



Mark William Childs

July 7, 1958 - November 10, 2021

Mark William Childs, 63, of McPherson, Kansas, passed away at 6 a.m., Wednesday, November 10th, suddenly, at his home.

Mark, son of Robert Dallas and Alice Irene (Hackler) Childs was born July 7, 1958 in Hutchinson, Kansas. He was the youngest of five children born to this union, four sons and one daughter, David, Patricia, Galen, Craig, and Mark.

Mark attended Fairfield grade school and graduated from Fairfield High School, Fairfield, Kansas in 1976.

He was a member of Church of Christ Sylvania, Kansas.

Mark William Childs was united in marriage to Charlene Sue Zerger on February 3, 1990 at Kingman, Kansas. The young couple established their first home together in Hutchinson, Kansas. This twelve year union was blessed with the birth of three children, two daughters and a son, Chelsea, Claire, and Connor.

Mark was a 3rd generation milk hauler and owner and operator of Childs Liquid Transports of Central Kansas. He went on to work for EATON of Hutchinson, Kansas where he was a CNC Machinist before finishing his career at Pfizer in McPherson, Kansas.

Mark enjoyed participating in 4-H while growing up and he took pride in developing his lawn mowing business as a young man. Working with his hands, telling funny stories, and watching movies made him happy. Mark loved being with his children and was particularly close with his daughter Claire. Hearing stories about and seeing pictures of his grandpets also brought him great joy.

He is survived by his children, Chelsea Childs wife of William Sibley II, of Norman, Oklahoma, Claire Childs, of Kansas, and Connor Childs, of Wichita, Kansas; his mother, Alice Childs, of Plevna, Kansas; his siblings, David Childs, of San Diego, California, Galen

Childs and wife Cindy, of Abbyville, Kansas, Craig Childs and wife Carla, of Abbyville, Kansas, and Patricia Schmidtberger and husband Neal, of Hutchinson, Kansas; his grandpets; other relatives and a host of friends.

Mark was preceded in death by his father, Robert Childs.

Private family service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Mark W. Childs memorial fund and they can be sent to Glidden-Ediger Funeral Home; 222 W. Euclid St., McPherson, Ks. 67460.

Comments



“ Dad's private service was on Saturday, November 20, 2021. We wanted our memories here for others to read and to thank everyone for your support and love for our family.

Sincerely,
Chelsea, Claire & Connor

— Chelsea —

My earliest memory of my father's joy was coming home from morning kindergarten and seeing him smiling on the front porch. As the school bus drove away he hollered, "Sweetie, you wanna go out on the milk route with Daddy?" I'll never forget the pure glee I felt as I clamored up into the tall seat of his semi-truck. He started the engine and I braced for that first jolt of the gears changing. Dad knew my mission at every dairy farm was finding kittens, cats and baby calves. As I got older and learned more, he'd let me climb up the barn tank to collect the milk sample that he needed for the dairy plant. I never have liked drinking milk that much, but I will never forget my Dad's tight hugs and the thick aroma of sour milk and truck grease.

— Claire —

When we were all little, Dad loved tickle wars. His right hand, or "the Claw" was ruthless. He would get home after being gone for days on a milk route and together, me and my siblings would ambush him. Dad was so strong he would always win. If we had started it, he would not yield until we nearly pee'd our pants. We didn't like losing and he thought that was even more funny.

In my teens, Dad and Grandma would often watch TV together. Dad sat in Grandpa Bob's old lazy boy and Grandma Alice would sit in her rocking chair. Whenever Dad thought something was funny he would belly laugh. Grandma would get so tickled by Dad's belly laugh that she would start belly laughing, too, and then they would belly laugh together. Hearing their laughter is the most beautiful sound I've ever heard.

Last year, I was visiting Dad and he surprised me with coffee and sour cream donut holes for us to enjoy together. This was a special moment because we were able to, with complete clarity, have a long conversation and tell stories over coffee and donuts. I'm grateful he gave me that evening to hold on to for the rest of my days.

Four nights before his passing, I went to Dad's house late and I was very tired. I ended up sleeping in my designated chair at his apartment, something I never did. I didn't know at the time how grateful I would be to have seen him that night. I am thankful I was able to give him a hug and tell him I loved him, and to hear him say "I love you too, sweetie."

Dad, I am so grateful for the unwavering love and support you have provided me from day one. You taught me a lot over the years, but the principles that I am most grateful to have learned from you are compassion, empathy, and unconditional love. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for everything. I love you, Dad, no matter what.

— Connor —

One of my most cherished memories of my father will always be the way I felt when he hugged me. His hugs were always genuine and never felt forced. With his arms around me, he would scratch my back, which inevitably, would make for an extra long hug.

(He knew I loved my back scratched.)

Once the scratches slowed down he would usually kiss me on the cheek. His bristles scraping my skin would always make me scrunch my face. I'll remember that feeling for the rest of my life. After every hug he always said, "I love you."

Dad, I just want you to know that we all love you, too. And I promise I'll stay as genuine as your hugs have always been.

Chelsea Childs - November 21, 2021 at 10:15 AM



“ Families of Rick, Deb, Dorolyn and Jeff purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mark William Childs.



Families of Rick, Deb, Dorolyn and Jeff - November 19, 2021 at 02:37 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mark William Childs.



November 18, 2021 at 03:30 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mark William Childs.



November 18, 2021 at 11:34 AM



“ SafetySkills purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mark William Childs.



SafetySkills - November 17, 2021 at 10:27 AM



“ Deb Childs lit a candle in memory of Mark William Childs



Deb Childs - November 16, 2021 at 09:06 PM



“ Dorolyn is right, at all the family reunions, I remember Mark as being the kid who ran around laughing all the time. Steve and I send our sympathies.

Deb Childs - November 16, 2021 at 09:07 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mark William Childs.



November 16, 2021 at 11:16 AM



“ Jeanie Smith lit a candle in memory of Mark William Childs



Jeanie Smith - November 16, 2021 at 09:55 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. While I have not been in touch for a while, I do remember Mark's laugh and smiles at the family get togethers. They were a delight.



Dorolyn Childs Groshens - November 14, 2021 at 01:00 PM