

Brenna Elizabeth Grace Swanson was born November 25th, 1984, in Saint Paul, MN. When Brenna was four, she and her family moved to Alexandria, MN, where she later graduated from Jefferson Senior High. Brenna has lived in many places all over Minnesota and made friends wherever she went. While living in Barnesville, MN, Brenna met the love of her life, Brenton Melzer. In 2015, Brenna and Brenton made their home in Alexandria. The next year, Brenna was blessed with the second love of her life, her son Briggs Edward.

Brenna was an independent spirit and could handle just about any problem with grace under pressure. Empathetic, witty, and determined, she was unapologetically herself. Brenna was a versatile and dedicated employee whether she was selling tractor parts or managing a store. She was just as comfortable in her high heels as she was in her work boots. Her big heart, sense of humor, and beautiful smile were easy to love. She was a devoted mother, friend, sister, and daughter. If you were lucky enough to know her, you were truly blessed.

Brenna was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age 29. She managed her diagnosis like a boss, but on August 15th, 2020, her disease took a sudden turn and our strong and beloved Brenna passed away at age 35.

Brenna was preceded in death by her cherished grandpa Chester "Skip" Swanson, grandpa Gene Smith, and close cousin Linda Ziniel.

She is survived by her partner in life Brenton, her son Briggs, her mom (or as Brenna would say 'Maaaa') Lisa Swanson, dad (or as Brenna would say 'Yeddie') Ed Smith, siblings Aimee Thomas (Ryan), Jake Smith and Holly Smith, nephew Logan Thomas, niece Izzie Thomas, goddaughter Destiny Dukart, beloved grandma Janet "Mickey" Swanson, grandparents Chuck and Mary Johnson and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Remembering the Life Of



Brenna Swanson

1984 - 2020

In Loving Memory of
Brenna Swanson

November 25, 1984 † August 15, 2020

Funeral Service

Anderson Funeral Home
Alexandria, Minnesota
Friday, August 21, 2020
11:00 AM

Officiant

Deb Hadley

Honorary Pallbearers

Anissa Reid Kayla Nohre
Kim Weber Amber Ehnstrom

Pallbearers

Wade Bach Troy Sundgaard
Andy Ehnstrom Brad Swanson
Josh Wiczek Ryan Thomas

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
Alexandria, Minnesota

Arrangements

Anderson Funeral Home
Alexandria, Minnesota

**The loss is immeasurable but so is the love left
behind.**

You can cry and close your mind,
be empty and turn your back
or you can do what she'd want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.
- David Harkins

Sometimes an angel,
Sometimes a hell raiser,
Always a strong woman.
- r.h. sin

They whispered to her,
"You cannot withstand the storm".
She whispered back, "I am the storm".
- Anonymous

Even though death has torn us apart,
your love lives forever inside of my heart.
- C. A. Martine