



Ben Brende

September 16, 1994 - February 28, 2011

Ben Brende, 16, died Monday, February 28, 2011 surrounded by his parents and sisters at the Sanford Children's Hospital, Sioux Falls, South Dakota from complications of Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy, specifically pneumonia and influenza. Benjamin Douglas Brende was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on September 16, 1994, the son of Doug and Jackie (Hurley) Brende. He attended preschool in Lennox, elementary school in Worthing, middle school in Lennox and was currently a sophomore at Lennox High School. Ben was a member of St. Magdalen's Catholic Church, Lennox. He loved attending MDA Camp and participating in Special Olympics. He was a huge sports fan of the L.A. Lakers and Minnesota Vikings. He enjoyed watching his sisters play sports and had strong feelings about bad calls made by the refs. Playstation was where he became part of the game. He took wins or loses in football or basketball with friends very seriously. Ben was not the type of person to cry or show self pity over the things he could not do, but rejoiced in all the things he could do. Ben was the master of high speed wheelchair operation. He enjoyed monster trucks, the Dukes of Hazzard and America's Funniest Home Videos. He loved and was truly loved by his family. Ben was preceded in death two grandfathers, Leon Brende and Jack Hurley and special uncle, Sev Brende. Grateful for having shared his life are his devoted and loving parents, Doug and Jackie Brende, Worthing and "the best sisters ever" Elizabeth and Becca Brende, both of Worthing; grandmothers: Carol Brende and Marge Hurley both of Sioux Falls; aunts/uncles: Daryl (Jayne) Brende, Lincoln, NE, Kris

Brende, Sioux Falls, Doug (Judy) Holden, Sioux Falls, Judy Hoganson, Moorhead, MN, Sherry (Al) Lance, Culpepper, VA, Greg (MaryAnn) Holden, Sioux City, IA and Tracey (Bob) Domangue, Sioux Falls; Godparents: Colleen & Scott Elcocl, Sioux Falls and Dorinda & Dan Magnus, Lincoln, NE as well as a host of cousins, other relatives and friends. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 5 at the Lennox High School Gym with burial to follow at St. Edward's Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 2:00 p.m. Friday at St. Magdalen's Catholic Church, Lennox with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Dindot-Klusmann Funeral Home, Lennox is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

CW

“ I have a message for this beautiful young mans grandma, Carol Brende. I am so sorry for your loss. I have been looking for you for a lot of years, ever since we worked at Risk Administration. Please would someone pass on the word to her. I live in Luverne right now while our Beaver Creek house is being fixed up. I receive text messages at 605-397-3589. I would really like to hear from her, I really miss her.

CAROL K WINTER - March 26, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ My heart goes out to all of you! Ben was so loved and leaves a huge hole in your lives. May you all take comfort in knowing that he is with both his grandfathers and that he will continue to live in your hearts.
Even though Ben and I met only once, it was apparent that he was a very special person. You will all be remembered in my prayers.
Love, Janet

Janet White - March 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Doug, Jackie and family,
I am so sorry for your loss.
Love,
Jill (Hazel) Monfiletto

Jill Monfiletto - March 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Doug, Jackie, Elizabeth and Becca
I remember Ben from the Special Olympics. He was always such a great kid. I know my son Ben Graff really enjoyed your family. All of you were so kind always and we have thought of you often. I'm so sorry about Ben. He had such a faithful family.
Ben will be deeply missed by a lot of people.
Our faith in God doesn't remove us from challenges of this world. But, I know Ben is now holding God's hand and walking with him.
Our thoughts are with you.
Neil, Debbie, Bergen, Ben and Elizabeth Graff

debbie graff - March 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Doug, Jackie,
My sincere sympathy on the loss of your son. He will greatly be missed but was blessed by an outstanding family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. May God bless everyone of you.
Kindest regards,
Brian Lind

Brian Lind - March 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ I will miss Ben, we had some great times at camp. I liked being his fishing buddy. Camp won't be the same without him. I'm sorry for your loss.

Austin Machmiller - March 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ We were very sorry to hear about your son, Ben. Even though we'd never met him, we heard great things about him and your family. You will be in our prayers.

Brian & Lori Severson - March 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Jackie and Doug:

So sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Gayla Stewart

Gayla Stewart - March 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *Patty Fokken is my great aunt, Margie's sister. I am very sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with all of you.*

Jenni Puentes Rodriguez - March 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *So sorry for your loss. Ben was such a great kid and he will be missed by so many. May all of your great memories with Ben and the strength of the Lord see you through the difficult days ahead. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time.*

Julie Mechels - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ To the Brende Family, we were very sad to see of Ben's passing. He was an amazing young man. We have good memories of him speeding around in his wheelchair at Special Olympics. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Joe, Dawn, Jonathan and Joshua Manning

Dawn Manning - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NF

“ We are sorry to hear about Ben, and give our condolences. We are glad to have known Ben and his family through special olympics. Know that you will be in our prayers, and God Bless!

Nicole Eichacker & Family - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Brende Family - We are all so saddened to hear of Ben's passing. I can imagine him running and jumping and having a great time in heaven. Our love and prayers go out to you all. Your memories will carry you thru this terrible time. He will always be with you in your heart. Scott, Chris, Tucker & Tyler Stewart

Christe Stewart - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Jackie, Doug and Brende family: I am so saddened to hear about the loss of your beloved Ben. I know that he is flying on Angels wings to Heaven and is being greeted and welcomed there. Praying and thinking about you, love

Carla Miles - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Doug, Jackie, Liz and Becca, I'm really sorry to hear about the passing of Ben. I only really knew him for a very short time, everytime I did see him he was always very happy and cheerful. I will keep all of you in my thoughts and prayers.

Mark Parr - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ Doug, Jackie, Liz, and Becca-

Scott and I are praying for you at the passing of Ben. I know it is hard to say good-bye but know that the strength of our Lord is getting you through. May you feel His loving arms wrapped around you at all times. Ben was like a nephew to me and the girls are like my nieces. You are all very special to us and just know we are praying for you and thinking of you at this time. God's grace is sufficient enough to get through this. Lean on Him and He will guide you through. We love you all.

Scott and Kerri Groetsema

Kerri Groetsema - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Doug, Jackie, Liz and Becca,

Words do not come easy at this difficult time. Treasure all the memories you have created with Ben. The last 2 volleyball seasons, Ben created memories for me that I will cherish. We would harass each other and I would give him a bad time for not cheering loud enough if the girls lost. When we won, I would tell it was because he was yelling loud enough. I will miss his smile he would give me!! We lost a wonderful person, but he left us with a lot of memories to cherish...God Bless Coach Led

Sheryl Ledeboer - March 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SM

“*Doug, Jackie and family,
I am so glad I got to see you on Monday. You have our deepest sympathy. We have so many wonderful memories of Ben at Special Olympics! Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Scott, Lisa, Jordan and Travis Muller - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KE

“*Jackie and Doug you are in our thoughts and prayers. We are so sorry for your loss he was a special young man. Love Karlene and Harold*

Karlene Elcock - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SE

“*Doug, Jackie & family,
I am so very sorry for your loss. I am sure that you are feeling such a void in your life. Hopefully time will help with the healing process. There is a saying that God doesn't give us more than we can handle. My theory is God gives us the strength to handle what the world deals to us. Take care. You will all be in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Love,
Shelly Eggers*

Shelly Eggers - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KU

“ Doug & Jackie and Girls,
I opened up the paper this morning at work and saw Ben's name in the obituary and my heart sunk...I am so very sorry to hear of Ben's passing away. Please know I am thinking about all of you and the pain that you are going through...but Ben is in a wonderful and happy place running with all the angels in Heaven. Love you!

Karen Ulrikson - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Brende family. Our thoughts are with you and your family. We are so sorry for your loss. Ben and Brady were terrific best friends. Ben had a special place in our hearts. I will never forget how much fun Ben and Brady had when we were setting up for Jaimee's graduation. Ben zipping around in his wheelchair. Ben will be missed by all. Take care.

Diane Jandl Mickelson - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Brende family, you are in our thoughts and prayers, Ben will be missed. I remember back when he received his new electric wheelchair, he was unstoppable on the track!
Coach Donna and Tammy
Special Olympics

Donna Menzia - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ To the Brende Family.... My heart is sad also without Ben. I have many memories and hope they will help with the process of him being gone. Video games... Speeding in the hallways... his funny smile...his gentle personality and a family that had eternal love for a wonderful young man. My prayers for you...

Lori Wollmann - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ So sorry for your lost, we too lost a child with MD so we too somewhat understand your grief. I remember him zooming around the gymn with his chair, also your seeing too it he was part of all activies of the school.May the Lord give you strenght during this time and days to come.

merline kock - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Sorry to here of your loss I'm thinking of you all and praying for you.

would like to hear grom you.

Rob

Rob Krogstad - March 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Jackie,Doug,Liz and Becca-
So very sorry for your loss. Please know that you all will be in our prayers and that Ben is now running with Jesus.

*Prayers and love to you all,
Doug,Marilyn, Sheri, Tricia and families*

marilyn blaha - March 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM