especially camping and making memories around a bonfire.

Hunting, Fishing, Golfing and Bowling were a few of so many other activities he took joy in. He was a Minnesota Sports enthusiast; his dedication belonged to the Vikings and whoever's playing the Packers!

On Friday, February 19th, 2021 Melvin unexpectedly passed away at the age of 61 of an aortic dissection.

He is survived by his wife of 12 years, Mary, his children Rachel (Christopher) Bjerke, Chelsey (Andrew Grochowski) Christian, Brandon (Kylie) Christian, Thomas Hagen, Nicki (Michael Martell) Hagen; grandchildren Christian, Roland, Gavin, Harper, Veronica (baby boy due in March), Trystan, Bentley, Cali and Rylee. He is also survived by brothers Al (Annette), Jeff (Trish), Kurt (MaryAnn), Pat (Judy), Mark (Stacey), sister Teresa Holland and many nieces and nephews.

Melvin was preceded in death by his parents, a sister Rosemary, a brother in law Dean Holland, a nephew Joseph Holland, a niece Allee Christian and his granddaughter Clara Jane Bjerke.

A celebration of life visitation will be held 2:00-5:00p.m at Four Seasons Community Center, Caledonia MN, on Saturday, February 27th

Due to Covid restrictions, social distancing will be practiced and wearing a mask will be required.

Condolences may be sent to:  
Family of Melvin Christian  
McCormick Funeral Home

205 E. Main  
Caledonia, MN 55921

# Previous Events

## **A Celebration of Life**

FEB **27**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Four Seasons Community Center  
900 N. Kingston St  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
(507) 725-4000

# Tribute Wall

SA

“Mel was truly a great man. I had the pleasure of sharing many laughs with him over the years. Sometimes the laughs were at my expense! Mel had a way of gently teasing those he cared about in a way that made you laugh at yourself harder than anyone in the room! He was kind and generous and will certainly be greatly missed.

*My thoughts and prayers are with his beloved family. Maybe his Vikings can pull off a Super Bowl win now that their biggest fan has some pull. Mel, may you rest in eternal peace.*

Love,

“SaraBell”

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**sara** - February 28, 2021 at 05:19 PM

PM

“Mel was always there for my wife Laurie and Mike they were a duo of laughs , pranks and jokes they shared many memories and laughs together , Mel always sent my wife Laurie home with a joke a story or something funny , something was always happening with the duo 3 Mel , Mike and Laurie , but when it was time to work they were toe to toe , shoe to shoe and shoulder to shoulder and always giving it there all knowing all the responsibilities they had keeping on task what ever they had to do . Mel was always here with us at our home because he was always calling and letting Laurie know what was happening when he worked weekend's ,. Mel will be missed in our home but his memories will always be remembered ,. sending Prayers to his family of comfort and peace . And thankyou Mel for all the memories and looking out for my wife Laurie you will be missed my dear friend ,. Phil and Laurie Miles

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**Philip Miles** - February 27, 2021 at 10:59 AM

BE

“ Bryan and Jeanne Eglinton and family send our sincere condolences. Some of us will be unable to attend the celebration of life due to Covid. We all will miss Mel very much. We've had a lot of great memories with Mel. He was like a brother to Bryan. The Eglinton Hunting party is going to miss presence and hunting prowess. We look forward to sharing stories about Mel around the bonfire when we see you.

All our love,  
The Eglintons

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**Bryan Eglinton** - February 27, 2021 at 08:41 AM

JD

“ Really great guy. So sorry for your loss and ours.

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**john Dickson** - February 26, 2021 at 05:22 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



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February 25, 2021 at 04:44 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



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February 25, 2021 at 09:28 AM

FS

“ FROM Gary & Carolyn Schroeder purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



FROM Gary & Carolyn Schroeder - February 24, 2021 at 03:31 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



February 24, 2021 at 02:53 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



February 24, 2021 at 02:40 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



February 24, 2021 at 02:27 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.*



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February 24, 2021 at 10:47 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.*



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February 24, 2021 at 09:19 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.*



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February 24, 2021 at 06:33 AM

JR

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Mel for the first time at Marco-Onopa Services, Fort McCoy recycle center when I worked for the Martell family at Modern Disposal of Sparta. He always greeted me with a smile and a laugh or two and would always offer a helping hand to get me on my way with a loaded dumpster. It became a ritual to always wave to Mel, Laurie and Mike whenever we saw each other along the roads. The three of them were an amazing team together. I had a lot of respect for Mel and offer my thoughts and prayers to Mel's family.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Ruedy  
Sparta, WI

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Jeff Ruedy - February 23, 2021 at 06:06 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



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February 23, 2021 at 04:08 PM

LR

“ *Our Thoughts and Prayers are with family.*

*Mel was more than our Co-worker here at Fort McCoy, The 3 of us were family and best friends.*

*Mel is going to be truly missed everyday. Coming into work is not the same for Mike and I.*

*The 3 of us always had some wise crack to say to each other and as Mel would say Laurie always had the last zing to get it.*

*Who is going to say now, Who ate all the banana bread?*

*Thank you Mary for all the treats you sent.*

*I will truly never understand why I had stayed back that day from the last route.*

*Mel, Thank you for all the wonderful memories Mike and I will keep with us through our time here on Fort McCoy.*

*Laurie Miles and Mike Ravet.*

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**Laurie A Miles and Mike Ravet** - February 23, 2021 at 02:30 PM

LF

“ *Laurie Miles and Mike Ravet His work family. purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.*



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**Laurie Miles and Mike Ravet His work family.** - February 23, 2021 at 02:04 PM

M,

“ Marco -Onopa Services, James, David, Juan ,Darimus purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



Marco -Onopa Services, James, David, Juan ,Darimus -  
February 23, 2021 at 01:47 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



February 22, 2021 at 08:51 PM

RH

“ So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Sending love to his children and grandchildren; you will be in my thoughts. Ruth (Lemke) Hage

Ruth Hage - February 22, 2021 at 03:09 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.



February 22, 2021 at 01:15 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.*



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February 22, 2021 at 01:10 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of MELVIN "MEL" LEWIS CHRISTIAN.*



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February 22, 2021 at 12:52 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of this news, Mel and I worked together at Walt Hammond Automotive. Our friendship became strong and he was even best man at my wedding. Lost touch when he and Al starting working for Kwik Trip, always though we would reconnect someday. Alas I moved to Kansas and thought of him many times. Tried to connect on facebook for years, to his brother Jeff to get him to join. I stopped looking and now I see he has been on for a few months. So sad we lost touch, God Bless you Mel and your family.  
Bruce A Meyer*

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**Bruce Meyer** - February 22, 2021 at 12:01 PM



“ *SO sorry to hear of Mel's passing at such a young age. Thinking about our fun Jamaica trip a few years ago. A lot of good memories from a good person who was taken way too early!!*

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**Dave & Wilma** - February 22, 2021 at 09:16 AM