



## Christopher "Chris" Tjornhom

May 31, 2012

Tjornhom, Christopher M. "Chris" of Chanhassen, passed away suddenly in his sleep on May 29 at the age of 53. Chris will be lovingly missed by his parents, Tom and Nancy; wife of 22 years, Bethany; son, Tommy; daughters, Rachael and Sofia; siblings, Lisa Roehl, Sarah Reid, Jon and Tedd.

Celebration of Chris' life will be held Saturday, June 2, 2012 at 10 AM with visitation 1 hour prior at Westwood Community Church, 3121 Westwood Dr., Chanhassen, MN. [www.Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com) Eden Prairie Chapel 952-975-0400

# Tribute Wall

YT

“ *My sincerest condolences. Mr. Tjornhom will be greatly missed. Bethany, Tommy, Rachael, and Sofie you all are in my prayers. Yasmeen, Dominique, Damone', and Alisea Yasmeen, Dominique, Damone', and Alisea*

~

*Yasmeen Taylor,*

*Chandler, Arizona*

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**Yasmeen Taylor** - June 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MO

“ To the whole Tjornhom family - my heart goes out to you at the loss of Chris. I went to Northwestern College with him (and Lisa & Sarah), and thoroughly enjoyed my time with them at NWC. Chris was a great guy to be with, and he helped get me involved in volunteering at the State Legislature. May God rest his soul, and may you feel the love and care of our Heavenly Father.

~

*Mike Oxley,*

*Edina, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Mike Oxley** - June 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ *It has been hard to come to grips with the loss of such an extraordinary person from our lives. I keep expecting the phone to ring, and to hear his voice again. To the entire extended Tjornhom Family, we send our sincere condolences at your loss. God bless you all in this dark time. Remember the good times, and the love.*

~

*Pete & Kris Hartz,*

*Minnesota*

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**Pete & Kris Hartz** - June 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ *To all the Tjornhom family, you may never know how much you influenced me. May God richly Bless You and hold you in his arms to soothe you during your mourning. Till the joy returns again.*

~

*Luis Campero,*

*Watertown, Minnesota*

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**Luis Campero** - June 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ To the entire Tjornhom Family my thoughts and prayers go out to the entire family .I met Chris at the Realty House. I enjoyed our conversations because they often turned to politics. His passion will be missed.

~

*Greg Stattman,*

*Lakeville, Minnesota*

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**Greg Stattman** - June 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NZ

“ *Jesus be near to all of your family during this time. Praying for your hearts and your memories to be sweet and solid for your healing and to help you continue on in the joy Chris would want for his loved ones.*

~

*Naomi Gamble Zupfer,*

*St. Paul, Minnesota*

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**Naomi Gamble Zupfer** - June 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Dear Bethany, Tommy, Rachael, and Sofi, I remember fun chats with Chris at CHA. He was a great guy and a loving/concerned parent. Just want you to know that I'm praying for peace and comfort for you. Joni (Wood) Cagney

~

*Joni Cagney,*

*Richfield, Minnesota*

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**Joni Cagney** - June 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ To Bethany and Family; I Would Like To Say That, I Am So Sorry About Your Loss Of Chris: I Didn't Know Until I Went To Facebook, No-One Never Told Me; It Was A shock When I Seen That Statement That Chris Had Died. My Condulgence. He Was A Great Friend Of My, I Will Miss Him. Love To The Family And Children. JoAnn Tverberg

~

*JoAnn Tverberg,*

*Frazee, Minnesota*

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**JoAnn Tverberg** - June 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ *Sending love and prayers to the Tjornhom family.*

~

*Kate Greene,*

*Nashville, Tennessee*

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**Kate Greene** - June 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bethany: Every conversation I had with Chris I always walked away with a smile on my face and a laugh in my heart. He was a one of a kind man and will be missed by all who knew him, your family will be in our prayers , Roger Lenahan*

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June 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ *His enthusiasm was unbounded, his passion for politics contagious. We shared stories every time we talked. Chris taught me much about campaigns...and life. I am forever honored to have made his acquaintance.*

~

*Gregg Peppin,*

*Rogers, Minnesota*

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**Gregg Peppin** - June 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ *What a shame...so sorry for his loss to his family, community, and firends. He was such a passionate friend who worked so hard to make things better for others. No one has more love for his country and our way of life through freedom. Chris was a friend and a patriot...we will miss him dearly...rest in peace my friend.*

~

*William Doc Wenmark,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**William Doc Wenmark** - June 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bethany, Our hearts are so heavy and we are so sorry for this tragic loss of Chris, the guy whom everyone loved. Chris helped us get our first house, our cabin and he helped us with so much more. He was a joy and inspiration to all he came in contact with and never turned down an opportunity to help people in need. What an amazing legacy for your family to cherish. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you, Tommy, Rachel and Sophia. One of God's most faithful servants is called home, to early for us. Know there are many people who will help you and the kids get through this tragedy. All of our love and prayers, The Casserly's Bobby, Melanie, Abbey, Maddie, Lila and Olivia*

[Contact Me](#)

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June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Chris, You have begun your dwelling in the house of the Lord forever. (Psalm 23). I just didn't expect it now with so much good to accomplish in our country, our town, and our communities of faith. We will celebrate your home going tomorrow. You've reminded us that heaven is really our home. See you later, Liz Sprenger/fellow patriot*

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June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Chris he was a great person , Political junkie, Deal Maker, Realtor and a mover and shaker . Chris was the Best story teller and would always make you smile. He loved his wife Bethany and his kids Tommy, Rachael and Sofia He was so proud of all of them . I first meet Chris in the late 80's as a customer and we became good friends he work with me for many years . I'm sure Chris is in Negotiation with St Peter to open his thrift store in Heaven. GOD Love him you will be missed by all

~

*JJ & Jayne Sims,*

*Bloomington, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

**JJ & Jayne Sims** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Chris was a great person , Political junkie, Deal Maker, Realtor and a mover and shaker . Chris was the Best story teller and would always make you smile. He loved his wife Bethany and his kids Tommy, Rachael and Sofia He was so proud of all of them . I first meet Chris in the late 80's as a customer and we became good friends he work with me for many years . I'm sure Chris is in Negotiation with St Peter to open his thrift store in Heaven. GOD Love him you will be missed by all

~

*JJ & Jayne Sims,*

*Bloomington, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

JJ & Jayne Sims - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ One memory of Chris which reflects his persistence, generosity and "can do" attitude is an early fall duck hunting trip at Walker Lake. We are out on the floating bog and the clear day is bad hunting weather. Chris suggests we paddle the canoe around the lake to find some ducks. It is a big lake and I am not sure this is a good idea. But he keeps urging and next thing I know we are off. We start getting some ducks and I suggest Chris get in the front to do some shooting, but he will not hear of it. I always fondly remember this time with Chris. Bethany, Tommy, Rachael, Sophia; as you grieve, I pray that you will be comforted by your many fond memories. In sympathy,

~

Steve Mueller,

Eagan, Minnesota

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Steve Mueller - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ Beth, i,am very sorry to here of your loss. Daniel Tegarden

~

*Daniel Tegarden,*

*Fairview, South Dakota*

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**Daniel Tegarden** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ *Bethany, What can you say about a life that was taken so early and quickly. Our times together will always be remembered with joy. Our prayers are with you and the kids.*

~

*Jack and Deb Kelly,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**Jack and Deb Kelly** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *The Tjornhom family, You are in our thoughts and prayers. We are so very sorry for your loss. Let us know if there is anything we can do. Bethany and Sofi, Tori would like to give you both a big hug. Chris, you're golden! We will miss the spur of the moment phone calls “Mel, Chris Tjornhom, I've got an idea...” Mel & Wendy MacFarlane and Tori DeRosa*

~

*Mel & Wendy MacFarlane,*

*Taylors Falls, Minnesota*

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**Mel & Wendy MacFarlane** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ So very sorry to hear of Chris' passing. I have many fond memories of Chris and his family from childhood days at the lake. He will be missed here in the Otter Tail/ Walker community.

~

*Tim Rundquist,*

*Fergus Falls, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Tim Rundquist** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ Chris, you made such an impact on my life. You were a friend, and advisor and on more than one occasion, an employer! You put me on a path which has brought me and my family where we are today. We thank you so much. Bethany, Tommy, Rachel and Sophia, our hearts and prayers go out to you. Your father loved you more than words could ever express. Everything he did, he did for you all. Please don't hesitate to lean on all of the friends and associates that Chris had if you need help now or in the future. We would all do anything for you. God Bless You All! Peter, Melissa, Charlie and Max Anderson

~

*Peter Anderson,*

*White Bear Township, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Peter Anderson** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Tjornhom Family, We are so sorry for your loss. We remember Chris fondly from your days on Humboldt. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. The Johnsen's*

~

*Karen Johnsen Birch,*

*Richfield, Minnesota*

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**Karen Johnsen Birch** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of grief. May your memories bring you comfort.*

~

*Kathy & Paige,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

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**Kathy & Paige** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AA

“*Bethany, and Tommy, Rachael and Sophie: We were so shocked and deeply saddened to hear of such a devastating loss. Chris was so dynamic and we knew how much he loved you and the kids. I'll never forget the pride in his face when he first showed me your pictures, and then introduced us. That is a love that will endure always.*

~

*Amy and Mitchell Anderson,*

*Waconia, Minnesota*

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**Amy and Mitchell Anderson** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PP

“ So sorry to hear about Chris' passing. He and I were right in the thick of a bunch of fun projects - real estate and music. So full of energy and ideas, and a heart of gold. "Hang Dynasty" will continue on to raise money for homeless Vets in the tradition that Chris helped conceive. Bless your entire family

~

*Paul Peterson,*

*Edina, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Paul Peterson** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Chris was a vibrant person with so much passion in anything he did. He brought so much energy to our softball team! My daughter will never forget to "tag up" again. We will miss Chris in the dugout. So sorry for your loss Bethany, Sofi and family.

~

*Katie Mahannah,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

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**Katie Mahannah** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Thank you Chris for all your contributions, determination and joy --- you brought them to every game and the kids in Sofia's team will cherish your smile and memory -- you will always be a part of our experience.

~

*raj sethuraju,*

*chaska, Minnesota*

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**raj sethuraju** - June 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FC

“*Bethany, Tommy, Rachael, and Sophie, We are so blessed to have known Chris and your family. Chris and Francis were like two peas in a pod...they truly shared so much in common, especially their faith in Christ. We can hear him saying now, "OK Francis, here's what we're gonna do...!" Thank you for sharing your lives with us. We will be praying for God's comfort and abiding love to surround and guide you as you go through each day. Psalm 34:17-18 In Christ,*

~

*Francis and Terri Cheung,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

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**Francis and Terri Cheung - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

DB

“ *I have great memories of working with Chris in the Men's Department at Dayton's Southdale. He was a lot of fun to work with. My condolences to the family.*

~

*Don Balfanz,*

*Farmington, Minnesota*

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**Don Balfanz** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Dear Bethany, Tommy, Rachael, and Sophia, Our hearts are heavy with sadness for your entire family. Chris has left an incredible legacy. His energy and passion in serving others will never go unnoticed! You are all in our thoughts and prayers! Kurt, Lynne and Lucie Miller

~

*Lynne Miller,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

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**Lynne Miller** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *It was an honor, pleasure, and blessing to know Chris Tjornhom and I am proud to call him a close friend, political ally, and hunting buddy. The world is a better place because of his actions, inspiration, and energy. I will deeply miss every one of the unique qualities that made Chris a one of a kind. A life snatched too early. I'll miss you like a brother. My deepest condolences to Bethany, kids, and family.*

~

*Brian Lundquist,*

*Castle Pines, Colorado*

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**Brian Lundquist** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Bethany, Tom, Rachael, Sophia I cannot tell you how sorry I am. Chris was one of my closest friends and the reason I was successful in politics. When I dialed 296-5001 I could count on anything. Heaven is in for a shock! Mark Stenglein Hennepin County Commissioner

~

Mark Stenglein,

Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Mark Stenglein - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Bethany and family, Keith and I were so sorry to hear about Chris passing away. Our daughter AMy remembers baby sitting your kids when you lived in Hopkins. Christ will be missed by all. with Sympathy Bette Tjornhom

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Chris was one of the special ones, great friend, neighbor and someone always willing to volunteer and help those in need. My deepest sympathy to Bethany, Tommy, Rachael and Sofi. With love

~

*Mark and Hanna Peterson,*

*neighbor, Minnesota*

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**Mark and Hanna Peterson** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ *Bethany and family, Pam and I are very sorry about your loss of a wonderful father and husband. Please let us know what we can do for you! Tommy, Brenna is thinking of you. In Christ, The Benbow's*

~

*Wayne, Pam and Brenna Benbow,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

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**Wayne, Pam and Brenna Benbow** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“James,” Chris would say with a smirk. Then a new and creative idea would emerge. One day his idea was to get a quick coat of paint on the red cabin on the shore of Otter Tail Lake. “But Chris - look at the weather coming!” “It’s oil based paint James.” The smirk remained. “It will be fine.” Almost as if he knew it wouldn’t be. Two hours later the squall had passed with such a gale that the paint was washed of the lower portion of the cabin. “Looks like we’ll get to stay another day.” Chris light-heartedly noted, the smirk now a full fledged smile. He always knew how to keep perspective and make life fun. May the Tjornhom clan bask in fond memories and trust in God’s great faithfulness - even in the sadness of your loss.

~

*Jim Jackson,*

*Chaska, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Jim Jackson** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *We played Hockey together in High School and connected to play against each other in College. I reconnected with Chris again over the last few months in politics, he was a patriot that wanted to save this country. He was a friend. He was a husband and father. I'll remember the good times and think of your family as many others will too.*

~

*Jon Fredrickson,*

*Eden Prairie, Minnesota*

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**Jon Fredrickson** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *In the end, I owe Chris much. He and you, Bethany, were very generous to me, supportive of me and both of you very kind. Chris and I had some great conversations with lofty goals always in mind, he had a wonderful sense of thinking outside the box and brought ideas with a wonderful, quirky, genuine nature. I am sad he is gone and I will be here for you, Tommy, Rachael, Sofi (and maybe T-bone) when you need me. Just repaying a debt. Love,*

~

*Dominick Bouza,*

*Minneapolis*

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**Dominick Bouza** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *I'm very sorry to hear about Chris passing on. Prayer's for the Tjornholm family. - Mike Meshbeshher (Eden Prairie)*

~

*Mike Meshbeshher,*

*Eden Prairie, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Mike Meshbeshher** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ We are sorry for your loss. We have great memories, and loved Chris for all he had done for us. Our love for you and your family continues and we are here if you need ANYTHING. Sincerely,  
Kirsten Hein

~

*Kirsten Hein,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**Kirsten Hein** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ One of my favorite memories of Chris was at one of the 4th of July reunions at the farm. Chris was giving rides on his newly restored antique tractor when my brother and I took it for a spin. Before coming down the path next to the barn, from the west 40, Tom and I stuck a bunch of sumac branches all over Chris' pretty red tractor to make it look like we went off roading with it. When Chris first saw us, he got big eyes and got a little excited. But it didn't take long for him to see through our joke and we all had a good laugh. Remembering the good times will help keep him alive in our heart.

~

*Erik and Tom*

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all in this time of great sadness. The DuBe' Family Our son Cory attends St. Thomas with Tommy and are very close friends and roommates.

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Chris "adopted" our real estate group a year and a half ago. We were impressed with his energy, optimism, and ability to solve problems. He helped me a lot with a very difficult situation and was there for me all the way- always positive and supportive. He will be missed.

~

*Gail Beckman*

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MH

“*Bethany, Tommy, Rachael and Sofi, I am so sorry for your loss. Words can not begin to explain the shock I was in when I heard about your loss. Chris was an amazing man. He always had a kind word for people and knew what to say to make you laugh. He will be truly missed. I am praying for the whole family during your difficult times. Please reach out to me if you need anything.*

~

*Michele Hickman,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Michele Hickman** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ *It was a privilege knowing Chris. His patriotism and dedication to serving his community is a source of inspiration to all. He will be deeply missed.*

~

*Adam Kedrowski,*

*Shakopee, Minnesota*

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**Adam Kedrowski** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ *Dear Bethany, We are so so sorry and shocked to hear of this terrible family tragedy. Our thoughts and prayers are with with you and your beautiful children. With heartfelt sympathy, Kreg & Lisa*

~

*Lisa Levine,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Lisa Levine** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ We are so saddened by the loss of Chris. Our hearts go out to you all. Bethany, Rachael, Tommy and Sofi we will be praying for you strength and healing. Larry, Susan, Kait, Holly and Tess

~

*susan Anderson,*

*Shorewood, Minnesota*

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**susan Anderson** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Tjornhom family I worked with Chris at the Realty House for the past 6 years. The whole atmosphere of the office changed when he arrived in the office. He will be missed by all who knew him. My deepest sympathy to all of his family.

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MG

“*Bethany, Tommy, Rachael and Sophie. First of all. I am soooo sorry for the loss of your wonderful father and husband. I work with Bethany at the salvation army. And whenever Chris came he would always light up a room with a joke, or with something he said. He has helped the salvation army in so many ways. His presence will definitely be missed here. With love, Meghan Ganley.*

~

*Meghan Ganley,*

*Maple Grove, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Meghan Ganley** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Dear Bethany & family, I was so shocked and saddened to hear of your loss. I will certainly keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. ~love, Debbie Larson

~

*Debbie Larson,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

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**Debbie Larson** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ *Deepest sympathy to Bethany, Tommy, Rachael and Sofi. I will always remember and be grateful for the help he provided to me and to my family over the years. I will miss running into him at the corner gas station.*

~

*Linda De Rosa,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**Linda De Rosa** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *My heart is full of sadness for losing a friend to soon. My memory is full of laughter for all the crazy fun memories I have. Chris- you are the best. My love to Bethany, Tommy, Rachael and Sofi.*

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bethany and family, we are so sorry for your loss. We are praying for God's love, comfort and peace to surround you during this difficult time. With love, Joel & Nancy Larson*

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *So sorry to hear about your loss*

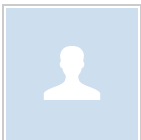
~

*Marlie Johnson,*

*Excelsior, Minnesota*

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**Marlie Johnson** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bethany, Tom, Rachael, Sophia I cannot tell you how sorry I am. Chris was one of my closest friends and the reason I was successful in politics. When I dialed 296-5001 I could count on anything. Heaven is in for a shock!*

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May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ *Chris was a wonderful friend and loved his family more than anything. We will miss his laugh, energy and love of life. He was one of a kind.*

~

*Barb Peterson,*

*Tonka Bay, Minnesota*

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**Barb Peterson** - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Our deepest sympathies go out to you and your family, Bethany. Chris made a pathway into my life with plans, ideas and energy, just as he has done with so many people throughout the community and region. May God give you all peace and comfort during this unexplainable and unexpected journey. Take strength from those who love you. We all do. Denny and Ruth Laufenburger

~

*Denny Laufenburger,*

*Chanhassen, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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Denny Laufenburger - May 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM