



Christopher Sorensen

February 11, 1970 - September 23, 2023

Christopher Sorensen, 53, of Eagan, passed away on Saturday, September 23, 2023. A celebration of life will be held Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 2 p.m. at the Estes funeral home at 2201 Plymouth Ave N in Minneapolis, MN. Christopher James Sorensen was born on February 11, 1970, in Willmar, Minnesota, the son of Carl Sorensen and Mary Sorensen (Kennedy). When he was 8 years old, his family moved to Montevideo, where his dad took on the role of Chief of Police. Chris was a star athlete during high school and was well respected by his peers. He was a running back on the high school football team, and his 1986 record of 1,529 rushing yards was broken only last year: his record of 9.9 yards per carry will likely never be broken. Chris graduated from high school in Montevideo in 1988. Chris received a scholarship to play football at St. Cloud State University, where he graduated in 1993 with a B.A. in Criminal Justice Studies and Sociology. During his studies Chris served as the President of the Student Coalition Against Racism (SCAR). While in St. Cloud, Chris met the love of his life, Maria McKinnies. They were married on September 19, 1995, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He started his career working for the Minneapolis Urban League, and then went to the Harriet Tubman Center, where he led the violence prevention program. Chris earned a master's degree in social work from the University of Minnesota in 2000. In 2001, Chris was appointed as the Director Lincoln, Lyon, and Murray Human Services in Marshall, Minnesota, and then in 2011 he became the Director of Health and Human Services for Southwest

Minnesota. He and his spouse raised their four children in Marshall. They moved back to the Twin Cities in 2017 when Chris was appointed as Director of Community Services for Washington County. Chris enjoyed cooking, fishing, traveling, and spending time with his family. Chris is survived by his spouse, Maria McKinnies Sorensen of Eagan; children, Jasmine Sorensen of Minneapolis, Christopher Sorensen of Eagan, Kevin Sorensen of Minneapolis, and Alijah Sorensen of Eagan; mother Mary Sorensen of Richfield, father Carl Sorensen and his wife Ruth Sparrow of Bayport; brother Neil Sorensen, sister-in-law Marie-Laure Hameury, and niece Winona Hameury Sorensen of Noisy Le Sec, France; and his godson Tra' Carter of Minneapolis. Arrangements are with Estes Funeral Chapel in Minneapolis. For the online guestbook visit <https://www.estesfuneralchapel.com/obituaries/Christopher-Sorensen-3/#!/TributeWall>

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 5. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Estes Funeral Chapel
2201 Plymouth Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55411
(612) 521-6744
<https://estesfuneralchapel.com>

Tribute Wall

RH

“ *Rebecca H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Sorensen.*

Rebecca H. - October 05, 2023 at 01:53 PM

EB

“ *THANK GOD for men like Chris. I was grateful for his work in human services especially in support and systems change for families and victim survivors of domestic abuse and trauma. I saw his compassion played out in real time, as our career paths crossed. Chris also impressed me as a man who honored prayer and hope in the Lord Jesus Christ. Chris: Thanks for showing us how to love family and friends before you left to spend eternity with The Lord. Your family will be kept in the powerful, gracious Hands of the God you loved until they leave this earth to greet you again in HEAVEN. Blessings from Ethylon B. Brown (MPLS)*

ethylon brown - October 05, 2023 at 10:43 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Sorensen.*



October 04, 2023 at 09:38 PM

RH

“ Rose H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Sorensen.

Rose H. - October 04, 2023 at 07:45 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Sorensen.



October 04, 2023 at 02:52 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher Sorensen.



October 04, 2023 at 06:41 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Christopher Sorensen.



October 03, 2023 at 10:06 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Sorensen.*



October 02, 2023 at 04:20 PM



“ *I worked with Chris at Tubman and remember his great sense of humor and commitment to fighting against racism. My deepest condolences during this time of sorrow.*

Melissa Peterson - October 02, 2023 at 08:58 AM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Christopher Sorensen.*



October 01, 2023 at 05:02 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Christopher Sorensen.*

October 01, 2023 at 05:02 PM

NW

“ I worked with Chris for 15 years. He was a visionary leader and was pivotal in the establishment of Southwest Health and Human Services.. in 2013, our agency received an award at the AMC Local Government Innovation award ceremony



Nancy Walker - September 30, 2023 at 09:36 PM

LK

“ Maria and Family,
I am so sad to learn of Chris' death. He was such a bright light during our time Tubman Center from 1995-2000. I had no idea of his struggles. He was dedicated and committed to the work of helping young people become free from abuse. I was fortunate to have him on my team of School Violence Prevention Advocates.

May his soul be free and rest well from the trials of this world. My heart carries your hearts.

Laverne McCartney Knighton



Laverne McCartney Knighton - September 28, 2023 at 06:30 PM

MS

I love it!

Maria Sorensen - October 03, 2023 at 10:58 AM

TS

“ *The Executive Team of SWHHS purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Christopher Sorensen.*



The Executive Team of SWHHS - September 28, 2023 at 04:15 PM

TS

“ *The Executive Team of SWHHS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christopher Sorensen.*

The Executive Team of SWHHS - September 28, 2023 at 04:15 PM

NW

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Nancy Wong - September 28, 2023 at 12:21 AM

NW

Please accept my sincerest condolences to Maria and family for Chris' passing. I had worked with him at the Harriet Tubman Shelter (now known as the Tubman Center) in Mpls. I was so saddened by the news. My sympathies also to his parents and brother.

Nancy Wong - September 28, 2023 at 12:24 AM

MD

“ *MICHAEL DIGGINS lit a candle in memory of Christopher Sorensen*



MICHAEL DIGGINS - September 27, 2023 at 09:25 PM

MD

Our deepest sympathy to Carl, Neil and Chris' wife and children. We are so very sorry for your loss. We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

MICHAEL DIGGINS - September 27, 2023 at 09:28 PM

DS

“ *I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Christopher. Too young and too soon. Sincerely, Dane and Candy Sorensen*

Dane C Sorensen - September 27, 2023 at 07:22 PM

SH

“ *My sincere condolences to his beautiful wife Maria (my cousin), as well as his children and loved ones. Shelley Rose-Johnson*



Shelley - September 27, 2023 at 04:53 PM

DJ

Cousin Maria and family, so sorry to hear this news. You are all in my prayers. I will miss Chris. Sending much love ❤️

Debra Jones - September 27, 2023 at 06:07 PM