

The Life of Chris Breen

by his parents



It is with deep regret and profound sadness that we inform you of the tragic and untimely death of former "Charlie Guide" Chris Breen. Chris was serving as an Aggie alumni volunteer assisting with the construction of the annual Texas A&M Bonfire. He was standing atop the 4th level of the Bonfire when the collapse occurred and was killed instantly.

To show Chris's dedication to Texas A&M and to Scouting, the family decided that he will be buried in his Texas A&M Corps of Cadets uniform and he will be accompanied by his

"Charlie Guide" canoe paddle.



We are sharing this notice with those of you who worked at Northern Tier while Chris was on the staff (1994-1997). We are also sharing this tragic news with those of you who were on the staff, or otherwise affiliated with Northern Tier, when Chris' brothers Mike (1973-1977) and Dennis (1974-83) were "Charlie Guides".

Chris was born in Austin, Texas on March 18, 1974 and died in the collapse of the Bonfire in College Station on November 18, 1999. Chris was a 1992 graduate of Anderson High School and a 1997 graduate of Texas A&M.

Chris lived a life devoted to his family. He was dedicated to the outdoors and to youth service projects. He was an Eagle Scout and had worked for numerous summers as a canoe guide at the BSA Sommers Northern Expeditions Canoe Base in Ely, Minnesota. He was a member of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets from September 1992 to May 1996. The students chose him in his senior year as the Senior Coordinator of the Aggie Bonfire as a Brown Pot. He also was a member of the Texas A&M Pistol Team, Sailing Club, Wildlife Biology Association and Catholic Student Association.

After graduation he had worked in Harwood, Texas and at the time of his death he was working in Austin.

Chris was a natural leader and well liked by the scout groups who he introduced to the wilderness experience in Minnesota, Ontario and Manitoba. Numerous scout leaders wrote his parents to cite the extraordinary nature of his leadership.

He is survived by his parents, John E. and Marian K. Breen of Austin; three brothers Michael T. and his wife Anna Lozano, Dennis P. and his wife Carol of Los Andes, Chile, Sean E. and his wife Roslyn, and three sisters Mary L. of Dallas, Sheila and Edward Peters of Austin and Kerry T. Breen of Washington DC. He is also survived by 4 nieces and 5 nephews. Chris will be missed most by a host of friends and buddies at Texas A&M and especially by his close friend, Jana McCormick.



Visitation will be 5-7 PM on Saturday, November 20, 1999 at Weed-Corley-Fish in Austin. The Mass of Christian Burial will be 2 PM Sunday, November 21, 1999 at St Austin's Church in Austin. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to the St. Mary's Catholic Center, 603 Church Avenue, College Station, TX 77840 or to the Charles L. Sommers Alumni Association, PO Box 428, Ely, MN 55731-0428.