



Kevin Dale Baldus

MAR 5, 1950 - FEB 5, 2017



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Kevin Dale Baldus, 66, died peacefully, surrounded by those he loved most in this world, on February 5, 2017. He was born on March 5, 1950, to Calvin and Verlabeth (Wills) Baldus. He graduated from Grand Haven High School in 1968, attended Central Michigan University, and graduated from Grand Valley State University. He worked on U of M research vessels Inland Seas and Roger R Simons all around the Great Lakes. He married Patti Conley in January 1975, and they moved to Grand Haven, then Spring Lake, where they raised their three boys. He was active in Boy Scouts, serving as Cub Master for Pack 3054, then Scoutmaster for Troop 14 for a number of years. He enjoyed many camping and adventure trips with the Scouts, and always held a special place in his heart for Troop 14. His career as Database Administrator at Herman Miller, Inc. spanned 36 years; he retired in 2014, after being recognized and awarded many times for his work. He loved to travel; he and Patti took road trips and vacations around the country, with favorite times being spent here in our own beautiful Michigan. After retirement, he enjoyed month-long stays in Mexico, Puerto Rico and Costa Rica, and always teased that he could live there, but "Patti couldn't move so far away from the grandchildren...." Favorite pastimes included cookouts with the whole family playing loudly in the pool, golf, and more golf, reading and more reading, and yoga. He was generous to the core, volunteering his time to many causes, including Habitat for Humanity, Family Promise of the Lakeshore, the People Center, and coordinating the take-out dinner component of the annual Community Thanksgiving Feast, to name a few. He took numerous trips to South Dakota, volunteering with Re-Member at Pine Ridge Lakota Sioux Reservation. He was a long-time member of C3 (formerly Christ Community Church-which was a reasonable compromise for a Baptist-Catholic marriage). He found spiritual joy and love in his beloved C3 family, living out its values on a daily basis. He lived his life with honesty and integrity, made friends wherever he went,



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and shared many a beer (sometimes his own home brew) and laugh with all. Of course, most of all, he loved his family. He wasn't afraid to hug his grown sons and tell them "I love you"; and he adored his talented, gorgeous, intelligent and lively grandchildren, who were, naturally, his greatest joy, and always brought pride and sparkles to his eyes. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Patti; sons, Jason (Karli), Joe (Emily), Jeff (Mary); 5 grandchildren, Karina and Jackson Baldus, Parker Baldus and Riley Wells, and Cohen Baldus, his "Birthday Buddy" who was born on Kevin's Birthday 2 years ago. He is also survived by his mother, Verlabeth Thomas; brothers, Gary (Pam) Raff, Hunter (Matt Rivas) Baldus, and Dion (Rachel) Baldus; sisters, Lori (Guy) Phipps, and Jode (Don) Taylor; sister-in-law, Pam (Craig) Barton, and brother-in-law, Richard Conley. He is also survived by Parker and Riley's mom, Anya Wells, numerous cousins, nieces and nephews, and dearest friends and neighbors, Dan and Diane Anderson. He was much loved and will be greatly missed by so many. His MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, February 11, 2017 at The Lee Chapel, 6291 S. Harvey St., 231-798-1100 with Rev. Bob Kleinheksel officiating. VISITATION with his family will be one hour prior to his service. MEMORIALS in Kevin's memory may be made to C3, Habitat for Humanity, Re-Member, ANSWER, or Jaguar Rescue Center, Costa Rica.



Events

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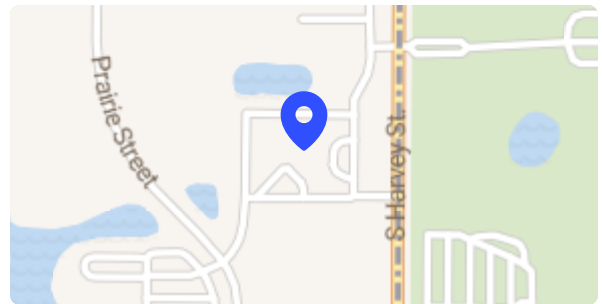
Visitation

 **Saturday**, February 11, 2017

 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET


 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



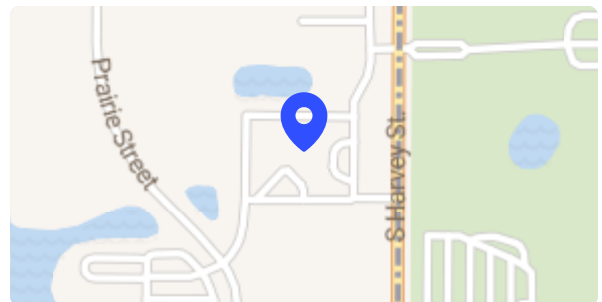
Memorial Service

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Tribute Wall

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JB

Jim Boeve posted:

Thinking of all of you Baldus Family, great memories!

March 10 at 3:50 PM

DF

Dave & Ann Fortenbacher posted:

Our thoughts & prayers go out to Patti & her family in their time of grief. May God's healing love surround you all & bring you peace.

February 14 at 9:57 AM

AD

Ann Wills Diel posted:

The last time I saw cousin Kevin was the summer of '64 when my family took our every 5-yr trek from California to Michigan to see my parent's family and spend time in Grand Haven on the lake. I will always have the scar on my knee to remember Kevin by (funny story), and it sounds like he grew into a wonderful man that was loved and appreciated by many. My condolences go out to his family and love to my Aunt Verla. Ann Wills Diel

February 14 at 7:21 AM

WB

Wayne Brower posted:

My sympathy to Kevin's family, he will be missed. May the Holy Spirit comfort you today and the days ahead. I trust you will cherish many fond memories of Kevin. Having worked with Kevin for his entire career at HMI, I found Kevin to be dedicated, thoughtful, very intelligent, creative, caring, practical. Kevin's compassion drew him to volunteer for those less fortunate. The world is a better place because of Kevin. Wayne A. Brower

February 11 at 5:32 AM

JR

Jane Ruiter lit a candle in honor of Kevin.

Kevin - a fine, fine man. He is remembered for his goodness. Jane Ruiter and Jim Stariha

February 11 at 2:19 AM





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Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Baldus family.



February 10 at 4:50 PM



Deb Hecht posted:

From our days at CCC and with the Boy Scouts....I will miss this wonderful, caring man! My sympathies to the family. Debra Yonker-Hecht

February 9 at 2:21 PM



Adam Korytko posted:

A permanent twinkle in his eyes and a smile on his lips, we have lost a truly wonderful man. Big hugs to Patti and family

February 9 at 6:00 AM



Michele Shagena posted:

The first time I saw Uncle Kevin, he was helping himself to a cold beer from Gramma Conley's refrigerator. I knew he was "the one" because Aunt Patti laughed so much and seemed to have so much fun when he was around. Aunt Patti was pretty choosy about boyfriends so we knew he was special. Uncle Kevin always had a big smile and a twinkle in his eye whenever we spent time with him. We will dearly miss him but know that he leaves a little part of himself in Jason, Joe, and Jeff and their families. Love you Aunt Patti! Michele and Marv ShagenaPort Huron, Michigan

February 9 at 3:32 AM



Tim Winslow posted:

Mr. Baldus, as I called him back in the day, was a great scoutmaster. We were a bit of a rambunctious troop and not easy to keep in order. Mr. Baldus did a great job leading us and we had a great time in scouting because of him. We definitely owe him a debt of gratitude for being a great scoutmaster. I really appreciated all he did for us as a scoutmaster. He will be missed for sure.

February 8 at 5:51 PM



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MR

Milton Redick posted:

PattiHe lived the Scout Oath, " On my honor.....to help other people at all times" He was a great example of a real man will miss his friendly smileMilt

February 8 at 12:54 PM

KM

Kevin Mccarthy posted:

Miss Jode, Mr. Don, Lori and Hunter, I didn't know your brother but wanted you to know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. Kevin McCarhy

February 8 at 8:33 AM

KH

Kellie (Podehl) Hardenbergh posted:

Mr. Baldus was always such an enthusiastic supporter of his boy's activities. I can't recall a band concert, parade, or sporting event that didn't have his smiling face in the crowd. Thank you for your beautiful example of what it means to be a "family man".

February 8 at 7:56 AM

KB

Karli Baldus February 9 at 12:23 PM

So sweet. Thanks Kellie.

PT

Patti And Jim Townsend posted:

We are in Punta Uva Costa Rica right now, where we spent a lot of precious time with Kevin & Patti. We walked the beach and rain forest looking for monkeys, played friendly bridge, kayaked, went out to dinner, and attended the infamous annual Dan the Man party together. We will miss the Memorial, but we will have our own private ceremony for him at the same time on Playa Punta Uva.Patti and Jim Townsend. Whitehall MI

February 8 at 6:02 AM

KB

Karli Baldus February 9 at 12:23 PM

What a blessing you continue to be Patti. That means so much to the family. Thank you!!



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DL

David Lewis posted:

Sending the Baldus family love and light as they grieve the loss of Kevin. When I think of Kevin I think of a gentle and caring man who sported a striking pony tail and loved his peanut butter. David Lewis

February 8 at 5:11 AM

LK

Lora Kelemen posted:

Worked with Kevin at Herman Miller. Years ago there were the golf outings, the pig roasts, the "olympics" where Kevin won the chair race. He had a great sense of humor. Will miss him at the Skiles pizza lunches. Lora Kelemen

February 8 at 1:51 AM

GP

Guy Phipps February 8 at 6:41 AM

What a honor to have Kevin as my brother I law Guy Phipps

KM

Kathi Mccorkle posted:

We didn't live close to Aunt Patti and Uncle Kevin, but they did visit us on trips to Las Vegas and Savannah when we lived there. I remember Kevin as always smiling and always mellow. Sad I missed the ponytail phase though! ❤️❤️ I continue to pray that Aunt Patti and my cousins and their children, and the rest of Kevin's family find comfort in his memory. May he rest in peace where there is no more pain and sorrow.

February 8 at 1:44 AM

BP

Becky Park posted:

When I think of Kevin, I think of his smile, the twinkle in his eyes, and his love for his family. He was a constant giver and helper, proud husband, dad and granddad. He had a huge heart and a gentle presence. He may not have known he was a teacher, but taught us all by example. He will be missed by all who knew him.

February 7 at 4:56 PM



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LN

Leslie Newman posted:

I remember Kevin's gentle way of being, and first knowing him with a cool braided ponytail. A dear man, greatly missed by the whole C3 Community and by me, Leslie Newman.

February 7 at 4:38 PM

LH

Lisa Hertz posted:

The last time I saw Kevin was at a Red House Concert. I remember saying to my husband, I see Kevin, I need to give him a hug. He was going through chemo, but was so positive. I hugged him tightly and admired how joyful he was to everyone. I hope you know Baldus Family that we loved this special, bright, & giving man. Because I knew him my life will forever be blessed.

February 7 at 4:04 PM

JF

Jim Fischer posted:

Kevin will be missed by the Fischer Family a great deal. He was an extremely kind man that I was always happy to spend time speaking with at get togethers. He shared the love of home brewing which we spoke about often and was generous enough to gift me with an abundance of equipment that I use to this day. Condolences to all of his friends and family, we are deeply saddened and share in your loss.

February 7 at 3:22 PM

LB

Linda L. Bengston posted:

Kevin, the world lost a bit of wonder when you left this dimension. Sail on in joy and peace. LLB

February 7 at 1:42 PM

KA

Kathy Alles posted:

My love to Patti and the family. Also...many memories of CCC and especially going together to Re-Member trips. Such a strong gentle man who was loved by all of those he met! He will surely be missed.

February 7 at 1:30 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Kevin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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