



Nolan Nayquonabe

August 22, 1983 - December 22, 2024

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Ayaagawegaabaw, Nolan Nayquonabe, age 41, of Onamia, MN passed away on Sunday, December 22, 2024. Visitation will begin at 5 PM on Wednesday, December 25, 2024, at the District 1 Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation. A Funeral Ceremony will held at 10 AM on Thursday, December 26, 2024, at the District 1 Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation with Ombishkebines officiating. Interment will be in the Little Flower Cemetery. Arrangements are with the LeMieur Funeral Home in Onamia.

In loving memory of a man who transformed his struggles into strength for others. Our brother not only achieved 5 years of sobriety, but dedicated his life to helping others find their path to recovery. As a chemical dependency technician, he touched countless lives with his unique blend of straight-talk honesty and genuine compassion. After inspiring so many with his strength and resilience, he lost his battle with cancer, but his impact continues to resonate through all the lives he touched.

He approached recovery work the same way he approached life - with wholehearted dedication and an ability to connect with anyone he met. At Juel Fairbanks Recovery Center, where he was deeply loved and respected by both colleagues and relatives, his presence was unmistakable. He was truly larger than life - the kind of person who could command a room the moment he walked in. His gift for storytelling and natural charisma made him not just

effective in his work, but beloved by those he helped.

A father of six and devoted husband to Crystal, he showed us that recovery isn't just about sobriety - it's about rebuilding and cherishing the connections that matter most. He was the son who made our dad beam with pride, especially as he recently celebrated his 80th birthday. Though our mom Rita is no longer with us, her loving influence helped shape him into the man he became.

Whether he was on the golf course (where he still had that natural swing from his younger days), cheering on his beloved Minnesota Vikings, traveling, and sharing stories with his three brothers and two sisters, he lived life fully and joyfully. His journey showed us that our hardest challenges can become our greatest purpose.

The legacy he leaves behind is one of hope, resilience, and the power of transformation. Through his work and the lives he touched, he proved that it's never too late to change your story and help others change theirs. His impact will continue through the countless individuals he guided toward recovery, and through the family who loved him deeply and whom he loved in return.

We will miss his charismatic smile, his passionate spirit, and his gift for making everyone feel heard and understood. While our hearts are heavy, we find comfort in knowing that his story will continue to inspire others on their journey to recovery.

Nolan is survived by his loving wife, Crystal; father, Joseph Sr.; six children; siblings, Peter (Shannon), Jessi, Joseph Jr. (Christina), Johanna, Stanley Sr. (Jamie); and many loving nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Rita; siblings, Marcus and Tammy; and many aunts and uncles.

Cemetery Details

St. Therese Little Flower Cemetery

43600 Highway 169
Onamia, MN

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **25**. 5:00 PM (CT)

Baadwewidang Community Center
45300 Virgo Rd
Onamia, MN 56359

Funeral Ceremony

DEC **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Baadwewidang Community Center
45300 Virgo Rd
Onamia, MN 56359