



Kirby Joseph Sprenger, 19, passed away Sunday, June 19, 2016 at Sanford Children's Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD in his mother's arms and with his father by his side, along with many family members telling their favorite Kirby stories.

Kirby Joseph Sprenger was born on November 23, 1996 to Joe and Sandy (Bowar) Sprenger in Aberdeen, SD. At the age of 4 months Kirby was diagnosed with a rare and terminal disease called Miller-Dieker Syndrome; despite the odds he surpassed all expectations and continuously proved his doctors wrong. Kirby found joy in the simplest of things, such as the sounds heard at the Midway Fairgrounds, the feeling of the wind on his face, the sound of cows moo-ing, or the sharp sound of a squeaking balloon. Kirby's infectious laugh and bright smile warmed the hearts of anyone who met him.

Blessed to have been chosen to share Kirby's life are his parents Joe and Sandy Sprenger; his sister Haley; his maternal grandfather Eugene (Jeanette) Bowar of Faulkton; as well as Kirby's "2nd Mom" Leasa Ortmeier; his aunts and uncles: Anne (Mark) Beckstrand of Sioux Falls, SD, Karen (Terry) Dickman of Sioux Falls, SD, Marlene (Mark "Sparky") Dreesen of Circle, MT, Barry (Shelly) Bowar of Wahpeton, ND, Holly (Todd) Jacobson of Harrisburg, SD, Mike (Carol) Sprenger of Presho, SD, Gary (Peg) Sprenger of Orient, SD, Kathy (Gary) Sarvis of Brandon, SD, Patty Sprenger and Dave Griffin of North St. Paul, MN, Mary (Jerry) Nelson of Philip, SD, Karen (Vern) Bult of Wahpeton, ND, Deb (Jim) Peterson of Sioux Falls, SD, Jim Sprenger and Sharon Rons of Sioux Falls, SD, Steve (DeAnn) Sprenger of Pierre, SD, and Carol Sprenger of Brookings, SD; cousins: Lauren (Zackary) Brinnley and Lincoln Thompson, Josh Dickman, Mandy (Cullen) Pickett, Kayla Dreesen, Brooke Dreesen, Tracer Bowar, Stuart Bowar, Alex Jacobson, Justin Jacobson, John Birgen-Sprenger, Jana Sprenger, Lacy Sprenger, Jamie Sprenger, Janell (Shanon) Shaylee, Tristen, and Keagen Juhnke, Joelle (Brad) Taborr, Paige and Kaden Ellenbecker, Justin (Krista) Audra and Austin Sarvis, Katie (Merritt) Carpenter, Loni Nelson, Travis Nelson, Jeremy (Candi) Tori and Harper Bult, Danny Bult, Sam Peterson, and Danielle Schroeder.

Kirby was preceded in death by his grandparents: George and Loyola Sprenger and Maurine "Billie" Bowar and his cousins: Brian Bult, Laura Peterson and Frances Ellenbecker.

In lieu of flowers, memorials will be forwarded by the family to the Faulkton Area Medical Center Foundation and Make A Wish Foundation.



Special Child....

You weren't like the other children,
And God was well aware,
You'd need a caring family,
With love enough to share.

And so He sent you to us,
And much to our surprise,
You haven't been a challenge,
But a blessing in disguise.

Your winning smiles and laughter,
The pleasures you impart,
Far outweigh your special needs,
And melt the coldest heart.

We're proud that we've been chosen,
To help you learn and grow,
The joy that you have brought us,
Is more than you can know.

A precious gift from Heaven,
A treasure from above,
A child who's taught us many things,
But most of all – Real Love.



In Loving Memory

Kirby Joseph Sprenger

*November 23, 1996
Aberdeen, South Dakota*

*June 19, 2016
Sioux Falls, South Dakota*



WAKE SERVICE: 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 22, 2016 **MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL:** 1:30 p.m., Thursday, June 23, 2016
St. Thomas the Apostle Church ~ Faulkton, South Dakota

OFFICIATING: Fr. Christopher Hughes

LECTORS: Terry Dickman and Carol Birgen

CASKETBEARERS: Mike Sprenger, Gary Sprenger, Jim Sprenger, Steve Sprenger, Barry Bowar, Todd Jacobson

HONORARY CASKETBEARERS: All of Kirby's Cousins and Daycare Friends

OFFERTORY: Deb, Jim, and Sam Peterson

ALTAR SERVERS: Simon, John, and James Bowar

USHERS: Alex Jacobson, Tracer Bowar, Justin Jacobson

ORGANIST: Linda Bartholomew

VOCALIST: Matt Harmel ~ "I Can Only Imagine" "Our Father"

HYMNS: "On Eagle's Wings" "Joyful, Joyful"
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Let the Holy Anthem Rise"

INTERMENT: St. Thomas Catholic Cemetery, Faulkton, South Dakota

Arrangements by: Luce Funeral Home, Faulkton, South Dakota, www.familyfuneralhome.net