



Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free. I'm following the path God laid for me. I took His hand when I heard Him call. I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day to laugh, to love, to work, or play. Tasks left undone must stay that way. I found that peace at the close of the day. If my parting has left a void, then fill it with remembered *Joy*. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Ah, yes, these things I too will miss. Be not burdened with times of sorrow. I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life has been full, I've savored much. Good friends, good times, *a loved one's touch*. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief. Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart and share with me, God wanted me now, he set me FREE.



*The family wishes to express their gratitude for your kind expressions of sympathy and for honoring Sam with your presence at the service.*

# SAMUEL JOSEPH BAKKEN

2001-2022

## *Treasured Seasons*

*To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven;*

*A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;*

*A time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up;*

*A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance;*

*A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;*

*A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;*

*A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence and a time to speak;*

*A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war and a time of peace.*



**Samuel**, affectionately known as “Sam,” was born on April 27, 2001, in Breckenridge, MN, to Randy and Sara (LeNoue) Bakken. He was raised on the family ranch near Wolverton, MN, and attended St. Mary’s Catholic School as a kindergartner through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and continued his education at Breckenridge High School. He began working for Mycogen Seeds for 2 summers in 2016 and 2017. Then in May of 2018, he started working for Aaron and Tessa Mohs as a Research Assistant/Crop Scout with M Squared Genetics/Brushvale Seed. Most recently, he worked for Jon Miller Farms, Fairmount, ND, as a farm technician learning many different jobs and helping to further his interest in an agronomy degree.



In June of 2018, Sam enlisted in the Minnesota National Guard and began basic training in Fort Benning, GA, following his high school graduation in June of 2019. He completed A.I.T. Training as a Cavalry Scout where he earned expert rifle marksmanship status. Throughout his military career, Sam served in the Bearcat Battalion in various roles. Always approachable, he embodied professionalism throughout his service, especially in times of hardship and uncertainty. SPC Bakken executed his duties as a Scout to the fullest throughout his domestic service in support of the state of activations in 2020 for civil unrest, and in a successful NTC rotation for the 1/34<sup>th</sup> ABCT. Soon after NTC, he deployed with A Co, 2-136 IN (CAB) in support of Operation Spartan Shield. He adapted naturally to the infantry environment and was a successful Machine Gunner for 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon’s Heavy Weapons Squad. He also served various missions such as essential base security for Eskan Village in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It is for these qualities that SPC Bakken was awarded an Army Achievement medal for his service.

Sam was involved in many activities during his time at Breckenridge Schools and was a talented horseback rider on his fearless POA, “Apache.” He excelled in track as a sprinter and was known for his ability to “fly” and defensive skills in basketball. He was a talented trap shooter and had the opportunity to shoot at Nationals in Michigan in 2018 where he placed 15<sup>th</sup> out of approximately 2300 participants-missing only 3 out of 200 clay targets.

Sam was a good friend to all and enjoyed spending time with his classmates where he was the life of the party. He was an amazing son, grandson, brother, nephew, cousin, and his family was extremely proud of his accomplishments. He dreamed big and pursued those dreams with diligence and strength. His smile, silliness, and big brown eyes will be missed dearly.

Those left to cherish his memory are his parents, Randy and Sara Bakken; brothers, Eric and Dylan Bakken; maternal grandmother, Carol LeNoue; paternal grandparents, Marlow and Carolyn Bakken; godchild, Sadie Marie Schneider; and many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Sam was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Paul LeNoue, and uncle, Bill LeNoue.

*Celebrating* THE *Life* OF  
**SAMUEL “SAM” BAKKEN**



**Born:** April 27, 2001 • Breckenridge, Minnesota  
**Passed:** December 18, 2022 • Kent, Minnesota

**FUNERAL MASS**

St. Mary’s Catholic Church  
Breckenridge, Minnesota

1:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 27, 2022

**PARTICIPANTS**

Father Leo Moenedick, Officiant  
Father Joseph Backowski, Officiant  
Joni Biel, Musician  
Kayla Mohs, Vocalist

**PALLBEARERS**

Charlie Bolding • Hunter Feigum • Hunter Gowin  
Dylan Pearson • Justin Marsh • Jacob Marsh  
Max Johnson • Jake Wendorff

**HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

All of Sam’s Military Brothers & Sisters in Arms  
All of Sam’s Cousins • BHS Class of 2019

**CONGREGATIONAL MUSIC**

Here I Am, Lord • Silent Night • How Great Thou Art  
Precious Lord, Take My Hand • You Are Mine  
Song of Farewell • Lead Me, Lord

**RESPONSORIAL SONG**

*Alex Hendrickson & Emily Lelm, Vocalists*  
*Rick Hendrickson, Guitarist & Vocalist*

On Eagle’s Wings

**BURIAL AT A LATER DATE**

St. Thomas Catholic Cemetery  
Kent, Minnesota