



Mark Karl Wedel, MD

May 4, 1946 - April 1, 2024

Born on the western plains of Saskatchewan. His dad's initial missionary assignment was to migrant farm workers working the wheat harvest. Winter came to Canada early and hard. Frozen in. First Rh incompatible birth in that small rural hospital's history. Mayo Clinic telegrams guided them through. Moved south - the Upper Peninsula of Michigan - to escape the cold. Sister Kathleen Lynette came aboard, then moved further south to the Missouri bootheel. Brother Timothy Paul came along. Childhood summers highlighted Little League baseball, Wisconsin, Golden Lake swimming, selling sweet corn, both granddads assuring total immersion in the Green Bay Packers/Milwaukee Braves madrasa. Piano lessons, spelling bees, caddying. High school graduation from Richfield in suburban Minneapolis, a thousand student class, a side job selling hot chocolate at Minnesota Viking games. The madrasa education held. Pre-medical education at Valparaiso University, a chemistry & biology major, Phi Delta Theta, Honor Council, numerous academic awards, Frede Mortensen MD, all culminating in medical school acceptance at Johns Hopkins. Stormy social times, losing JFK, Bobby, & Martin along the way. Medical degree completed and with sights fixed on 'the promised land' of California, he turned down his Chief's offer to stay at Johns Hopkins, hearing in his ear 'California? There's no good medicine out there' as he turned his flower-bedecked VW bus westward. San Diego was everything the Beach Boys promised, plus 80+ hour workweeks. The ocean's influence was everywhere. Kelly Ann was born. Proud, proud father ever since. Four years

later it was back to Minneapolis & the St. Louis Park Medical Center, the institution where 'HMO' was coined. Department head, accredited sleep disorders laboratory, internal medicine, mandolins, marathons. Geodesic dome in northern Wisconsin. Back to California. Scripps Green. More ICU work. Shih Tzu's Samson & Delilah captured the household.. Law school just for fun, a stint with the Department of Justice in health care fraud. A plunge into biotech, first with Alliance and the liquid ventilation project. Nepal trek physician on Annapurna, 17,769'. Weekends in Steamboat Springs, wannabe cattle rancher. Medical volunteer in the Philippines. More biotech, this time as EVP at Isis Pharmaceuticals. Traded cattle ranching for avocado farming. A day without tractor time is not a day at all. Biotech consulting became a career. Signed on as crew for a tall ship circling New Zealand. Finland's Arctic Circle. A Mayo Clinic kidney transplant was a transforming event. Heroes everywhere. Can't comprehend the generosity of a living kidney donor. Payback devoted to fellow kidney transplant candidates, authoring a book, mentoring. Wartime medical volunteer with Samaritans Purse in Mosul, Iraq. A freak heat storm burned up 500 avocado trees. The farmer transitioned to wine grapes as an alternative. Sangiovese. Sauvignon Blanc. More fun, more tractors, more equipment, less water. More fun than words can describe. Medical volunteer in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Baja California. Bogey golfer, on a good day. Three rescued dogs, Truman, Dewey & Play Doh. Retired to southern Utah. Unimaginable natural beauty. A second book authored. The kidney kept going, barely. Low grade struggles but a great ride. None of it possible without valued & truly indispensable partner, Mary. Blessings abound. God is truly good.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., at the New Promise Lutheran Church, 244 South Valley View Dr., St. George, UT 84770.

The memorial service will be available live streaming at: <https://www.youtube.com/@newpromisestgeorge1178>

In lieu of flowers, we ask that you donate to a charity of your preference.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **27**. 2:00 PM (MT)

New Promise Lutheran Church
244 S. Valley View Drive
St. George, UT 84770

Tribute Wall



“ *Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah created a Live Streaming Memorial Service in memory of Mark Karl Wedel, MD*



Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah - April 25, 2024 at 11:34 AM

EC

Miss you my friend. Who am I going to chat about the Packers and Eagles opening game in Brazil with now?

Emil Chuang - May 04, 2024 at 06:39 PM

JH

“ *I remember seeing Dr. Wedel at the Saint Louis Park Medical Center. He treated me for a couple of unrelated conditions and I remember specifically his concern in helping me. This was in 1980. He was a great doctor.*

Jim Hansen - December 19, 2024 at 08:52 PM

VB

“ *I met Dr. Wedel some years ago at a kidney walk- he took the time to share with me and provided input that I should seek kidney transplant at UCLA - my husband donated one of his first... then I numbed up on the wait list while a match for me was sought, I received one of Jill's kidneys on Valentine's day of 2023. I thank God for the life of Dr. Wedel. 🙏*



Vernita Bradford - July 08, 2024 at 02:33 AM

YC

“ Your Isis Pharma Colleagues/Friends planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Karl Wedel, MD.

Your Isis Pharma Colleagues/Friends - April 25, 2024 at 02:25 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Mark Karl Wedel, MD.



April 25, 2024 at 02:25 AM

MN

“ Mitchell N. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Karl Wedel, MD.

Mitchell N. - April 23, 2024 at 12:49 PM

MN

“ Mark was the best! I'll miss his engaging and enthusiastic ways...I appreciated his check-ins with email and text. I've great memories of Mark with family get togethers, time in Utah, and one last football season we enjoyed together. My best to Aunt MK, Kelly, and all of Mark's loved ones. ❤️

Mitchell Noah - April 23, 2024 at 12:46 PM

BB

“ Mark, thank you for your partnership and guidance at work, on the golf course, and in life. I will miss you, but I think of you often, and those thoughts will continue to bring a smile to my face.

Brian Birchler - April 13, 2024 at 11:34 AM

EW

“ I will miss our "world problem solving" lunches. And world will be a bit less interesting without you in it.

Eric Wickfield - April 12, 2024 at 10:15 PM

PG

“ What a beautiful video...You will be truly missed by so many lives that you have touched. Thank you for hiring me as your admin over 20+ years ago...I will miss you dearly. My heart goes out to Mary and Kelly during this difficult time. Thank you for your advice, the laughs, your stories, your energy and the love you gave to all....Patricia and family

PATRICIA GEE - April 12, 2024 at 04:28 AM

MH

Rest in peace dear Mark from a life so well lived. You were deeply loved and so well respected by those who knew and loved you including your extended Wedel family. May God's love bring comfort especially to Mary and Kelly. With love...Marion Wedel Heinz (proud cousin and loyal Packer fan.)

Marion Wedel Heinz - April 25, 2024 at 07:12 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Serenity Funeral Home of Southern Utah - April 11, 2024 at 12:20 PM

CN

Rest in peace, Mark! We'll miss you so much, but so very thankful for the memories! Carolyn & Jon

Carolyn & Jon Noah - April 11, 2024 at 02:59 PM

MG

*Mark my bro ,
Julie and I will both miss you, You were a one of a kind go getter .
When you set your mind to something you just went ahead and did it 😊. Thank you for all the things you did with my sister, The video proves that 😊. Now let the heavens greet you . You will now be able to see all the people you missed 🙏
Oh and please give mom a hug ❤️*

Michael Gjesdahl - April 11, 2024 at 04:14 PM

UJ

Beautiful memories of life well lived.

Ursula and John - April 11, 2024 at 05:03 PM

PG

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PATRICIA GEE - April 12, 2024 at 08:18 AM

JB

We were gifted with our Kayenta neighbors Mark and Mary a few years ago. Trusted and loved (like family) from the first time we met, we valued our friendship with Mark (and Mary still). His love for family, friends, people, life, was contagious. He always left me feeling happier somehow. More appreciative of things. I cherish the beautiful desert garden we watched him build, literally stone by barrel full of stone, helping when he'd let us. I will always see his him there, smiling face, greeting me with positive vibes, and his genuine happiness. Our hearts are with his beloved Mary, and the family he cherished. Mark contributed so much positive in his life. We are proud to have known him, and will miss him dearly.

Jeri Bly - April 24, 2024 at 01:19 PM

DA

“ Mark and Mary were very special neighbors during his avocado and vineyard days. All the events speak to the greatness of this man. His love and intelligence just glowed out of his blue eyes. A world lost a truly unique and wonderful soul. Prayers to Mary and Kelly and his beloved dogs. Obit shares an amazing well lived life!

❤️❤️❤️ Don/Mary Alexandrr

don and mary alexander - April 10, 2024 at 07:27 PM

MW

“ Please note that in lieu of flowers or gifts Mark and family are asking that if you are so inclined that you make a donation to YOUR favorite charity.

Some of Mark's favorites are Samaritan's Purse, Tunnel to Towers, Wounded Warriors, Best Friends Animal Sanctuary.

mary Wedel - April 08, 2024 at 08:07 PM

BG

“ Rest in piece, Dr Mark. Thank you for you support and guidance you provided to me during Gary's heart attack. You were a great friend to Gary. You'll be missed. 🥹 Billie Gengler

Billie Gengler - April 04, 2024 at 10:57 PM