



Bruce C. Howdle

July 2, 1946 - August 29, 2018

Mineral Point - Bruce C. Howdle, age 72, of Mineral Point died on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at home.

He was born July 2, 1946 in Montfort, WI to Roscoe and Genevieve (Livingston) Howdle. Bruce purchased his building in downtown Mineral Point in 1983. Over the years, he renovated the building from the basement to the third floor apartment. He was a lecturer at UW-Madison and UW-Platteville for 23 years. He also taught workshops for Shake Rag Alley. Bruce is a renowned ceramic artist who is known for his pig sculptures and murals.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Sue; son, Ross (Mai Yia); brothers, Dave, Richard (Charlene), Bill (Sharon); sister-in-laws, Ann (Tim), Mary Jo (Buck), Marcia (Kent); brother-in-laws, Jim (Joyce), Larry (Tiwani), Gerry (Paige); and mother-in-law, M. Joan Grimm.

Bruce enjoyed wandering up High Street each day for coffee and visiting with the locals as well as meeting newcomers. He loved his work and always said he took a little vacation everyday. He took pride in being a part of the creative culture of Mineral Point. He will be remembered for his storytelling and unique personality. Mineral Point will not be the same without him.

A Celebration of Bruce's Life will be held from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on

Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at the GORGEN FUNERAL HOME in Mineral Point.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Cemetery

700 Dodge Street
Mineral Point, WI

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP 4. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gorgen Funeral Home
310 Ridge Street
Mineral Point, WI 53565
(608) 987-3421
gorgenfh@mhtc.net

Tribute Wall



“ *Bruce C. Howdle*

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ *My sympathy to Bruce's family. I had the honor of meeting Bruce when he was leaving Plymouth in 1973. He interviewed me for the art position he was leaving at PHS. Lucky for me he approved and I inherited a strongly developed art program. Bruce gave me his plan book that was 10 inches thick because of all of his lesson plans and examples. Generous beyond measure. His kindness gave a new college grad an opportunity that I have always appreciated. Rest in peace dear Bruce.
Respectfully, Yvonne Doolittle Mayer*

Yvonne Mayer - September 12, 2021 at 07:20 PM



“ *Sue, our sympathies. Bruce was an accomplished, creative artist and ambassador for MP and the arts. I visited him in the studio often and as often someone would stroll in. Bruce would tend to them and answer questions...and maybe sell them something. Working with him on Angel's Angel for Hope was easy. I am pleased his work and picture are preserved in my book.
Of course his spirituality was a bit irreverent - like the time he delighted in showing me a fairly small statute of the Blessed Mary...quite pregnant with the Blessed Savior. He was as pleased with it as a little boy who tells a dirty joke.
Our lives are better for his passing this way and sharing his gifts.
PrC Miller*

Pr Christopher Miller - September 06, 2018 at 07:27 PM

MM

Bruce shared his love with the least of these. He took me around the shop as a punk kid probably about 16yrs old explaining and inspiring my creativity. I try to live with the same passion that I know he lived with.

Marcus Miller - September 07, 2018 at 01:07 PM

BR

“*When Bruce was in college at what is now UW-Platteville, he and some of his friends lived across the street from us. They would come out to play with the neighborhood kids from time to time (I was 5 at the time). One night, we had water balloon fights, and when we ran out of balloons, we got my mom's pots and pans, filled them with water, and threw that at Bruce and crew. Well...they confiscated all of my mom's pans. Dad (Jim Bull - who was a professor at the college and well known by Bruce et al) went over the next morning to retrieve the cookware. Awkward for Bruce, I'm sure, but truly less than pleasant for all of us kids.*

I was so shocked to hear of Bruce's death - I was speechless! I have just always thought of Bruce at the age he was when I first met him when I was 5 and he was a college student. Great thing about Bruce, was he still had that same youthful spirit as he did back then.

He will be remembered and missed by all who were truly lucky to have met him.

*Becky (Bull) Reich
Hollandale, WI*

Becky Reich - September 05, 2018 at 04:42 PM

DD

“ *When I had the antique shop close by Bruce's studio he would stop by twice a week or so to check on any good junk I may have found picking plus catch up on the local news and of course to solve the worlds problems, but his humor always made my day, it was always a laugh with what he would do with a little chunk of clay. I took it for granted that he would not leave us too soon. Dan Darrow*

dan darrow - September 04, 2018 at 11:50 PM

 Leslie Reger

“ *Bruce. What can a person say about him. He was an artist, he was funny, a joker, a dancer. He was a listener. And would gladly give his opinion especially when talking about art in education these days. During our last conversation he talked about education and the impact that leaving out art in a lot of programs is having on future generations. Every subject in school can be positively impacted by art. And by the way, art is academic. I admired that passion. He will be missed by many. My wish for those closest to him is that you may find peace in a memory that will bring you a smile, or maybe a giggle. 'Till we meet again, Bruce.*

Leslie Reger - September 04, 2018 at 05:28 PM

BK

“ Bruce welcomed Barbe and me on our first visit to Mineral Point, giving us a great tour of his studio. His enthusiasm and hospitality played a big role in our deciding to move here from Chicago. Over the years his wit and sunny countenance brightened our day. My last memory will be of his dancing up a storm at the Dealin' concert at Jammin' on the Porch in August. What a guy!

Our deepest sympathies go to you, Sue, and your family.

Barbe and Jim Kackley

Barbe and Jim Kackley - September 04, 2018 at 02:48 PM

DP

“ So much personality...so many smiles...so many weird comments. Definitely considered myself one of the "Bruce Junkies". Always loved those invitations to the backroom to take a peak at his latest creations and to catch up on the stories. I join the hundreds of people whose hearts are a little sadder, but whose 'enlightenment' brighter for having known Bruce. Thanks for sharing him with all of us....

Deb Pickett - September 04, 2018 at 01:35 PM

MH

“ My condolences to the Howdle family. We were neighbors in the 50s. Lots of great memories of times with Dick. Maxine (nee Dailey) O'Brien Hibner

Maxine Dailey Hibner - September 04, 2018 at 01:11 PM

JP

“ He was a wonderful sculptor, artist, teacher and a good person . He left his goodwill on everyone he touched. I hope and pray that his family will find their way to peace and that the memories of this wonderful man will sustain them until they meet again. This artist's work is all over this country. What a creative legacy he has left for the world to enjoy .Judith Piper

Judith Piper - September 03, 2018 at 06:06 PM

GK

“ Bruce would come down to my shop the days he was teaching at art department at madison, he had a joke to tell he was a gem. My condolences to the family.

Gary koch - September 03, 2018 at 05:43 PM

SB

“ My heart goes out to all of Bruce's family & friends. What a wonderful man Bruce was. He always brought a huge smile to my face, and I always took anyone who visited us from out of town to Bruce's shop. I cherish the pig he made for us after Frank helped him with a project, and his mugs are 2 of my all time favorites. And, we will all miss buying from Bruce and having him wrap our purchases in cloth & tying it with a big wide ribbon! Oh, he is so missed already and Mineral Point will not be the same without him.
Sandee Beaman

Sandee Beaman - September 03, 2018 at 04:11 PM



“ *Christy, Laura, Stephanie, Sue, & Tawna (nieces) purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bruce C. Howdle.*



Christy, Laura, Stephanie, Sue, & Tawna (nieces) - September 03, 2018 at 12:39 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bruce C. Howdle.*



September 03, 2018 at 12:15 PM



“ *Learning from the two Bruce's at UW Madison are some of my fondest memories of undergraduate. He was a good teacher and a great artist. I always remember his quirky sense of humor. He touched many and will be missed. My condolences to his family during this difficult time.*

Patricia LaPointe - September 03, 2018 at 09:53 AM



“ *I had the most wonderful experience meeting Bruce just two weeks ago. I was staying at the Tuckpoint next door and would visit with Bruce each morning. of my stay. I have one of his splendid nudes. I included him with pictures on my blog lowaartisangallery.com . I know he was loved and will be missed by all, what an incredible life he had!*

Annie Temple - September 03, 2018 at 09:29 AM

EV

“ Sue, Jason and I are so sorry that you have lost Bruce. We want to thank you both for being so kind to our son Tyler, he had just spent time in Las Vegas with Tyler and others..
Elaine and Jason Vogel

Elaine Vogel - September 03, 2018 at 08:00 AM



“ My wife Judy and I are so sad to hear that Bruce has died. I met Bruce at the UW-Platteville when he was a freshman and became a friend of him from that moment.

He and I joined the other fraternity brothers to form Delta Chi Epsilon and later Sigma Pi at UWP. Bruce created the first Pioneer Pete and it revealed his talent. I could go on about Bruce because he was not only a friend and fraternity brother, but a great person.

Judy and I visited him last year, and other years. And, he was the friend I always knew. We will miss him as you will.

Richard Kraemer

Richard Kraemer - September 02, 2018 at 10:25 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bruce C. Howdle.*



September 02, 2018 at 08:19 PM

JA

“ Bruce was one of the best art professors I had at UW Madison. He was dedicated to his students and had a great sense of humor. He will be missed.

Janelle - September 02, 2018 at 06:51 PM

JN

“ Bruce was a gem. I remember him as gracious, friendly, and extremely talented... even though I only met him a couple times. As a clay artist myself, my own life has been enriched knowing that this lovely man was making beautiful works to share with the world. My condolences to family and friends. Jody Krafsur Nolan

Jody Krafsur Nolan - September 02, 2018 at 06:08 PM

BP

“ Bruce was a great one of a kind guy, God Bless

Bonnie Pittz - September 02, 2018 at 01:34 PM

BP

“ Our sympathy to Bruce's family, Bruce was a friend to all, God Bless Clarence & Bonnie

Bonnie Pittz - September 02, 2018 at 01:32 PM



The news that he is gone was such a shock to me I didn't want to believe it to be true. Bruce was such an integral fabric of Mineral Point. I loved going into his shop to look at all the wonderful art, but more than anything I hoped for a chance to visit with him. I didn't want to disturb him, but he never disappointed. He would come and visit, share stories about his current piece he was working on and show me around.

When I left his shop, the day seemed all the more bright. It is rare to find such a beautiful soul.

My deepest condolences to his family and friends, for I know your loss is so very deep.

God bless.

Deb Richards

Deb Richards - September 02, 2018 at 09:49 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Bruce enjoying life*



Kirk Williams - September 02, 2018 at 12:37 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bruce C. Howdle.*



September 01, 2018 at 05:42 PM

BB

“ Our thoughts & prayers go out to the family. When I was in business with *Leaping Lizards* toy store, Bruce would come & share a joke or two.. also coming from the Montfort area myself, we would reminisce. He truly will be missed, a great Pointer!

Barb Brown - September 01, 2018 at 03:36 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bruce C. Howdle.



August 31, 2018 at 10:07 PM

PB

“ My sympathies to Sue and family he was truly one of a kind!!! Also will always remember his great sense of humor!!!!

Pam Bennett - August 31, 2018 at 09:18 PM