



## Charles McQuinn

September 28, 2011

McQuinn, Charles Alvin Age 41, formerly of Edina, MN, most recently of Brainerd, MN, unexpectedly left us all too soon September 23, 2011. Charles was born March 4, 1970 in Edina to Mary Agnes (Starr) McQuinn and Alvin E. McQuinn. A graduate of The Blake School, Charles participated in football and the ski team. He attended Montana State University and completed his degree at The University of St. Thomas with a degree in business and Spanish. Charles joined Ag-Chem Equip, Co. Inc., a family led business, and played a major role in product development. He followed his dreams and moved to the Brainerd Lakes area where he founded Lake Region Storage and expanded it to four locations in Minnesota. In addition, he formed the real estate development company, Terra Vista. Charles's dynamic nature led him to many highs and lows in life. Charles's strength led him to participate in The Life Healing Center, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Alcoholics Anonymous. His education there began a 10 year journey of sobriety. In the last 2+ years, as he maintained his sobriety he was able to maximize his many gifts and talents. His leading accomplishments were the restructuring of the financial and managerial operations of Ski Gull. While serving as Commodore of Gull Lake Yacht Club, Charles participated in a major renewal project that included a new facility for the organization that he loved. He also served as the environmental chair for the Gull Chain of Lakes Association and was a driving force behind the formation of a Brainerd Area Charter Pre-School. Looking to the future, Charles was supporting the cutting edge of Zebra Mussel

Eradication research. A compassionate spirit, Charles was responsible for many random acts of kindness. Charles's love for his work and the Brainerd Lakes area paled in comparison to the love he had for his three daughters, Lillian, Silvia and Merriam. They were the light of his life, his heart and soul, and the motivation behind all that he did. It was heartwarming to see Charles's life enriched with the addition of his fiancée Misty and her children: Garrett, Kiel, Madison and Noah. They all say, "His love and guidance have forever changed our lives." Charles is survived by his fiancée Misty Jensen; his daughters, Lillian Louise, Silvia Starr, and Merriam Matilda McQuinn; Misty's children, Garrett, Kiel, Madison and Noah; his parents, Alvin E. McQuinn and Mary Agnes McQuinn; his sisters, Anne E. McQuinn, Susan (Doug) Arndt and Mary (Jim) Jetland; two uncles and their extended families, and ten nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to the Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation - Charles McQuinn Memorial Fund, The University of St. Thomas, or the Life Healing Center, Santa Fe, NM. Visitation 5:00 to 7:30 PM Thursday, September 29, at Washburn-McReavy Strobeck Johnson Funeral Chapel, 1400 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343. Telephone: 952-938-9020. Funeral services 10:30 AM Friday, September 30, at The Chapel at The University of St. Thomas on Cleveland Avenue between Laurel Ave. & Ashland Ave., in St. Paul (map address is 2115 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105). Limited parking available in Lots G & A. Also Anderson Parking Facility at intersection of Cretin Ave. So. & Grand Ave., as well as on-street/campus parking. Please allow time to park. A private interment will be observed in Nisswa, MN at a later date. A memorial celebration and fundraiser honoring Charles will be held in the summer of 2012 in Brainerd. Washburn-McReavy Strobeck Johnson Chapel 952-938-9020

# Tribute Wall



“ To the McQuinn Family: I was so very sad and shocked to hear the news of Charles, your beautiful and handsome son. I remember him at Richfield Lutheran Church where our family belonged and I attended confirmation with Anne. We send our prayers to all of you and wish you the best in the days to come! May Gods Blessing be with all of you! Robin (Burt) Robertson, Jim Burt, Tom Burt and Tim Burt

[Contact Me](#)

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October 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM



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*Carolyn & Al Diamond,*

*Wayzata, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

**Carolyn & Al Diamond** - October 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

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“ *Al and Mary Agnes, We are so very sorry for your loss of Charlie. We remember him as a very well dressed little boy of about 4 coming into church with his mom and dad. It's a great memory. Hopefully the pain will diminish over time, but the good memories will remain. All our love, Dick and Margaret*

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*dick and Margaret Holmberg,*

*Aitkin, Minnesota*

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“ *Dearest Anne and Family, I am praying for you all at this very difficult time. I am grateful to have had the pleasure of meeting Charles in Duluth several years back, while traveling with Anne. It was by total coincidence that we were all in the same place at the same time! In the words of Thomas Campell, "To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die". As I read these messages, I see that Charles will live on the hearts of many. May you find peace as you move through this painful experience. Sincere Sympathy*

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*Stacie Eckerdt,*

*St. Peter, Minnesota*

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**Stacie Eckerdt** - September 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ To the McQuinn family - I was so sad to hear about Charles. My heart goes out to all of you. Growing up on Gull Lake, I learned to sail at the yacht club with Chuck. Gull Lake will always have a special place in its heart for Chuck. Misty-although I don't know you my prayers and love go out to you. I'm so very sorry your time with Chuck was cut way too short. My husband turns 41 next month and we are just starting our life together in Italy. I just wanted you and the McQuinn family to know that people they probably never knew thought the world of Chuck. I wish all of you love and peace.

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“ *We are so very sorry for you're terrible loss. We are praying for you all and take comfort in the knowledge that Charles is in the loving arms of our creator.*

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*David & Margie Griffin,*

*Mount Vernon, Illinois*

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“ To Al, Mary Agnes and the McQuinn family, Please accept my condolences. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Jimmy Willard, Frederick, MD.

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*Jimmy Willard,*

*Frederick, Maryland*

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**Jimmy Willard** - September 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ To Mary, Susan, and the McQuinn family, Such devastating and sad news to hear of the loss of your beloved Charles. My heart aches for you at this most difficult time. I will keep you in my heart and prayers. Sandra Keller Palesch

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*Sandra Palesch,*

*Minnetrista, Minnesota*

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**Sandra Palesch** - September 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Al, Mary Agnes, Anne, Susan and Mary, We are so very sad for you all and for your extended family. It was such a shock and hard to comprehend. We, of course, remember your family as members of our Richfield Lutheran Church when our children were growing up together. "Chuck" was one of Marietta's favorites in her children's choir. What a sparkling smile and personality. And I was honored to have Chuck in my confirmation classes. He will always be one of my very favorite people. You have been dear friends and we want you to know that we love you all and are with you through this sad, grieving time. We send our love from our home here on Lake LBJ, Texas. We will be with you in thoughts and prayers. Love, Pastor Ted and Marietta Johns (and our children, Kristin, Karin and Derek)

[Contact Me](#)

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DR

“ To the McQuinn family, Having experienced the shock and grief of a sudden loss, we extend our love and condolences and have many fond memories of Charles growing up next door on Gull Lake, his little red wagon, an excellent water skier, driving his whaler etc. God Bless!

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*Diane & Ken Miller & Melanie Miller Regberg,*

*Glendale & Los Angeles, California*

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MC

“ I am so sorry to hear of Charles' passing. I hold fond memories of my childhood summers sailing with Charles on his X boat and spending time with him and other North shore and Gull Lake friends. One of my fondest sailing moments was when Charles and I decided to sail home after a Saturday race. We were about 25 yards from the shore when a gust of wind caught us by surprise and the boat tipped. To our satisfaction we righted the boat quickly, but didn't make it back in the boat. The boat, with both sail full of air, continued on it's course to the shore. Chucks father Al, without hesitation (maybe a little), bravely jumped from the dock into the water to catch the boat...we had some good laughs! Thank you for being a part of my life.

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*Mary Johnstone Corrigan,*

*St. Paul, Minnesota*

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“ Like so many others, I was shocked when my daughter Tracy sent me the notice of the sudden death of Charles. I did not know him as the wonderful, successful adult he became but I remember him with great fondness as a handsome little boy strolling about Richfield Lutheran Church and at two of your daughters' weddings. My deepest condolences to the entire McQuinn Family.

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*Robert J. Kowalczyk,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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*Bob Kornegay,*

*Mount Olive, North Carolina*

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“ Dear McQuinn Family, Lori and I were deeply saddened and shocked by the news of the loss of your son, Charles. He was a wonderful person and showed great kindness and consideration to us. Although we were only tenants, he entreated us more like a friend and brother, and we will greatly miss him and the kindness he showed us. There are really no words that could adequately express our sympathy for you and your family, or for our heartfelt appreciation for what he did to help us in getting established in the area. May God bless you, and may His peace comfort you and your family.

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September 27, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *McQuinn family:I am so shocked at the loss of Charles. I just saw him last week when he came into Neiman's. I have known and helped him for 12 years. He was a wonderful person, we all will miss him terribly. My prayers are with you, and your family at this time. Pat Trimboli*

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BS

“ I just received a message from mom with the horrible news of Chuck. I am so sorry for the loss of a good man and friend. My sincere sympathy and prayers are with your family.

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Bryan Serstock,

Bloomington, Minnesota

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“ To the McQuinn family and misty. My name is Abby Rashedi I work at the Neiman Marcus Minneapolis and I've know Charles for the last 12 years. Charles was a great client and a dear friend and I'll miss him dearly. If tears could build a stairway , and memories a lane , I'd walk right up to Heaven and bring you home again. May you find strength in the love of family and in the warm embrace of friends. God Bless

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