



## Christopher Paul Wentzlaff

May 27, 1984 - October 20, 2025

Christopher Paul Wentzlaff, age 41, of Edina, Minnesota, passed away unexpectedly on October 20, 2025, in San Francisco, California. He is deeply loved as a husband, son, grandson, cousin, nephew, and friend to many who now grieve his profound loss.

Born May 27, 1984, in Minneapolis to Paul Wentzlaff and Pamela (Wentzlaff) Olson, Chris grew up with a joyful spirit and lifelong curiosity. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith, which grounded his kind heart and sense of community throughout his life. A proud graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls and Augustana University, he later earned both his MPA and JD from the University of South Dakota.

Chris began his career as a litigation consultant at Thomson Reuters before moving into the field of philanthropy, where he built a successful career as a major gifts fundraiser for the University of Minnesota Foundation. He later served as Chief Advancement Officer at the Constellation Fund and, most recently, with Morae, providing legal consulting services. He also gave generously of his time, serving on the boards of Trademark Theater, GiveMN, and PPL.

Chris met the love of his life, Christine, while working in New York City, and together they shared countless adventures, living in several states before

settling in Edina with their beloved dogs, Sasha and Duke, and cat, Oreo. Known for his warmth, humor, and deep kindness, Chris made friends wherever he went and brought joy to every gathering.

He was an avid music lover, gifted pianist, devoted car enthusiast, and lifelong fan of the Minnesota State Fair. Above all, he will be remembered for his infectious laugh, generosity, and the genuine connections he built with all who knew him.

Chris is survived by his wife Christine, mother Pamela, grandmother Lorraine, and extended family. He was preceded in death by his father, Paul.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, November 1, at Washburn-McReavy in Edina. Visitation begins at 2:00 p.m., with the service following at 3:00 p.m. Burial will take place in Luverne, Minnesota. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Trademark Theater, Project for Pride in Living, GiveMN, or any charity that makes you think of Chris.

# Cemetery Details

## Maplewood Cemetery

1242 W Warren Street  
Luverne, MN 56156

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

NOV 1. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel  
5000 West 50th & Highway 100  
Edina, MN 55436

## Funeral Service

NOV 1. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel  
5000 West 50th & Highway 100  
Edina, MN 55436

## Reception

NOV 1. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel  
5000 West 50th & Highway 100  
Edina, MN 55436



# Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Funeral Service for Christopher Paul Wentzlaff in memory of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff



Washburn-McReavy - October 27, 2025 at 01:25 PM

JF

“ Jeff, Tara and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Jeff, Tara and Family - November 01, 2025 at 02:24 AM

JF

“ Jeff, Tara and Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



Jeff, Tara and Family - November 01, 2025 at 02:24 AM

RL

“ Rich and Laura Larson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Rich and Laura Larson - October 31, 2025 at 07:12 PM

RL

“ Rich and Laura Larson purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



Rich and Laura Larson - October 31, 2025 at 07:12 PM

JZ

“ Jason & Shauna Zotalis purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



Jason & Shauna Zotalis - October 31, 2025 at 12:13 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



October 30, 2025 at 05:35 PM

WB

“ Warmly, Beth, Yin, Brian. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Warmly, Beth, Yin, Brian. - October 30, 2025 at 06:59 AM

WB

“ Warmly, Beth, Yin, Brian. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



Warmly, Beth, Yin, Brian. - October 30, 2025 at 06:59 AM

LF

“ Lorraine David Tim & families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Lorraine David Tim & families - October 29, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



October 29, 2025 at 02:06 PM



“ Fall Fantasia was purchased for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



October 29, 2025 at 10:38 AM

CJ

“ Christina J. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Christina J. - October 29, 2025 at 07:46 AM

EA

“ Elizabeth Anastasia purchased the *Pretty Please* for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



Elizabeth Anastasia - October 28, 2025 at 06:59 PM

EA

“ Elizabeth Anastasia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Elizabeth Anastasia - October 28, 2025 at 06:59 PM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



October 28, 2025 at 03:44 PM

WF

“ Wentzlaff, Mikkelson, & Friesen family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Wentzlaff, Mikkelson, & Friesen family - October 28, 2025 at 01:58 PM



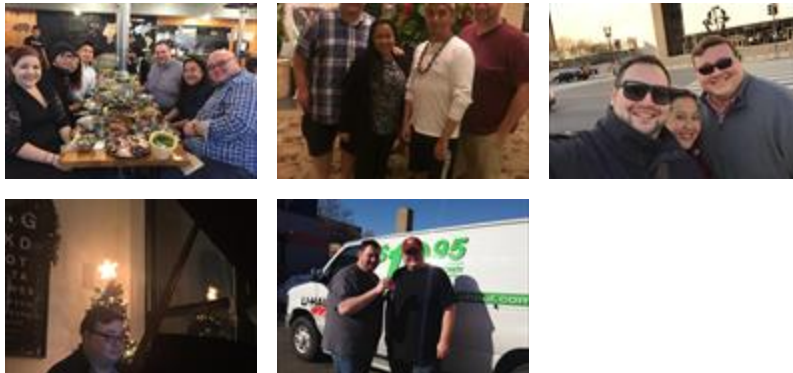
“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.



October 28, 2025 at 01:58 PM

CH

“ 212 files added to the album Chris



Christine - October 28, 2025 at 01:23 PM

CN

“ Catherine N. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.

Catherine N. - October 28, 2025 at 10:10 AM

TC

“ *Tipsy Chix planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.*

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**Tipsy Chix** - October 27, 2025 at 11:22 PM

CL

“ *Cecille and Leah planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.*

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**Cecille and Leah** - October 27, 2025 at 04:27 PM

CL

“ *Cecille and Leah purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Christopher Paul Wentzlaff.*



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**Cecille and Leah** - October 27, 2025 at 04:27 PM