



Craig Evan Cheney

January 15, 1965 - September 17, 2021

Mineral Point - Craig Evan Cheney, age 56, of Mineral Point, WI was tragically killed on Friday, September 17, 2021, while he and his wife, Jill, were walking her horse on Highway 39.

He was born in Ohio on January 15, 1965. Craig was brilliant and creative, with a quick wit and a well-developed sense of humor. He was head of the Blade Shop at Albion Swords, and crafted the highest quality authentic blades in the world. Craig wrote numerous songs over the years, which he sometimes sang while playing guitar. He loved nature, often going on outdoor walks or hiking expeditions, and was a strong advocate for animal rights. Craig was particularly fond of wolves, and working with Wisconsin agencies and the National Wolf Conservation Center to help reduce or eliminate the annual purge of wolves in Wisconsin.

Craig attended the West Point Military Academy for a year and a half and was Honorably Discharged from the U. S. Army. He completed a Bachelor's degree in History at Washington and Lee and attended Asbury Theological Seminary for two years.

Craig leaves behind his wife Jill, a son Denver (Michelle), stepdaughters Lindsey (Ryan) Stout and Kaitlyn Dake, his mother Faith, sisters Cindy (Jimmy) Weatherholtz and Sandra (Tony) Washington, brothers Lyle (Sandra)

and Austin (Leigh), half sister Tara (Kurt) Balliet, two grandchildren Lielle and Zelek, three step-grandchildren Audrey, Victoria and Colin, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his father James.

A Celebration of Craig's Life will be held on Saturday, September 25, 2021 at SOLDIERS MEMORIAL PARK, Pavilion #2, in Mineral Point from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. There will be food and a lot of reminiscing.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the National Wolf Conservation Center in Craig's name. <https://nywolf.org/donate>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP **25.** 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Soldiers Memorial Park
Shake Rag St.
Mineral Point, WI 53565

Tribute Wall



“ *Craig Evan Cheney*

November 15, 2022 at 06:49 AM



“ *Craig and Jill shared a wonderful curiosity for the world, animals and for people. I met Craig and Jill because they adventurously decided to learn Appalachian clogging from me. The way they laughed at each other and themselves was a joy to behold each week. Craig was a fast learner and was quite a talented clogger. What a kind, intelligent soul...my heart goes out to Jill, their families and their loved ones.*

Meghan - September 25, 2021 at 11:18 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Craig Evan Cheney.*



September 24, 2021 at 02:25 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Craig Evan Cheney.*



September 24, 2021 at 10:13 AM

NK

“ I've spent hours trying to find words the adequately describe the mark Craig left on this world, but I fail. He lived more in a life cut tragically short than most ever do. He was one of the most genuine, down to earth people I will ever know. My heart goes out to his family.

Nick Kapusta - September 23, 2021 at 10:57 PM

GT

There are no words to express how tragic this is. I worked with Craig at Camp Jewell YMCA for several years and he was always upbeat and willing to help anyone. He was finally living his best life with his beautiful wife and found his calling. I mourn the people Crag will not be able to impact. His legacy will be a hard act to follow. My prayers and love go out to his family, may you celebrate the wonderful man he was and with a song celebrate his gifts❤️🙏❤️

Ginna Taft - September 24, 2021 at 06:26 PM

DB

“ I have known both Craig & Jill for a very long time...their love story is an amazing one! Craig was so talented and had a passion for life and love! He will be missed so very much by all that knew him....to Jill, he loved you beyond words and this isn't fair that such a wonderful man had to leave this earth so soon...my heart is with you during this difficult time...

Debra S Bjorling - September 23, 2021 at 07:59 PM

DK

“ I am truly saddened for those of us Craig leaves behind. Craig and I became friends our freshman year in school and the 4H club his Mom and sister Cindy were advisors for. He was a kind caring soul, a fierce friend, incredibly multi talented, wonderful man. His metal working and music still inspire me.
Rest In Peace my friend.
Doug Keller

Doug Keller - September 23, 2021 at 05:16 PM

CC

“ I am forever fortunate to have worked with and known Craig Cheney. He was a man who dedicated his life to his craft, who spent his time protecting and caring for animals, and whose zeal for making the world a better place for all living things continues to inform and inspire my decisions as a human being. My favored memory of Craig is of the day he showed us (his coworkers) pictures of a fox which was in his care. The excitement he showed was only evident of his gentle nature. The respect I have for Craig is truly immeasurable.

Cody Carter - September 23, 2021 at 12:19 PM

ML

“ I didn't know Craig personally but he married a woman that has been dear to me since middle school. I do know that Jill has been very happy since they met and Lindsay looks at Craig as a father and for that I am grateful. Most people will not know me but I am thankful that Jill and Craig met for he made her complete! Rest in Peace Craig.
Matthew Leightey

Mathew Leightey - September 23, 2021 at 12:06 PM

AW

“ Craig performed the marriage of Denver to our daughter Michelle. We remember that he shared how that in making a good, strong sword it takes heat and pressure. He used this analogy and challenged them to allow the difficult times to make them stronger as individuals and a couple. He also encouraged them to keep Jesus as the cord that binds them together. We appreciated the ceremony he performed for them and enjoyed getting to know Craig better during breakfast the next morning. We saw how he gave sacrificially to help them get started and know that he is dearly loved and missed by them. We regret that we did not have opportunity to get to know Craig better and yet our memories of him at the wedding and reception are good ones that we will cherish. We will be with you in spirit and prayers. Sincerely, Jon and Anna Wright

Anna Wright - September 22, 2021 at 09:18 PM