



## Keith S. Zawila

January 19, 1953 - November 7, 2016

Keith S. Zawila, 63, of Mundelein, IL was born into eternal life on November 7, 2016 following a courageous battle with bile duct cancer. His strength and faith in God was an inspiration to others and his experience helped further the medical research of this rare cancer.

He was the beloved husband of Sara, nee Speer, cherished father of Kevin, dear brother of Pamela, fond son-in-law, brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to many. He was preceded in death by his parents, Julian and Bernice Zawila. Keith was born January 19, 1953 in Chicago and is an alum of St. Boniface and Quigley North High School and a graduate of both Loyola and Roosevelt Universities.

Keith was a computer systems professional and worked for Washington National, Consec, Trustmark and Health Care Services Corporation. Passionate about motorcycle safety, Keith was a popular summer motorcycle safety instructor for Chicago Harley Davidson and the Illinois Motorcycle Safety Foundation. When not on his motorcycle, Keith could be found fishing in Hayward, WI, teaching Sunday School at church, volunteering for Mundelein Track and Field, enjoying a Chicago Blackhawk's game or playing basketball in the driveway with Kevin.

Visitation will be from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13 at the Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Ave. (Rt. 176, one block west of Milwaukee Ave.) Libertyville. A funeral service celebrating Keith's life and faith in God will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, Nov. 14 at the First Presbyterian Church, 219 W.

Maple Ave. Libertyville. A private interment service will be at St. Mary's Cemetery in Fremont Center. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to The Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation at [www.cholangiocarcinoma.org](http://www.cholangiocarcinoma.org) or the NorthShore Healthcare Kellogg Cancer Center. Info: 847-362-3009 or please sign the guest book at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

# Tribute Wall

BJ

“ *Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal. Thinking warmly of memories of Keith. I will keep you (Sara and Kevin) and other family members and friends in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Barb Jarvis** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

RR

“ *Please accept my prayers and condolences. Attended Quigley with Keith. A great person and friend. God Bless his family.*

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**Ron Ricchio** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

LA

“ *Sara and Kevin, May your faith bring you comfort. Our deepest sympathies on the loss of your life partner and father. You will remain in our thoughts and prayers The Adams' (Rocky, Lisa, Ashley, Hannah and Jake)*

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**Lisa Adams** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM



“ *Our sympathies to your family. Keith has been a favorite relative for many many years. We will miss him greatly. Terry Krahl*

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June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

JW

“ *Sara, I am really sorry to hear about Keith.*

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**Jack Wolfmark** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

AR

“ Condolences to Sarah , Kevin and their family. I have been privileged to be able to follow Caring Bridge and Keith's journey .Both he and Sarah have been so positive . May God's Grace follow him to the great beyond and comfort his family and friends.

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**Ann Reid** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

KS

“ Sara and Kevin, I am deeply saddened about the loss of Keith. He was an inspiration to everyone he met. He will deeply missed. Please accept my most heartfelt sympathies for your loss. With love and remembrance.Kathryn Shapiro(Chicago Harley-Davidson)

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**Kathryn Shapiro** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

ST

“ My condolences to Sara, I am saddened about Keith's passing as I really enjoyed any interaction I ever had with him.He was truly a nice guy. Our Riding Academy team will definitely be different without him. Steve TrujilloChicago Harley-DavidsonGeneral Manager

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**Steve Trujillo** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

JH

“ To Sara and her family; my heart goes out to you. I can only hope that Keith's faith can be a comfort to you and that you will find some peace knowing that he is in a better place. Sara, your strength through all this has been an inspiration to all those around you. Judy Herrick/ fellow Melodeer.

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**Judy Herrick** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

KS

“ Sara - my condolences to both you and Kevin. Like this candle, Keiths' memory will shine forever in your hearts. His courage will be an example for all to follow.

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**Kate Steimel** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

WB

“ What a great guy. He fought a tremendous battle (along with Sara & Kevin). What an inspiration to all who knew him. He was fun to work with and a very bright Systems Programmer! I had the pleasure of working with him for 5 years at Washington National Life Ins. Co. Sara, God Bless and comfort you, Kevin and the rest of the family. Wade G. (aka Dad) Brown

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**Wade Brown** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

RM

“ Lord, only you can truly comfort us when we grieve. The heaviness we feel in our heart can make even breathing a struggle. Lord I ask that you stay close to Keith Zawila's family. Fill them with your peace and your comfort. Lord we know that eventually you do restore joy to our souls and for this we are grateful. May God give your family peace, strength and comfort during this time. Roslyn Mack Colleague

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**Roslyn Mack** - June 29, 2018 at 12:12 PM

MK

“ I would like to say I am eternally sorry for the loss of my best friend's father. Keith was a great man and from what I saw and heard, a great father figure. When I first met Kevin, we both realized we were the people that don't go to parties every Friday or hang with the same group of friends every day after school. We instantly became close friends and knew that quality was better than quantity. The first time I went to Kevin's house, I felt like I was on a date: I have to make a good impression on Kevin's parents or they're not going to let me hang out with him. Keith and Sara immediately treated me like family and they are the kind of parents that you never see. They try to be more and more polite even though you're trying to be the polite one. Keith never failed to share a good laugh or piece of advice with me, whether it being a kid picking on me at school and telling me how to fix it or yelling at me about the Hawks. Keith and I could always relate to sports and we developed a great friendship. I would be upstairs hanging in Kevin's room or in an airplane 35,000 feet above the ground and I bet I could still hear Keith screaming at the TV when the Hawks made a bad play. But that's what made him so funny and relatable. I got to have one last meal with Keith, Sara, and Kevin all together a couple of weeks ago and while I can't quite remember every detail about it, I know it involved Keith talking about school and sports and it ended in some wacky story from his childhood. To Kevin and Sara: I cannot express in words how sorry I am for your loss but I will always be there for you when you need someone to talk to. Kevin is my best friend and it is my duty to make sure he has support and care when he needs it. I love you both and I know Keith is in a better place. My prayers and thoughts go out to you and the rest of your family. I can't wait to continue to grow up with who seems to be my brother, Kevin, and be there for you guys. Stay strong.

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**Matt Kaufman** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

SB

“ So sorry to hear of Keith's passing. I worked with him at Wash. Nat. years ago, but still remember him well. He was smart and fun and always ready to help others. My sincere condolences to his family. May perpetual light shine upon him.

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**Susan Brownlee-Garner** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

JE

“ Many great memories golfing and bowling with Keith, before I moved to Texas in 1993 - I'd lost touch with Keith, and was saddened to hear of his passing. Sending thoughts and prayers to Sara and Kevin.

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**John Eymann** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

AK

“ Keith was my neighbor in the "old neighborhood" (Augusta Blvd.) and my classmate at St. Boniface. I knew him as a "good kid", a "nice boy" my Dad referred to as "Cubby". I was concerned to hear of his cancer earlier this year, and shocked at his death, knowing the valiant battle he fought these past months. May his family be comforted knowing he is in the hearts of MANY who knew him in his life.

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**Alice Kowal-Majka** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

JK

“ Sara, Kevin, Just wanted to share our most sincere condolences at Keith's passing. His passion for life and love for the two of you was ever present when around him. My last memory with Keith was a few weeks ago on Columbus Day. Keith and some friends all gathered together on what was a spectacular fall day for a few hours of motorcycle therapy. The ride that day brought so many smiles to Keith's face as we all just cruised the back roads of southern Wisconsin. When we stopped you could see the joy in his expression as he and Kevin were out with the gang, each of us building memories of the kind we all like to have. Keith and the world were at peace that day as we all shared in the moment. His passion for life is something that anyone who knew him would definitely acknowledge and attribute to him as a strength worth emulating. His love for you both was ever present in him. I pray God's peace for you during this most difficult of times. God Bless,  
John & Sheri Kerr

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John & Sheri Kerr - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

SB

“ Sara/ ("Sally") and Kevin - So sorry for your loss and we send prayers and healing thoughts your way. Sorry John and I cannot be there for Keith's services, but you will be in our hearts. John and Sally (Sara) Whiteman Brandt

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Sara Brandt - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

MR

“ To the Zawila Family I want to express my deepest sympathies and to say how sad I am to hear of Keith's passing. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with him for nearly 14 years as a motorcycle safety instructor. I always treated his students and fellow instructors with respect and courtesy. You and Keith are in my thoughts and prayers. May God bless you keep you in this time of loss.

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**Michael Ryan** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

RD

“ I was so sorry to hear of Keith's passing. We were in the same dorm at Niles College freshman year. I always thought he was a great guy. My prayers go ou to you all.

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**Richard Duslack** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

MO

“ Keith was my coworker at HCSC for almost 10 years, and was my motorcycle instructor to. He truly was one of those people that was one in a million. I can honestly say in the years that I knew Keith he was truly a happy person and absolutely adored his family. He was someone that could make you laugh without trying and had a heart the size of Texas. Keith also had a wonderful clarity of thought, and was very detailed. Needless to say there are so many more things I could say about Keith but one thing that needs to be said is that the world was a better place with him in it and will be missed but always remembered.

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**Michael Olson** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM

CM

“ A fine man and a real gentleman. One cool biker.

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**Carlton Marcyan** - April 27, 2018 at 04:37 AM