



Brendan Michael Olszewski

February 10, 1969 - April 27, 2019

Brendan Michael Olszewski of Orono, Minn., died Saturday, April 27, 2019, after battling kidney cancer for more than 4 years. He was 50.

He was born Feb. 10, 1969, in Kankakee, Ill., to Robert and Susan Olszewski.

He graduated from Kankakee High School in 1987, and earned a Bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University and a masters degree from Governor's State University. He spent nearly three decades working in radio, including as Operations Manager at Staradio in Kankakee, and later in roles with Newsweb Radio in Illinois and CBS Radio in Minneapolis. He also spent several years as a photographer and sports reporter for the Herald/Country Market in Bourbonnais, Ill., and as a sales consultant for Midwest Premier Publications in Minneapolis.

He married Denise Renckens on Oct. 6, 2007, at St. Patrick Church in Kankakee.

Brendan was a devoted husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend. He would do anything for those he loved and will be remembered for his wonderful sense of humor. In addition to spending time with family and friends, he enjoyed grilling pork product, golfing, boating and hockey. He coached the Kankakee area high school hockey team for several years.

He is survived by his wife; two children, Grady and Madeline at home; his mother, Susan (Toby) of Kankakee, Ill.; brother Robert Jr. of Bourbonnais, Ill., sister Susan and Thomas Kinard of Blue Island, Ill.; brother Jonathan and Taryn (Irps) of Clifton, Ill., brother Matthew and Patricia (Wheeler) of Kankakee, Ill., sister Katherine and John Robbins, of Manteno, Ill.; mother-in-law Debra Renckens, brother-in-law Richard and Jacqueline Renckens, sister-in-law Elizabeth and Dale Lipovski, and sister-in-law Cathleen Renckens, all of Maple Grove, Minn.; brother-in-law Michael Renckens of Becker, Minn.; sister-in-law Stephanie and Brent Ferguson of Duluth, Minn.; as well as 17 nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Robert Sr., and nephew Maxwell Robbins.

In Minnesota, visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 1, at David Lee Funeral Home in Wayzata, and from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday, May 2, at St. Bartholomew Church in Wayzata. A memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Bartholomew.

In Illinois, visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 7, at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. A memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, May 8, at St. Patrick Church in Kankakee.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Kankakee Youth Hockey Club, the Mound Westonka Hockey Association or a charity of the donor's choice.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

MAY 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Mass

MAY 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
428 S. Indiana
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-6716

Tribute Wall

KJ

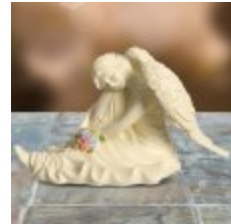
“ Kerry St John-LeSage lit a candle in memory of Brendan Michael Olszewski



Kerry St John-LeSage - June 13, 2019 at 11:20 AM



“ Platinum - Serene Angel was purchased for the family of Brendan Michael Olszewski.



May 08, 2019 at 11:08 AM

JS

“ My deepest sympathies to the Olszewski Families. Brendan will always be remembered as smart, funny, & forever a part of my childhood memories. Jeff C. Satterwhite



Jeff C. Satterwhite - May 07, 2019 at 02:14 PM

ST

“ Stephanie lit a candle in memory of Brendan Michael Olszewski



Stephanie - May 06, 2019 at 11:15 PM

ST

“ To the Olszewski family ! Brendan will always be remembered his smile would light up the sky I remembered in grade school how him and Andy Pandy Whéeler were close and I would make them give me the answers to every test we took Andy always thought he was smarter than Brendan , I realized that wasn't true when the grade came back Brendan scores were higher sorry Andy !! but on a different note Brendan was kind respectful and loving the whole Olszweski family Kate , Sue I will never forget I would call your brother Brandan instead of getting upset he would smile I can go on !! I will cherish all the memories that I have, Brendad this is Stephanie Henry and brother Howard we both live in Minneapolis ,Mn been here over 20 plus years we missed class reunions and lost contact but rest peacefully till we meet again

Stephanie - May 06, 2019 at 11:09 PM

AM

“ What a great man to lose, so sorry for your loss. Marilyn Martino and Amy Martino-Hoots



Amy Martino-Hoots - May 04, 2019 at 07:24 PM

CH

“ Matt, I am so sorry for the loss of your brother. Mike and I both understand your pain, with me losing my sister and his brother just passing from cancer last month. You have our love, prayers and sympathy.

Michael and Cheryl Smith Hess

Cheryl J Hess - May 02, 2019 at 03:45 PM



“ *Karen Naberezny Holderman lit a candle in memory of Brendan Michael Olszewski*



Karen Naberezny Holderman - May 02, 2019 at 02:53 PM



“ *Use to listen to him on the radio all the time. He was the best*



Sharon Brown - May 02, 2019 at 12:44 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to Tobey and her entire family on their loss.*

Jim Puswaskis - May 02, 2019 at 12:33 PM



“ *Brendan was such a great guy!! Our prayers to his family as they grieve for this incredible loss. May the shared memories bring smiles and some laughter and make your spirit lighter knowing that he is living the good life now. I am sure he will remain close in many hearts until everyone is together again. God always takes the truly good ones sooner than we would ever want to happen, and He has gained another warrior for sure. Rest in peace Brendan.*

Rose Devine Mitchell - May 02, 2019 at 11:12 AM

GK

“ I worked with Brendan at Star Radio for many years. He was bright , intelligent, funny, and an around great guy. My prayers are with his family

Glendal Kilbride - May 01, 2019 at 08:27 PM



Toby, i am so sorry for your loss. To me you were always courageous and strong...find that strength now. Know that even old friends from miles away are keeping you in our prayers.

Kaye Wallace - May 10, 2019 at 07:16 PM