



Jeremy Wade Kolwinska

August 17, 1975 - March 13, 2020

Age 44 of Arden Hills

Passed away of a sudden cardiac event on Friday, March 13. Dr. K was Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at the UNWSP. A loving husband and father, Jeremy was a man of deep faith, extraordinary talent, incredible interpersonal skills, and a gifted administrator. Survived by wife of 22 years, Joan (nee VanRuler); children, Owen and Erin; Parents, Jerry and Marcele (nee Anderson); siblings, Levi (Shelly) and Jessica (Jonathan) Shevy; many family members and friends.

A visitation will be held Thursday, March 19 from 4:00 - 8:00 PM at HOLCOMB-HENRY-BOOM-PURCELL Funeral Home, 515 HWY 96 West, Shoreview, MN.

The previously planned funeral at church on Friday has been cancelled, due to concerns over the Covid - 19 pandemic.

A memorial service will be held at a later date, which is to be determined.

The Funeral Home reserves the right to limit the number of people in our facility at any given time.

Please

Limit your attendance time.

Practice Social Distancing. (6 ft.)

Understand if people do not wish to, shake hands or hug.

Supplies of Sanitizers or Soaps are limited.

The family understands if the elderly, immuno compromised, and other vulnerable individuals do not feel up to attending the visitation, and would rather wait until the memorial service which will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

FB

“ So sorry to hear about your loss. I only met Jeremy once at UNW, but he seemed like a sweet, kind person. God be with you as you grieve his loss, remember the good times and wait until you meet again.

Fayth Brennan - April 01, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ My heart is grieving along with all of you. I will miss Jeremy profoundly. I greatly appreciated his dedication to the North Campus orchestra. And he had such a loving heart towards others. At our last orchestra rehearsal we prayed for some of our members who were experiencing health issues or loss. That's just the kind of guy he was. May God bring you comfort in the days ahead.

Sharon Hastings - March 21, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Jeremy was such a special person. I will never forget this young couple coming into our Sunday School class with all smiles. I was blown away by his talent. The good news is you know where he is and he is giving the angels lessons on how to blow a horn. Our heart aches with yours and your children. May God bless you in ways you would never suspect.
Joe and Bev Taylor

Joe Taylor - March 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Dear Joan, Owen and Erin,
Jeremy's generous, gentle and humble way with people blessed our family in many ways. His ready smile, his steadiness will be sorely missed by all who know him. Our hearts broke over the news of Jeremy's sudden passing. We are praying for God's mercy, His help, His all-encompassing love to cover you. We are eager to join you later for his memorial service. We love you!

Tim and Gretchen Held - March 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ Thinking of you, Joan, Owen, and Erin, every day. I had to work last night and was unable to attend the visitation. I didn't know Jeremy that well, but would often see him in the UNW hallway while waiting for my kids during their piano lessons, or at church, and he was always so willing to answer my questions about music opportunities at UNW. I will miss him leading the BBC orchestra so much. Praying for you.

Sophia Norberg - March 20, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Joan, we are so osorry for your loss. Jeremy was such a strong influence on so many of us with his testimony for Jesus. I'm so glad I was able to get to know him and appreciate so many of his talents and gifts. He was a beutiful person. We love your family and will be praying the sustaining love of Christ through these difficult times.
Rick and Connie Dewhirst & Family

Richard Dewhirst - March 19, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ I'm deeply sorry for your loss. I took trombone lessons from Jeremy back in high school, 15 years ago. Jeremy's passion for music and teaching was infectious. I imagine he had a positive effect on many lives.

Aaron Kinning - March 19, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Dear Joan, Owen, and Erin:
Our hearts go out to you and our prayers ascend to our Lord and God for peace and comfort for you. We cannot imagine the sorrow, pain, and grief you are experiencing at this time and please know we are sending our love and hugs to you, wishing we could hold you ourselves. We will look forward to the opportunity to celebrate the life of your husband and father at a time when we can once again join together as a family.
May God bless and keep you.
With great love and condolences,
Rod and Eloise

Rod & Eloise Loeffler - March 19, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Dear Joan, Erin and Owen,
I am so shocked and sorrowful at Jeremy's passing. As an adjunct member of the UNW music department, I was privileged to work with Jeremy during his time as department chairman and beyond as he moved up the leadership chain. He lead with grace, efficiency, pragmatism and with his faith. He was so approachable and always made me feel appreciated. He will be missed by so many. May you feel comfort in all the good he did here among us. You are in my prayers.

Jan Scholl - March 19, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ It has been very painful to digest the news that Jeremy has gone on ahead of us to be with Jesus so soon. Jeremy's professional mentorship to me and many others was invaluable, yet I will remember him most often, not as the consummate professional that he unquestionably was, but rather as a dear brother who modeled a life well-ordered and who deeply cared for the souls of the people around him. I will always be very grateful for his example, his support of my professional endeavors, and his prayers for my family during the recent seasons of loss. I will miss seeing his smiling face on campus and sharing stories about our giant sons. Know that my family and I will now be praying for you as you navigate this heartbreaking new reality.



Kimberly Cronen - March 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Joan, Owen and Erin, praying your memories of happy, funny, memory making days will help ease the pain in your heart. Your husband and dad await you in Heaven; he leaves a hole in your lives and hearts that no one except Jesus can fill but your pain is real and you are being prayed for as you walk this path.

Connie Mills - March 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Jeremy was an extraordinarily gifted man of God who served others with joy and encouragement. He is missed by all of us but someday we shall see him again in the presence of our loving savior.

John Easterling - March 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ No words.... except that I love you all & sending so much love & so many hugs. I'll be with you in Spirit Tomorrow. Cousin Chris

Christina Heagel - March 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Sending Joan, Erin and Owen our deepest condolences and prayers. Jeremy was loved in our Northwestern Community and will never be forgotten. He always had a smile or a good word to say. He held such a presence of wisdom and grace. He will be deeply missed.



Lisanne Winslow - March 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Joan, Erin, and Owen: I am so saddened by Jeremy being gone. I count it a privilege to have worked directly for him. He was a joy to be around. I appreciated his leadership example but especially his desire to understand and appreciate and have concern for others. I am so sorry you have lost your husband and dad. May God guide you as you travel a new unplanned path, yet a path He will be a part of.

Andy Simpson - March 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ As a new UNW employee, I had only known Jeremy for one week prior to his untimely death. During that brief time, I had spent a morning with him touring the theater department and Denler exhibit. He was so welcoming and very eager to talk about his love of and pride in UNW. I know he will be sorely missed. I regret not having had the opportunity to have been his colleague for a longer time. My deepest sympathy to his family and loved ones.

sheryl ramstad - March 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Dear Joan, Owen and Erin, our deepest condolences. Jeremy was so proud of his family. He was always a kind and wise leader with every UNWSP individual- faculty, staff and students. Jeremy was authentic in his love for Jesus. I will continue to pray fervently for your family.

In Sympathy, Kristine and Daniel Smith

Kristine and Daniel Smith - March 17, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ We mourn our losing Jeremy in this lifetime, but celebrate his life, friendship and ministry.

Rick Thoman - March 17, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Jeremy was a very special, funny and caring person. The first time I saw him, he was a little baby. The last time I saw him in person was when his brass group gave a concert at Ankeny Baptist. He gave me a hug when I talked to him afterwards and he still remembered my name.

Barbro Garland - March 17, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ Dear Beloved family of Jeremy; Joan, Owen, and Erin,
Your husband, and Dad was a wonderful person, who had such a kind way of speaking and interacting with all of us at Northwestern. He was a very godly man and set a wonderful example of how to be excellent in his work, yet grace giving in his friendships with so many students, and myself as a fellow faculty member. I know he will be missed by so many of us. I pray that God would send His comfort to you all, and that you may know God's presence.
Sincerely,
Cathy and Reid Victorsen

Cathy Victorsen - March 17, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Jeremy -
"Where is the bloom of my youth?
Where is the strength of my well-formed limbs?
Where are my possessions and wealth? . . .
Christ the Lord, you are my homeland, my strength, my wealth, my all.
Exchanging my troubles for life, may I be refreshed in You."
-Gregory of Nazianzus



Jonathan Loopstra - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Praying for Joan, the kids, and your entire family. So shocking to hear. 'Dear Lord, please wipe your arms of everlasting comfort, peace, and love around this precious family, both now and in the days ahead. In Jesus' Name Amen!'

Bethany Bacon - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

HA

“ *May His arms of comfort and peace surround all of you.*

Haelim Allen - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *Sending prayers to your family. Take care.*

Carole Blanchard - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ *My deepest sympathies to all the family. I know your hearts are hurting, but my prayers and those of many others are with you. Heaven is real and is closer and more real than any of us know. I am thankful
That it !!. Always, Ellie*

Ellie Johnson - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ *This is such sad news. I am having so much trouble comprehending that this is real. I knew Jeremy from his graduate school days at the U of M, and we had the pleasure of working together on a few projects when he worked in the admin offices. I knew him to be kind, intelligent, and quietly funny. Even then, we all knew Jeremy was going places, but he rose to the top even faster than we could imagine. That's not really a surprise. Sometimes, the good guys really do finish first, and Jeremy was definitely one of the good guys. You are gone far, FAR too soon from this world, Jeremy. I hope the next world is everything you believed it would be, and more. To his family, I cannot imagine what you are going through right now. My heart goes out to you, and I wish you all some peace in this terrible time.*

Anne Barnes - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JH

“Joan and family we are deeply saddened with the home going of Jeremy. We know that Heaven is rejoicing as he is celebrating his first Sunday in Heaven. We are praying for you and your extended family. We know how difficult this is for you! Love, Uncle John and Aunt Sonna Lea

John and Sonna Lea Hunsley - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

ED

“I knew Jeremy as a talented undergraduate music major whose enthusiasm and dry sense of humor was contagious. We are proud of his many academic and professional accomplishments. In recent years, he has been a valuable resource in programs reviews and in providing insight into accreditation.

More than these things, though, Jeremy was a man whose faith was in Christ; and he evidenced that faith among family, friends, church, and colleagues.

His greatest legacy on earth is his family, and we are praying for them. While they sorrow, it is not without hope. Jeremy is "...absent from the body...present with the Lord."

May the God of all comfort minister grace and peace to your hearts at this time of loss.

Ed Dunbar - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

EL

“Dear Joan, Owen, and Erin - Rod and I are grieving with you all. We are so sorry for your tragic and untimely loss. Jeremy was a very special person to many, many people - first and foremost to you three and our Lord. Please know we are praying for comfort which can only come from above.

Eloise & Rod Loeffler - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ So very sorry to hear of dr. Kolwinska's death- wonderful man, professor, father, friend- sincere sympathy to all- Dee pritchett

Dee pritchett - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ We have good memories of Jeremy as a teenager when his parents were on staff with us at Parkview Christian School at Bible Baptist Church in Lincoln, NE many years ago. We are praying for each family member at this time.

Bob & Karen Winebarger - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I was a senior the year Jeremy came as a freshman. We played trombone together in the band and the trombone choir. His musical talent was more than evident from the first time I heard him, but his humble attitude was what struck me the most. It was a joy to watch him grow throughout his college years, and reading about his testimony has been a blessing to me. My prayers are with all the lives he touched, but especially his family. May God's peace flood your souls.

David Bell - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ I work with Jeremy and had a brief conversation with him on Tuesday or Wednesday of this last week. It is unbelievable that he passed so quickly. He was in good health, by all appearances, and in good spirits. Our brief chat involved euphoniums and trombones, of course.

My deepest condolences to Joan and the rest of his family.

I didn't know Jeremy well, but knew him well enough to know he loved art and music and that he was very kind, and so I know your loss will be great.

- Jon Carlson

Jon Carlson - March 15, 2020 at 12:00 AM

PN

“ Continuing in prayer for Joan, Owen and Erin, just as I have been for many months. Blessed to have had Jeremy in my life and the life of our church and university families.

PHIL NORRIS - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ I am sorry for your loss, I want you to know I am praying for you and that God will comfort you. I know what is like to a spouse and a son, it is difficult , but the Lird comforted me. I will pray for you all daily.
Love Linda

Linda True - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ May God be near you and bless you with positive memories of Jeremy.

Our most loving thoughts and prayers are with you.

Tod & Kenna Munyon - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *It is with great sadness that we send our Most Sincere Sympathy. May the promise of Eternal Life with our Lord and Savior be of comfort. We'll be praying for all of you.*

Monica and Keith Pletcher - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *My prayers and love to you, Joan, and Owen and Erin. Jeremy was an incredible man of God. He was a joy to know and a privilege to work alongside. My life was blessed by him in so many ways.*

Alan Cureton - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

WP

“ *Our hearts are filled with grief for the family at the homecoming of your husband and father, you are all being lifted up in prayer that our compassionate Savior would comfort you as only he can. Our love to you all, Wes and Elaine*

Wesley & Elaine Pegors - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JS

“Joan, Owen & Erin, We mourn with you as you grieve the loss of your husband and father. We are grateful for his faith in our Savior and rejoice that Jeremy is now with Christ! We will always treasure our memories with you during our days of ministry at Bible Baptist. You were our dearest friends. We remember how you graciously loved us too! Our favorite memories are when you woke us up one Saturday morning by throwing rocks at our bedroom window and visiting our Morgan in the hospital when she was born! While we haven't been connected much over the last several years, we nonetheless count you as friends. We are blessed. Today, we're praising God for Jeremy's testimony of faith, His love to serve Christ and his faithful love for your family. We will continue to pray for you and your sweet family in the days ahead. Our regrets that we cannot attend the service to support you as we are currently out of town. Finally, a scripture verse that gives great comfort: "And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you." Psalms 9:10 All our love, Jeremy and Sarah Stephen's

Jeremy & Sarah Stephens - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

JK

“Love and prayers.

Jerry and Marcele Kolwinska - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

KC

“Grieving with you and praying for you in this time of great loss. Thankful we have the God of all comfort ministering perfectly to you.

Kirsten Christianson - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ *Jeremy made a lasting impression on this world by all the lives he has touched by his kindness and many who know the Lord because of him. I love you Joan, Owen, and Erin. Praying fervently for you all daily.*

Rob and Laurie Baker - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ *Joan, Owen, and Erin. Your family was a special part of our First Baptist and UT Martin families. Hugs and prayers from your Tennessee friends. Love, Bonnie, George, Evelyn (one of your former babysitters), and Emmett Daniel*

Bonnie Daniel - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *I spent many hours working with this wonderful man at the University of Minnesota. We held many different opinions on things in life. But he always respected my thoughts and I was always in awe of his faith. My thoughts go to his family in this sudden struggling time. Jeremy was someone the world deserved to have more time with on this earth. Rest In Peace my friend.*

Margaret Pitman McCoy - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time.*

Emily Squires - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *My heart is grieving and in utter disbelief that death could come so quickly for such a wonderful young man.*

Ron Moody - March 14, 2020 at 12:00 AM