



William Leroy Bjerkness

January 20, 1970 - February 23, 2015

William Leroy Bjerkness was born on January 20, 1970 in Alexandria, MN, the oldest son of Raymond and Janice (Hoppe) Bjerkness. Will graduated from Brandon High School in 1988 where he played football, basketball, and baseball. He then enlisted into the United States Navy and was trained in Nuclear Power. Will moved back to Brandon and began taking classes at Alexandria Technical College. He graduated with a degree in Mechanical Drafting, Design and Engineering Technology. Will used his education to work at Douglas Machine for 18 years. He then worked at Aagard, and was currently employed with Massman Automation Designs in Villard, MN.

Will was very active in a number of organizations including Viking Sportsman, MN Deer Hunters Assoc., Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, and Alexandria Sertoma. He generously volunteered his time and energy to each of these organizations and was currently acting as President of the Alexandria Sertoma Club. Will loved to hunt deer, pheasants, and ducks. He enjoyed being outdoors by playing softball, four-wheeling, and attending country music festivals.

Will was a great son, brother, and friend to many. He was always ready to help a friend out when they needed a hand. He will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him.

William L. Bjerkness died on Monday, February 23, 2015 at the St. Cloud Hospital at the age of 45 years old. He is survived by his parents Raymond and Janice Bjerkness of Brandon; brother Scott (Missy) Bjerkness of Bryson City, NC; nieces and nephews Isaac, Adie, Josiah, Lily, and Miriam Bjerkness all of Bryson City, NC; aunts Carol (Gary) Pope of Mainland China; Sarah (Colan) Aranio of Wahiawa, Hawaii; Lenora (Steve) Koltes of Minneapolis and Delores (Steve) Hedrick of Minneapolis, many cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 10:30AM at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Visitation will be held on Friday from 4-7PM with a 4PM Parish Prayers at the Anderson Funeral Home and also for one hour prior to the mass at the church on Saturday. Interment was in the Brandon Cemetery. Casket Bearers were Scott Larson, Russ Esterberg, Derek Klimek, Russ Bjerkness, Dan Nolan, and Curt Diekman. Honorary Casket Bearers were the Berg family, Klimek Family, and all of the professionals Willie had worked with throughout his career.

Arrangements are with the Anderson Funeral Home in Alexandria, MN.
www.andersonfuneral.net

In lieu of flowers memorials are preferred to the Special Olympics or to donors choice.

Cemetery Details

Brandon Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **27**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory
659 Voyager Drive NW
Alexandria, MN 56308
(320) 763-5900
mail@andersonfuneral.net
<https://www.andersonfuneral.net/>

Prayer Service

FEB **27**. 4:00 PM (CT)

Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory
659 Voyager Drive NW
Alexandria, MN 56308
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Visitation

FEB **28**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
421 Hawthorne St
Alexandria, MN

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB **28**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
421 Hawthorne St
Alexandria, MN

Tribute Wall



“ *Anderson Funeral Home and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of William Leroy Bjerkness*



Anderson Funeral Home - February 27, 2015 at 03:08 PM

PH

“ *PATTI HOGUE lit a candle in memory of William Leroy Bjerkness*



PATTI HOGUE - February 27, 2015 at 02:48 PM

PH

“ *Ray, Janice & Family, I am so very sorry for the loss of your son. You are all in my Families Thoughts & Prayers. You now have a GUARDIAN ANGEL TO WATCH OVER YOU. PATTI & FAMILY*

PATTI HOGUE - February 27, 2015 at 02:44 PM



“ 74 files added to the album LifeTributes



Anderson Funeral Home - February 27, 2015 at 02:42 PM

JK

“ *I remember when one of Willy's good friends, Ricky Klimek died. It was devastating. A few years later we were golfing at the annual Diekman Open and one of the prizes was a Ricky Klimek memorial putter. I won it, but I could tell it meant the world to Willy....so I gave it to him. Hopefully you and Ricky are upstairs golfing with brand new "heaven-issued" clubs. So sorry for your loss Bjerkness family.*

Joe Korkowski - February 27, 2015 at 01:34 PM

DA

“ *My deepest sympathies Ray, Janice and Friends of Willie B.
Dan Anderson*

Dan Anderson - February 27, 2015 at 12:42 PM

CJ

“ *Candice Jallen-Oseien lit a candle in memory of William Leroy Bjerkness*



Candice Jallen-Oseien - February 27, 2015 at 11:36 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of William Leroy Bjerkness.*



February 26, 2015 at 01:19 PM

DL

“ *I am so sorry.*



Dave & Jill Lahman - February 26, 2015 at 09:35 AM



Claudia Johnson

“ *Ray & Janice - So sorry to read of your sons passing. My thoughts are with you at this very difficult time.*
Claudia Johnson (former co-worker at Echo Press)

Claudia Johnson - February 26, 2015 at 09:08 AM

RH

“ *Ray, Janice. and family: Our thoughts and prayers go out to your family as you go through this extremely difficult time in your lives. May you find comfort in each other and your precious memories of Willie.*

Robert and Joyce Hens - February 25, 2015 at 03:35 PM



“ *What a loss! I'm so sorry for Willy's family and his "large" group of friends. Will always remember our good times together, his robust laugh, and his hugs... he gave the best hugs. Our prayers for comfort for this very difficult time and the "missing" times ahead. Bill and Jenifer Vollmer*

Jenifer Vollmer - February 25, 2015 at 09:29 AM