

Jay C. Nelson, age 53, passed away on November 10, 2018. He was born on July 8, 1965, in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota to Joseph Clayton and Wanda Hoebelheinh) Nelson. He graduated from Detroit Lakes High School in 1983. Jay attended Alexandria Technical College following high school, and completed a law enforcement degree in 1985. Jay was united in marriage to Sheila (Toots) Schwedrsky on August 22, 1987. They were blessed with two children, Jacob and Jon.

Jay started his law enforcement career in the mid-80's, working part-time as a deputy sheriff for Becker County and also Pelican Rapids Police Department. He then worked in North Dakota for Richland County, Jamestown Police Department, and Stutsman County Sheriff's Department. He returned to Minnesota in 1992 and started as the Chief of Police in Lake Park. He then worked for Becker County as a deputy from 1999-2006 after which he returned to Lake Park as Chief of Police, where he retired in 2015. After his retirement, he worked for Rolling R Bison Ranch in the Cormorant area.

Jay was an avid sportsman who enjoyed many hunting and fishing trips with friends and family. He also enjoyed snowmobiling, 4-wheeling, woodworking, and nature photography in his spare time. Jay loved visiting the Duluth area with his wife Toots, making several trips a year.

Jay is survived by his father Joseph Clayton, his wife Toots, two children Jake and Jon (Chloe), one grandson Noah, six siblings Jeff (Stacy), Lori Nelson, Rob (Scarlet), Lisa Monson, Michelle (Joe) Peterson, Chad (Amy), three "brother-no-good in-laws from Wisconsin" Lonnie (Angie), TJ (Beth), Gary (Darcy), and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his mother Wanda, grandparents Maynard and Tilla Nelson, Bruno and Venetta Hoebelheinrich, father-in-laws Rusty Schwedrsky and Bud Paulson, cousins Jesse Mattson and John Passanante, and nephew Jon Wafle.



“The Final Inspection”

The policeman stood and faced his God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.

“Step forward now, policeman,
how shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other
cheek? To my church have you been
true?”

The policeman squared his shoulders
and said, “No Lord, I guess I ain’t,
Because those of us who carry badges
can’t always be a saint.

I’ve had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was rough,
And sometimes I’ve been violent,
Because the streets are awfully tough.

But I never took a penny,
That wasn’t mine to keep...

Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills got just too steep.
And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.

And sometimes, God forgive me,
I’ve wept unmanly tears.

I know I don’t deserve a place among
the people here.

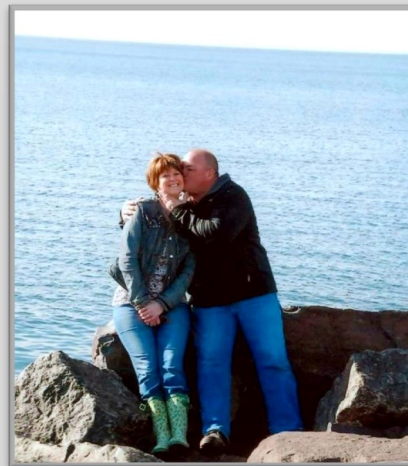
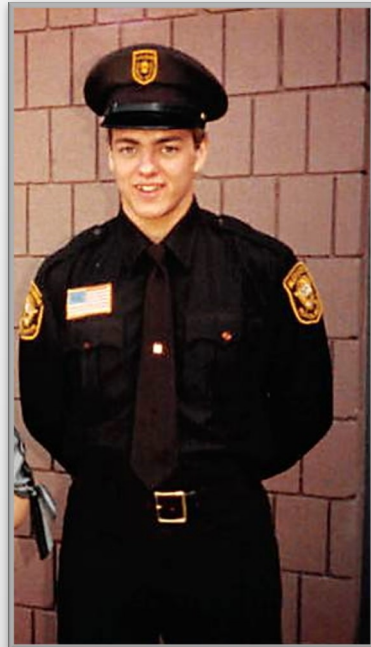
They never wanted me around except
to calm their fear.

If you’ve a place for me here,
Lord, it needn’t be so grand.

I never expected or had too much,
But if you don’t...I’ll understand.

There was silence all around the throne
Where the saints had often trod.
As the policeman waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

“Step forward now, policeman,
You’ve borne your burdens well.
Come walk a beat in Heaven’s streets,
You’ve done your time in hell.”



In Loving Memory Of
JAY CLAYTON NELSON

July 8, 1965 ~ November 10, 2018

Service of Love, Honor and Remembrance

Saturday, November 17, 2018 -- 2:00 P.M.

Lake Park-Audubon High School

Lake Park, Minnesota

Pastor Jim Green, *Officiating*

Special Music

Recorded Selections

Processional “God of All My Days” by Casting Crowns

Recessional “When I Get Where I’m Going” by Brad Paisley

Tim Eggebraaten, *Soloist*

“Go Rest High On That Mountain”

“On Eagles Wings”

“I Can Only Imagine”

Urn Bearers

Jake Nelson and Jon Nelson

Honorary Urn Bearers

Jay’s Law Enforcement Family

