



Mark Matthew Briere

April 1, 1948 - May 17, 2024

With his kind eyes and gentle manner we remember Mark M. Briere, April 1, 1948 to May 17, 2024, who passed peacefully in his sleep at home. He was so very loved. Mark loved life. He loved being raised in Mitchell, SD, the lifelong friendship with his "Buddies". He also loved Yellowstone National Park, Mandolins - mastering many genres of music, the Homestead Pickin' Parlor where he felt honored to teach Mandolin to students from 1979 to recent months, his son Benjamin who he was so proud of, The Minnesota Bluegrass Old Time Music Association, a hard working organization that provides great festivals presenting the top masters for 40+ years, his many bands throughout the decades. He missed in recent months the "Jugsluggers and Switched at Birth" jobs. He especially enjoyed long road trips - Lake Nokomis hikes - Barbeques with Erdyne. He also loved his south Minneapolis yard where he was the "Squirrel Whisperer" and the Cardinals favorite. Survived by his devoted Mother, Ann Briere; loving wife of 42 years, Erdyne; son, Benjamin; sister, Nikki Lewis; brothers-in-law, Ernie (Betsy) Erickson and Brian (Aidrienne) Erickson; nieces, Trillium, Heather, Laurel, Ivy and cousins and many friends. He was preceded in death by his beloved Father, Robert G. Briere. Per Marks request an intimate immediate family tribute due to friends and family so widespread. In lieu of flowers or gifts, contributions can be made to Minnesota Bluegrass Old Time Music Association; P.O. Box 16408, Minneapolis, MN 55416.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Crematory

2610 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Tribute Wall

RP

“ Mark & I were in Basic Training together way back in the summer of 1971 in San Antonio, Texas. He was great and always cracking jokes which really helped getting through those tough times. I just read of his passing. So sorry to hear about it. Roy Palmeri

Roy Palmeri - April 03, 2025 at 01:40 PM

VP

“ Our condolences to Mark’s family. We know firsthand the impact Mark has on lives he touched. We first met him at USD in Vermillion in the late Sixties and the spent a sweet year together at a military base in North Carolina in the early Seventies, where Mark bought a bright cherry red guitar he played constantly, first mastering a Cowboy song, “Please Be With Me”, from a Duane Allman anthology, a song indelibly linked to Mark in our lives at that time. After that we ended up in Oregon and didn’t see Mark for 40 years, though a painting he made for us, of a Zane Greyish cowboy no less, and a ship in bottle with sails he fashioned from his medic scrubs, have had a prominent place in our house where we see Mark’s hand every day. So meeting Mark again after 40 years was like, yesterday, and the day after, a seamless friendship and deep regard. We mourn his passing, but know Mark is never lost to those of us he touches still, and ever hear his music, in his recordings, and in our memory of the sweetest chords!

Love you ever, Mark!

Vernon and Lynn Peterson

Vernon and Lynn Peterson - May 30, 2024 at 12:32 PM

BK

“ Dearest Erdyne and family, we didn't see each other often but you are ALWAYS in our hearts. Thank Dearest Erdyne and family, we didn't see each other often but you are ALWAYS in our hearts. Thank you for having each other, caring for others, and living life to the fullest. I love you!!



Beth Kniffen - May 26, 2024 at 11:51 AM

JF

“ I took mandolin lessons from Mark for many years at the Pickin' Parlor. He showed me how to go from picking notes to creating music, a gift that I will always treasure. I cannot imagine a more kind and caring teacher and friend. Rest well, my friend.

Joe Fishbein - May 24, 2024 at 06:58 PM

BK

Dearest Erdyne and family, we didn't see each other often but you are ALWAYS in our hearts. Thank you for having each other, caring for others, and living life to the fullest. I love you dearly! 🇺🇸💙🎵 Rest in peace dear friend.

Love, Beth and Dan ❤️🦋🇺🇸🙏🙏🙏❤️

Beth Kniffen - May 26, 2024 at 11:46 AM

CF

Mark was a kind and very gentle man who will continue to entertain in his afterlife ! He was a loving husband and father and will be missed by mother and loving wife and son

Curt Hanson family friend - June 03, 2024 at 06:50 PM

PA

I started mandolin lessons with Mark during the late 90's when we lived in South St. Paul for a few years for work. When we moved back to Minneapolis after retirement I looked up Mark and took more lessons. Mark was a patient and knowledgeable teacher and I still have all of the handwritten notation for the songs we worked on. I think of him whenever I play one of those songs. RIP. Paul Johnson, St. Paul

Paul - December 30, 2024 at 09:58 PM

BA

“ Mark was such a wonderful teacher. He taught with kindness, endless patience and humor. So many lives have been enriched by his example. His memory and music will live on in our hearts forever.

Barbara Lance Alldaffer - May 24, 2024 at 06:47 PM

CB

“ I enjoyed hearing Mark play the mandolin with Jugsluggers at the Riverview Cafe, and talking all things mandolin with him at Homestead Picking Parlor. He had a great gift! He will be missed. CECILY



Cecily Beierle - May 23, 2024 at 10:15 PM

RS

“ Ron Siegel purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mark Matthew Briere.



Ron Siegel - May 22, 2024 at 06:36 PM

RS

“ Ron Siegel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Matthew Briere.

Ron Siegel - May 22, 2024 at 06:36 PM