



Mark Calvin Evenson

February 24, 1953 - January 9, 2023

Mineral Point - Mark C. Evenson, age 69, of Mineral Point passed away on Monday, January 9, 2023, in Madison, WI at UW Health's University Hospital surrounded by loved ones.

Mark was born and raised in Alexandria, Virginia. He attended Middlebury College, graduating with a double major in French and Spanish in 1975. He also attended the Middlebury Language Schools for both French and Spanish during the summer of 1978. During his undergraduate years, he spent an enjoyable summer in Alaska and two semesters studying abroad in France. He taught high school Spanish in Massachusetts for a year and lived in Mexico City for two years. He began his doctoral studies in Spanish at the University of Colorado-Boulder. He lived in Colorado for eight years, during two of which he taught Spanish at Adams State University. He moved from Colorado to Madison, WI to complete his doctoral studies and earned his Ph.D. in Spanish from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1995. While working on his dissertation, he spent three months in Argentina. After completing his doctoral studies, Mark moved to Mankato, Minnesota and taught Spanish at Gustavus Adolphus College. In 1997, he joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and taught Spanish in the Humanities Department there until his retirement in 2017. In his retirement, he enjoyed tutoring in a variety of subjects including Spanish, French, English, and Math along with doing interpreting for healthcare clinics in the Madison area.

In addition to teaching and languages, Mark was passionate about social justice and people's rights to participate in organizing and in the democratic process. He served on the Executive Board of American Federation of Teachers-Wisconsin and the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign for a number of years. He participated in and supported many social causes throughout his life.

Mark had many hobbies that evolved over time. He enjoyed backpacking, hiking, skiing, climbing, cycling, and woodworking in his younger years. He developed passions for birdwatching, Saab vehicles, and Wisconsin sports (Brewers, Bucks, Packers, and Badgers). He was always an avid animal lover and at various times had Alaskan Malamutes, Siberian Huskies, and cats. He loved his pets dearly. Spending time outdoors was always a part of his daily life.

He also developed many friends through his tutoring, spending holidays and going to Brewers games with them, and supporting them through challenges in their lives. He loved and made time for his family, friends, and other people.

Mark was preceded in death by his father, Oscar Calvin Evenson, and his mother, Helen Ash Evenson Richter.

He is survived by his brother, Ralph Richter; his sons, Collin (Angela) Evenson, Andrew Evenson and Madeline Sullivan; and his dear friend, Rebecca Payne.

The Celebration of Life will be held from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday January 14, 2023 at GORGEN FUNERAL HOME in Mineral Point, WI.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 14. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Please accept my condolences. Mark and I were hired in the same year at UW-Platteville and we worked together in the Humanities Department and on the Faculty Senate. He was very passionate about worker's rights and other social issues.

Shane Drefcinski - January 16, 2023 at 01:44 PM

EC

“ I met Mark in 2018 when I was writing my dissertation in Madison. Since then, Mark has been a great mentor for my career in academia and also for my life in the states. I cannot describe how much I learned from him. He is the greatest mentor and educator I've ever met. I was lucky to get to know him. My husband, Nick, and I will remember him especially when life challenges us.

Eunji Cho - January 14, 2023 at 07:56 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.



January 13, 2023 at 11:32 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.



January 13, 2023 at 05:20 PM

MM

“ I was so sorry to hear of Mark's passing. He was such a good soul, a truly dedicated educator and citizen. I was fortunate to be able to count him as a friend, and benefited greatly from his involvement in the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign during the time when I was the group's director. His wise guidance and fierce devotion to the cause were invaluable and integral to the organization's success.

Mike McCabe - January 13, 2023 at 04:00 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.



January 13, 2023 at 03:23 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.



January 13, 2023 at 11:22 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.



January 12, 2023 at 08:27 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.*



January 12, 2023 at 01:26 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.*



January 11, 2023 at 10:32 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.*



January 11, 2023 at 09:08 PM



“ *Mark was an intrepid explorer of the world, fighter for social justice, friend to those in need, and dearly loved a great bike ride or canoe trip. I was lucky enough to have his friendship and those of his sons Collin and Andrew as my son Sam was growing up. We shared many family get togethers and many hikes and outings. I am so sorry to hear Mark is gone, His energy and spirit will be missed in this world 🌍❤️*

Janet Murray - January 11, 2023 at 07:31 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.*



January 11, 2023 at 03:35 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mark Calvin Evenson.*



January 11, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ *2 files added to the album summer 2022*



David Deavers - January 11, 2023 at 09:05 AM