



Bruce Alan Wagner

August 3, 2022

Bruce Alan Wagner, 74, formally of Brodhead, WI, passed away peacefully on August 3, 2022 while at his home surrounded by his family. Bruce was born on October 18, to Arthur and Elsie (Beckman) Wagner. Bruce graduated high school in Monroe, WI, in 1965 and from La Crosse University in La Crosse, WI in 1970. He received a bachelor's in Physical Education and mathematics. It was in La Crosse where Bruce met the love of his life, Mary "Jo" Luedtke

Bruce and Jo were married on June 26, 1971 in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. They lived in La Farge where Bruce taught until 1975. In 1975 Bruce and Jo moved to Brodhead where Bruce taught in Orfordville and then started his first business, Wagner Builders and later Home Specialists. Bruce was a skilled carpenter and built the home that Bruce and Jo lived in until 2019. He enjoyed working in his workshop and on his lathe, being outside on the lake and in the woods, watching the Brewers, traveling adventures and spending winters with Jo in Florida. He loved spending time with family, especially with his 4 grandchildren. Bruce made friends easily and the many friendships he had were a treasured blessing. Bruce was a strong Christian who loved life and was always full of optimism. He was a patient, generous, kind, loving soul who believed in living his DASH to the fullest.

Bruce is survived by Jo, his wife of more than 51 years; daughters: Jenna (Tom) Tasto; and Dana (Griffin) Prochnow. Also surviving are four

grandchildren: Landyn, Harrison, Merrick and Maizy; brother, Curt (Gretchen); sister, Karen (Dave); sister-n-law, Linda; and several nieces and nephews.

Bruce is preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Elsie; father-n-law and mother-n-law, Merlin and June; brother-n-law Ronald Saeger; and nephew, Ben Wagner.

A private service for the family was held on Thursday, August 3, 2022. A celebration of life service for Bruce will be held on Thursday, August 18 at 11am, visitation starting at 10am, with a luncheon following, at the United Congregational Church in Brodhead, Wisconsin.

In lieu of flowers, any donations received will be sent to Mayo Clinic Hospice in La Crosse, WI and Second Harvest Food Bank of Madison.

THE DASH by Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of a friend.

He referred to the dates on the tombstone

from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth
and spoke the following date with tears,
but he said what mattered most of all

was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time

that they spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved them

know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own:
the cars...the house...the cash.

What matters is how we live and love

and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard;
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left

that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
to consider what's true and real
and always try to understand

the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger
and show appreciation more
and love the people in our lives

like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect

and more often wear a smile,
remembering this special dash

might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read,
with your life's actions to rehash...
would you be proud of the things they say

about how you spent YOUR dash?

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **18**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

UCC Congregational Church
E201 23rd Street
Brodhead , WI 53520

Celebration of Life

AUG **18**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

UCC Congregational Church
E201 23rd Street
Brodhead , WI 53520

Tribute Wall

JC

“ *jo and family,so so sorry for your loss of Bruce. individually together we shared many meroies over the decades. He will be missed and remembered by so many for so long. He was one of the good ones.*
Jeff Condon

jeff condon - August 18, 2022 at 12:45 PM

JR

“ *Our heartfelt condolences to your family. May Bruce's spirit soar to heaven and his memory be eternal. Julio and Marissa Rodriguez*



Julio and Marissa Rodriguez - August 17, 2022 at 04:19 PM

JS

“ *Joe and Susie purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Bruce Alan Wagner.*



Joe and Susie - August 16, 2022 at 07:47 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bruce Alan Wagner.*



August 16, 2022 at 12:18 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bruce Alan Wagner.*



August 16, 2022 at 01:05 AM



“ *Dear Jo & Family, We are so very sorry that you have lost your wonderful Bruce. He was a very special man who was such a Blessing as he shared his faith with such confidence. We will never forget his words when we shared regarding cancer and he immediately stated Boldly, " YOU WIN EITHER WAY!" He has entered into the presence of his dear Savior and Lord. Praying for your Peace and the ever present comfort of the Holy Spirit as you go forward with Bruce alive in your hearts and memories, till you meet again. With Sincere Prayers, Wendy & George Penner-Canada*

Wendy Penner - August 15, 2022 at 05:35 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bruce Alan Wagner.*



August 14, 2022 at 10:02 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Bruce Alan Wagner.*



August 14, 2022 at 09:23 AM



“ *Chris And Carmen Albright lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner*



Chris and Carmen Albright - August 10, 2022 at 10:00 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Bruce Alan Wagner.*



August 10, 2022 at 09:32 AM



“ *A very kind, thoughtful, and willing too help when needed. We will truly miss him. Bob and Connie Palmer*



Connie Palmer - August 10, 2022 at 09:16 AM

DF

“ Doug And Kathy Foslin lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner



Doug and Kathy Foslin - August 09, 2022 at 09:54 AM

DF

Bruce was many things to many of us..to us he was our friend and a wonderful church member. He was more of a doer than a talker. But he was good at both. He will be missed by many of us. God bless to all of his family.
Doug and Kathy Foslin

Doug and Kathy Foslin - August 09, 2022 at 10:36 AM

AB

“ Amanda Braun lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner



Amanda Braun - August 08, 2022 at 02:29 PM

LL

“ Leann Looze lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner



Leann Looze - August 08, 2022 at 10:13 AM

GM

“ *Mr. Wagner was my phy ed teacher in LaFarge. All the girls in elementary school loved him and thought he was "so cute." My sympathy to the family for his loss.*

Gena Evans Muller - August 08, 2022 at 08:54 AM

TH

“ *So sorry to hear about Bruce! I have fond memories of boating at your house when I was young and more recently the lunch date we shared to talk about traveling in Europe. I love the poem about living the DASH well, Bruce did that! May all your good memories get you through the tough times. Hugs to Jo, Jenna, Dana and family.*

Thea - August 07, 2022 at 05:06 PM

JK

“ *Judy And Virgil Keller lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner*



Judy and Virgil Keller - August 07, 2022 at 04:44 PM

AO

“ *Allen And Olson Olson lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner*



Allen and Olson Olson - August 07, 2022 at 11:29 AM

DW

“ Don And Brenda Wahl lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner



Don and Brenda Wahl - August 07, 2022 at 08:38 AM

DB

“ Bruce was at my house immediately to build a ramp at our house for my Bob when he was sick. When Bob passed on August 3, 2009, Bruce and Jo were there whenever I needed something while I was getting myself adjusted to running my house alone. I was so grateful because they were a huge part in me getting through that first year. A strong Christian man who showed that christianity in those quiet good deeds that he did for the people around him.

Diane Bergman

Diane Bergman - August 05, 2022 at 11:46 PM

JH

“ Bruce was a special person with many talents that he shared so willingly. He mentor many people as they began to work with wood and wood turning. He and Jo were certainly leaders at the Sarasota Bay RV Park in Florida. We consider them our special friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jo and the family. Jane & Wayne Hasek

Jane & Wayne Hasek - August 05, 2022 at 10:53 PM

LC

Bruce was my brother-in-law but I'd say he was my brother. There aren't enough words to describe him. He lived his dash well, and I'm sure when he walked thru the Pearly Gates, God said, We'll done good and faithful servant.

I am going to miss him so much but will keep the memories forever close to my heart. To my sister, Mary Jo, nieces, Jenna and Dana and their families, my heart hurts and cries for all of you. You had a wonder Man in your lives and we're very blessed.

linda campbell - August 07, 2022 at 11:53 AM



“ *I am so sorry to hear about Brue's passing. We always enjoyed being around Jo and Bruce. You are two of the most positive people we have ever met! I remember when we first started going to the UCC church and had the church campout. You helped us to feel welcome and we had fond memories of that trip. It was always nice to see you and visit in church. Praying for peace for the whole family. God Bless*

Lori Sutherland

Lori McKeegan Sutherland - August 05, 2022 at 09:56 PM

AL

“ *Jo and family, We were so sorry to hear about Bruce and all you have been going through. You have been in our thoughts and prayers. Paul and I were talking about the fun memories we had going out to your place in the summer with the kids and the good times we had with you and all your guests. Bruce's 50th Birthday Party with the Scottish bagpiper was definitely memorable. You two always had fun things to talk about and do. You guys always made us laugh. We were so glad we got to know you. Bruce's DASH was certainly full of love and life. See you on the 18th. Hugs and Love, Ann and Paul*

Ann Lewis - August 05, 2022 at 05:42 PM

DW

“ *Dean And Nancy Walters lit a candle in memory of Bruce Alan Wagner*



Dean and Nancy Walters - August 05, 2022 at 04:00 PM