

NO ONE KNEW

No one knew the torment
that you were going through;
We only kept on seeing
What we really wanted to.

We saw the outward smile,
but not your inner pain;
We never really dreamt,
That you would never smile again.

Forgive us if we failed to see,
What we could do to aid;
Or if we failed to comprehend,
How much you were afraid.

We pray your mental anguish,
Will now forever cease;
And that your deep anxieties,
Will be replaced by peace.

We know your pain invaded,
Every single thought you had;
It made you cry internally,
And deeply, deeply sad.

But we in turn remember,
The good times, not the bad;
We remember when you smiled at us,
And not when you were sad.

So when we think about your life,
We won't dwell upon its close;
We'll remember all the good times,
And forget about life's blows.

We'll remember all the happiness,
The joy and not the tears;
The assurance and the confidence,
And not irrational fears.

Our lives have all been better,
Because you have been there;
So now we leave your memory,
In God's all-loving care.

~ by Dick Underwood



*Come to me, all of you who
are tired from carrying
your heavy loads, and
I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11:28





Shawn James Mehlhoff, 50, died June 12, 2019, at Sanford Medical Center, Fargo, ND with his loving family at his side.

Shawn was born January 29, 1969, in Minot, to Mylo and Ardell (Schwartz) Mehlhoff. The family moved around North Dakota until settling in Mandan where Shawn grew up and graduated from Mandan High School in 1987. Following High School, Shawn attended and graduated from Bismarck State College before moving to Fargo to attend North Dakota State University. He graduated from NDSU in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. In 2010 Shawn returned to school and achieved a Master's degree in Human Resources from the University of Mary in Bismarck. He received his Minnesota Real Estate License in 2016.

Shawn married Janell Martell in Detroit Lakes, MN in 2003 and started family life. Shawn adored his step-son, Gage. His daughter Madison was born in 2005 and quickly became the light of Shawn's eye. His family lived in Brookings, SD, Fargo and Bismarck, ND, and Albertville, MN. The couple later divorced, and Shawn resided in Fargo at the time of his death.

A charismatic and popular bartender in both Bismarck and Fargo, Shawn was quick to make friends and will be missed by many. Shawn loved music; Van Halen (DLR), Dokken, Queensryche, Jimmy Buffet and Richie Kotzen counted among his favorites. He was also a big fan of movies and especially enjoyed comedies and sci-fi. Captain Ron was his favorite movie, but Alien, The Empire Strikes Back, and Blade Runner were closely behind. Shawn was a true "Foodie" who loved to cook and was an outstanding grillmaster. He was an avid reader and had an entire collection of books by celebrity chef Guy Fieri. The king of random knowledge; Shawn even knew Michael J. Fox's middle name. If you think you could stump him with weird facts and trivia, you'd be wrong. As a lifelong Minnesota Vikings fan, it is unfortunate that Shawn will not be able to call everyone to celebrate their Super Bowl win this year.

On the outside Shawn was always the life of the party, witty, and humorous. However, on the inside he struggled with severe depression and turned to alcohol to ease his pain. The disease ultimately took a toll on Shawn's health and robbed him of the things he dearly loved.

Shawn is survived by his daughter, Madison Margaret, Albertville, MN; one brother Miles (Jessica) Mehlhoff, two nieces Hayden and Parker, and one nephew, Maxsen, all of Mandan; one sister Michelle (fiance Michael Elstad), Bismarck; and friends that considered him a brother.

Shawn was preceded in death by his grandparents, parents, his niece Taylor Goven, and numerous aunts and uncles.

Your wings were ready, but our hearts were not. Shawn lost his way and was unable to find his way home.

Please go to www.BuehlerLarson.com to share memories of Shawn.

In Loving Memory of
Shawn James Mehlhoff

JANUARY 29, 1969 - JUNE 12, 2019

Prayer Service	Monday, June 24, 2019; 7:00 PM
Funeral Service	Tuesday, June 25, 2019; 11:00 AM
	First Lutheran Church
	Mandan, North Dakota
Officiant	Rev. Gene Anderson
Organist	Loretta White
Guitarist	Nathan Scott

Celebrating the Life of Shawn Mehlhoff

Gathering		ELW p.279
Processional Music	"Old Rugged Cross"	
Greeting		
Prayer of the Day		
Welcome		
Reading of the Obituary		
Scripture Readings	Psalm 23 and Psalm 121	
Special Music	"Acoustic Rock Medley"	
Scripture/Homily	John 14:1-7	
Hymn	"On Eagles Wings"	WOV #779
The Apostles' Creed/Prayers		ELW p.282
The Lord's Prayer		ELW p.283
The Commendation		
Recessional Hymn	"How Great Though Art"	ELW p.856

The family invites you for lunch and fellowship at the church, immediately following the funeral service.