



Walter Paul McGrory

February 2, 1999 - December 16, 2023

Walter Paul McGrory, 24, beloved son, brother, and friend, passed away Saturday, December 16, 2023, after an inspiring battle with osteosarcoma cancer. Walt was born on February 2, 1999, to parents Matthew and Jean (Shell) McGrory in Des Moines, Iowa. He was baptized at St. Augustin Catholic Church before moving with his family to Minneapolis, MN at age 5. He was educated in Edina Public Schools (Cornelia Elementary School, Southview Middle School, and Edina High School), graduating high school in May 2017 as Edina High School's all-time leading scorer in basketball with 2,126 points. At Edina, Walt played five years of varsity basketball, helping the team win third place in the State Tournament in 2013. Walt continued his education and basketball career at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 2017-2021, receiving a bachelor's degree in economics. During his time at UW, Walt was a three-time Academic All-Big Ten student and helped the Badgers win a share of the 2020 Big Ten regular season title and qualify for three NCAA tournaments. Walt was enrolled to play basketball and obtain his Master of Business Administration degree from the University of South Dakota until his diagnosis with osteosarcoma in August 2021 prevented him from attending. Walt spent the next two and a half years fighting his cancer, inspiring others with his courage, determination, and positive attitude; working in sales at cybersecurity firm FRSecure; and trading crypto assets.

Walt attacked his cancer head on. Throughout it all, he stayed upbeat and true

to his determined self, refusing to let the cancer affect his spirit no matter how much it progressed in his body. "A broken spirit doesn't stand a chance," he would say, as he faced every challenge and endured physical adversities and indignities. While his body ultimately succumbed to the cancer, his spirit remained untouched and intact. Walt found a deeper purpose and meaning as a result of his experience—to be a positive example and help others heal and fight adversity in their lives. He leaves a lasting legacy of inspiration and hope.

Walt loved competition and the pursuit of mastery. No matter what he was doing, he wanted to do it to the best of his ability and he put in the long tedious hours to make his goals a reality. He made many life-long friends and mentors playing football, basketball, and baseball. He was always looking for ways to improve his health and athletic performance. He was intense in his pursuits, but a kind and gentle goofball in his life. He never took himself too seriously and he never wanted to be the center of attention, even when he deserved it.

Walt loved his friends and family. Whether it was working out, watching or playing sports, dining at his favorite restaurants, or going to the movies, he typically did it with someone he loved.

He is preceded in death by grandparents, William Paul and Patricia Ann (Tumpane) McGrory and Martin Rogers Shell; and uncle, Daniel Paul McGrory. He is survived by his mother and father, Matthew William and Jean Marie McGrory; his sister, Mary Claire (McGrory) Vander Velden; brother-in-law, Zachary Mark Vander Velden; and his grandmother, Delores Faye (Olsen) Shell.

A private funeral mass was held at the Church of Christ the King in Minneapolis, followed by a burial service at Lakewood Cemetery on December 22, 2023.

A memorial service will be held at Christ Presbyterian Church in Edina on Thursday, December 28, 2023, at 10:00 am., with visitation one hour prior.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **28**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Christ Presbyterian Church
6901 Normandale Road
Edina, MN 55424

Memorial Service

DEC **28**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Christ Presbyterian Church
6901 Normandale Road
Edina, MN 55424

Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Walter Paul McGrory.* ”



December 16, 2024 at 03:29 PM

CF

“ To all of Walt's family,
I was deeply saddened to hear of Walt's passing. Please accept my heartfelt condolences.

Recently, while editing our website event recaps, I was reminded of his strength and courage.

Walt's speech at Winefest 26 on May 12, 2024, was nothing short of inspirational. His eloquence and bravery shone brightly as he shared his journey since being diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2021. Despite the unimaginable challenges he faced, Walt stood before us all, radiating positivity and poise beyond his years. He made us feel part of something truly special and transformative. His gratitude for the relentless support and world-class care from M Health Fairview Masonic Children's Hospital was evident and heartfelt. Walt's words highlighted the remarkable progress in pediatric research and the stellar care that the hospital provides. His strength and resilience were truly remarkable.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to meet Walt after his speech and commend him on the outstanding job he did. I was deeply moved by his genuine kindness and wisdom, far beyond his years. It left a lasting impression on me, one that I will always treasure.

On August 19, 2023, Walt shared an update on his Instagram that showcased his unwavering determination. He spoke about his surgeries and the challenges he continued to face with a strength and resolve that inspired us all. His words, "Giving up is not an option!" continue to resonate deeply, reflecting his unbreakable spirit and determination to find hope even in the darkest of times.

Thank you, Walt, for being a beacon of hope and courage. Your words and your journey will always be remembered as a masterful portrayal of hope in its purest form.

May God's protective hand be with all of you in this time of sorrow and in the years ahead.

With deepest sympathy and respect,

Cate Faulkner

Zero Proof Collective





Cate Faulkner - July 03, 2024 at 09:44 PM

CS

“ I didn't know Walter personally but, he was in Braver's private group and one of the team leads in the group had nothing but high praise of Walter. My condolences to the family for your loss.

CSQ - January 17, 2024 at 05:25 PM

XC

“ Mr & Mrs McGrory, you may not know me, but I am the Manager of a private investor/trader group started by my good friend, Braver. Walt was a shining beacon in our group, and he had been one of our members for a long while (under the username "2moonmcg" And we miss him greatly. I had actually not been aware of his passing until I checked his instagram recently (our investor group communicates through Discord. And after not hearing from him for a while, I decided to check up on him and heard the difficult news). We are very sorry for your loss. And send our deepest condolences. Please feel free to reach out to me on twitter if by chance you would like any records of conversations with Walt, or any of the other nice words that our other members had to say about him. My Twitter is: @XCaliber000

XCaliber - January 16, 2024 at 04:19 PM



“ *Mr and Mrs McGrory My name is Tom Metcalf , father of Rob and Grandfather of Rob the Ill. I made special trip to UW to meet your son after aSat game . We live in Port Edwards Wi..He told if sleeping at Rob’s house etc! I invited him to drive up to Port Edwards and have a home cooked meal etc but we couldn’t get it done . My heart aches for your family. The Rob Metcalf family loved your son! After meeting him I know why. Tom Metcalf*

Tom Metcalf - December 28, 2023 at 05:16 PM



“ *White Poinsettia was purchased for the family of Walter Paul McGrory.*



December 28, 2023 at 03:36 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Walter Paul McGrory.*



December 26, 2023 at 03:23 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Walter Paul McGrory.*



December 26, 2023 at 12:12 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Walter Paul McGrory.* ”



December 23, 2023 at 02:18 PM