



## Drew L. Bontrager

July 15, 1955 - January 31, 2017

Drew L. Bontrager, 61, lifelong resident of Kalkaska, passed away on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 surrounded by his loved ones after a courageous battle with cancer. Born on July 15, 1955 in Kalkaska, his parents Willard and Millie (Gascho) Bontrager. Drew worked at Kalkaska Schools driving bus and doing maintenance. He also had an appliance repair business. Drew married Michelle Boudreault on January 21, 2012 in Mancelona. He enjoyed traveling and being with family and friends. Drew is a member of Coldsprings Christian Fellowship and was very involved in the church ministry and leadership for many years. Survivors include, Michelle, his wife; sons, Ryan L. Bontrager, Justin A. Bontrager, both of Traverse City; step-children, Sasha Lynn (Ryan) Baxter and Kristen (Julius) Watt of Pincourt, Canada; grandchildren, Quinn, Wyatt and Owen Baxter; his parents, Willard and Millie Bontrager of Mancelona; his brothers, Lamarr Bontrager of Mancelona, Brent (Diana) Bontrager of Kalkaska, his twin, Dwen (Ruth) Bontrager of Kalkaska and Gary (Pati) Bontrager of Mancelona. Drew was preceded in death by his first wife, Lois Marlene Troyer in 2008. Visitation will be on Thursday, Feb 2nd from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm at Coldsprings Christian Fellowship. Funeral services will be on Friday at 11:00 am at the church with his brother Brent Bontrager officiating. Burial will be in the spring. Memorials may be given to Coldsprings Christian Fellowship. Online condolences can be made at [wolfeoneill.com](http://wolfeoneill.com) Arrangements were made by Wolfe-O'Neill Funeral Home, our family serving yours. There is a go fund me account at the following address: h

<https://www.gofundme.com/drew-bontrager-funeral-cost>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Drew L. Bontrager*

January 30, 2023 at 04:02 AM



“ *Drew L. Bontrager*

January 30, 2023 at 01:03 AM



“ *It is with deep sadness that we hear of Drew's passing. He will be missed and thoughts and prayers go out to all of Drew's family.*

**Hank** - February 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Drew was our "go to" person for appliance repairs. When you described what it was doing on the phone he knew immediately what was wrong. He managed to keep some of our appliances running for years even after I had given up. Honest and knowledgeable. He will be missed. Kind thoughts surround you all.*

**Denise Plakmeyer** - February 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ One of the two greatest guys in the world was born five days after me in the same year. We went all the way through school together and had fun. But, one of my friends, Drew L. Bontrager, left the physical world and is on to new and better things. I only have great memories of our friendship and am so happy that Drew was my friend. He will be greatly missed but is with our Lord now. The Lord makes a home for us in Heaven and Drew has taken his place with Him. I want to express my sincere thanks to Drew for his friendship, humor, and genuine caring for others. He will be missed. I do hope that there is golf in Heaven. The last time I saw him Drew, Dwen, myself, and an additional Bontrager played 18 holes of golf. Either Drew was pretty bad at the sport or he let me win. Knowing his personality and kindness, he let me win. I will miss you my friend.

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**Mark DeRosia** - February 04, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ My condolences to the Bontrager family. I remember Drew well from high school years when we attended summer church camp together. I pray the grace and love of God and the support of family and friends will bear you all through this time of loss.

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**Joetta Schlabach** - February 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ I am very sorry to hear about Drew's passing he was a great friend and co-worker that I enjoyed hanging out with. He will be missed by many. Drew was a great man and fun to be around I wished I could make it to the funeral but I unable to make the trip from Tennessee but my prayers and thoughts will be with the family God bless.

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**David Tracey** - February 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ So saddened to hear of Drew's passing. Prayers for the family, but I get excited when I think of where he now resides! See you soon friend!

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**Michael Taulbee** - February 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ We will always hold Drew dear in our hearts. He was a great friend and co-sponsor with Michelle in our RTF sessions. Our prayers are with all his family members and loved ones.

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**Larry** - February 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ I am sorry to hear of Drew's death. I knew Drew when he was a teenager and would travel with his brothers to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to visit, attend camp, and be silly. The small group of us in the UP grew fond of them and it was always something to look forward to when the Bontrager Boys were driving up from Kalkaska. I have not seen Drew since I was 18 and left Michigan and the ice and cold and snow permanently. As I peruse the notes left here and Drew's Facebook page, I see he remained as I knew him in his youth--kind, funny with a sarcastic edge, friendly to all, and youthful. :) Always youthful. I want to express my condolences to Drew's family and especially to Dwen. I am happy for you [as I Facebook stalked you] that the two of you remained such good friends and maintained the competitive spirit you had when you were young. You are all in my thoughts.

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**Rita Handrich** - February 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Ryan, Kristen and family, I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your dad (stepdad). Know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all in this time.

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**Jennifer Bunker** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Drew will be missed. I always enjoyed his company, and his humor. My love and prayers go out to all of his family.

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**Mark Meadows** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the whole Bontrager family. I had only met Drew a couple of times but I know he was a Godly man strong in his faith who would do anything for anyone. Just as all the Bontragers would. This family is a large close knit family who I know will get through this together. My heart broke when Monica told me about his cancer just a couple weeks ago. God bless all of you. Take comfort in knowing he now walks with Jesus and he is free of all pain and sickness. Love you all!

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**Heather Sexton** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Sending out prayers for my second family. Drew, we love you and will miss you.

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**Thomas Rondo** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I am so sad to hear of Drew's passing. He was my son's first bus driver. He was so young, only three, getting on the bus at 630 for the ride into Traverse City to be in an AI pre-school classroom at Cherry Knoll. I was a mess putting my baby on that bus the first day even though he had an aide. Drew must have seen it and before he closed the door, he smiled and told me not to worry, that they would get him there and back home safely. I had the pleasure of working with Drew at KPS when I volunteered at Birch Street Elementary. He and Dwen were always so much help and really knew their jobs. They were fun to be around, too. I send peace and love to all who loved him.

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**Debbie Ball** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you all

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**Patty Golden** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ My prayers are with all the family. We went to school together and Drew's humor will always be a fond memory for me.

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**Sandy Miessner** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ As the days and weeks pass, and as you return to life's routine, may you continue to feel comforted by the love and support of family and friends.

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**Tina and Ivan Watkins** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ I will always remember working with Drew when I drove bus, he was a great guy to talk to and a great sense of humor. May he rest in peace.

Shirley Webber - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ I will miss him he was my favorite appliance repairman. Worked many years with him driving bus, rest in peace my friend

Jane Rowell - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ Drew L. Bontrager

Al Jordan - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ My deepest sympathies to Michelle and all the family. A special hug from Drew I'll never forget. A gentle, loving, fun soul. Made my friend so happy. I will always be grateful for that. So sad but knowing one day we will all shout the victory and be together keeps us down here going and filled with hope.

Helen Colantonio - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Drew was a strong man of faith and I am honored to have known him. When we first arrived at Coldsprings Christian Fellowship Drew and Michelle made it a point to reach out and get to know my husband and I better. Being new to Kalkaska and not knowing many people he was one of the first people I really got to know at my new church, and that was by his doing. I'm saddened we were never able to take that mission trip or cruise with him and Michelle. Of course I'll never forget the overheard conversations with my husband, all his ideas about marriage and the "men's group". It's been an honor to fight the good fight alongside Drew, watching his courage, strength and faith as he battled cancer. He will be greatly missed.

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**Jennifer** - February 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ I am saddened to hear of Drew's passing. He was such a compassionate person with a smile always. What a great sense of humor too. It was a pleasure to work with him at KPS. God Bless you Drew.

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**Barb Poli** - February 01, 2017 at 12:00 AM