



Francis "Chris" Irwin

December 25, 1957 - August 28, 2010

KOONTZ LAKE-Francis Christopher "Chris" Irwin, 52, passed away Saturday, August 28, 2010 in Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne, IN. Chris was born December 25, 1957 in Chicago, IL to Francis X. and Margaret M. (Quebbeman) Irwin and lived at Koontz Lake since 1974, coming from Chicago. Surviving are, wife Merita; one daughter, Tara Irwin of Valparaiso; three step-sons, Jamie (Tina) Plunkett of Walkerton, Sean (Christy) Plunkett of Ft. Wayne and Patrick (Lisel) Plunkett of South Bend; his mother, Marge Irwin of Koontz Lake; one brother, Marty (Jacinta) Irwin of Ft. Myers, FL; two sisters, Teresa Papoi of Walkerton and Beth (Randy) Schmeltz of Koontz Lake; seven grandchildren; niece, Anna Schmeltz; nephew, Aaron Rolewicz and dear friend, Pam Van Ness. He was preceded in death by his father and nephew, Derrick Rolewicz.

Chris was the owner of Freedom Insurance in Plymouth. In his earlier career he worked at Bashor Home for Boys in Goshen and the Starke County Welfare Dept. as a social worker. He was a 1976 graduate of Oregon-Davis High School, and a graduate of Ancilla College and Indiana University, South Bend. He was a Junior Achievement volunteer at Oregon-Davis High School, former President of the O-D Alumni Association and a caregiver at Marshall Starke Development Center.

A memorial service will be Thursday, September 2, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. (Eastern

Time) at the Walkerton United Methodist Church with Pastor Charlene Allen officiating. An opportunity to share special memories at the service will be given. Friends may visit with the family Thursday at the church from 1:00 p.m. ET until the time of services. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be given to the Chris Irwin Scholarship Fund.

Tribute Wall

GQ

“ Chris was a wonderful person. I am a better person for having known him. I loved hanging around with him all the summers I stayed with the Irwin's on my vacations. My thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of need.

Greg Quebbeman - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

CB

“ You will be so very missed by so many.

Cindy Briggs - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

TJ

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

TJ Jackson - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

JS

“ *cartainly*

Jim & Obie Samons - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

JS

“ We are very sad to learn of Chris' passing. Chris was a good friend and we have many good memories of our times together. We ask that God would bless and give strength to the entire family during this time.

Jim & Obie Samons

Jim & Obie Samons - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

JH

“ Chris was a natural born leader and a upbeat person who always had a smile and a word of encouragement. We spent many "seasons" of prayer side by side on our knees and attended many mens group functions together such as Promise Keepers. I remember well celebrating his 40th birthday. My wife Tereasa and I enjoyed Chris and Marita's hospitality back when Tara was just a young girl.

I shall never forget the time Chris accompanied me to Indianapolis and literally prayed me through and helped me hang onto my sanity during a very severe bout of depression. He was that rarest of friends. No one is perfect and we've all faced struggles in our lives, but that lonely time when it seemed no man cared for my soul; Chris Irwin made an indelible imprint on my heart that shall always be my personal reminder of the kind of man he truly was.

Chris I'll see you in the morning when we meet again on the other side! Until then my brother, my friend enjoy the bliss of His presence!

Tara, we will continue to hold you up in prayer as you pass through this most difficult of times. Marg and Marita are deepest sympathies to you as well.

James A Hartley - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

SG

“ As Chris makes his journey home to God, he leaves behind a legacy of kindness, generosity, peace and hope. He was a shining light in so many people's lives. Perhaps that comes from being born on Christmas day From our family childhood on the south side of Chicago through our adulthood, we could count on Chris to be strong and gentle ... concerned and light-hearted ... as quick to lend a hand as to tell a funny story ... a faithful friend and an advocate for anyone in need. Chris was and remains a very special cousin who blessed us both with the gift of his life, love and laughter. He will have a special place in our hearts forever! To all who loved Chris and to all who grieve his passing, we send our love, prayers and sympathy. May Eternal Light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Sr. Meg and Mariann Guider - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

BA

“ Big brother, I will miss you all the days of my life. You are my hero. I hope you know how much I love you and how proud I am to be your sister.

Beth, Randy & Anna - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

LW

“ Rick and I send you are deepest sympathies Marge, Marty, Beth, Theresa, Merita and Tara. We will miss Chris, he was one of my best friends and mentor, we grew up together in the insurance business and he became my friend and "brother". He now walks with God and we were all blessed to know him. Love Louann

Louann Waldron - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

DU

“ Chris I will always remember you my friend. See you again some day. May you rest in God' loving arms, we love you.

Debbie Uselman - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

LS

“ *My heart is heavy over your loss. Chris was loved by so many people and although these past couple of years have been difficult, I pray for your comfort and peace in having loved him.*

Laurie Seifer - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

LD

“ *Teresa and family, my prayers and thoughts are with you.*

*Love you
Lois*

Lois Davis - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

KA

“ *The Irwin Family, I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. Chris was such a wonderful person! I have a lot of great memories of him! He was the reason I went to Mass on Sundays during my HS days, hoping to get a smile from him. My thoughts and prayers are with you all!*

Kim (Groves) Arnett - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

BG

“ *We are so very sorry for your loss, Chris was a great man and was loved by all that knew him. He always had a smile on his face and had his own way of making us feel as if everything will be ok. We cherished his friendship and will dearly miss him. If there is anything we can do for you please don't hesitate to ask.*

Brian and Jan Glennon - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

BG

“ *May the love of so many light your way to the amazing grace of our father and until we meet again comfort and rest bestow upon you our friend. We love you and will greatly miss you.*

Brian and Jan Glennon - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

LB

“ *Dear Friends, I am deeply sorry for your loss. Chris has been a friend all of my life; from playing as kids at Kramer's Beach to high school activities and later our insurance careers. He was always kind, sweet and gentle. I will miss him and think of him often. You are one of the strongest and most loving families I know and I pray that your love will sustain you during this sad time. With love and friendship, Lori Barko*

Lori Barko - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

SS

“ *Chris was my insurance agent for many years. I was always impressed with his professionalism and friendly help. I am truly sorry to hear of his passing. My thoughts and prayer go out to you all.*

Sue Solmos - June 18, 2018 at 12:21 PM

LD

“ *my family and I will miss him terribly, as a boss, a friend and brother. He was always there for me in good times and bad. Life will not be the same without his incredible sense of humor and his love of Michael Jackson*
LY

Leann Davis - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM

DJ

“ It has been my pleasure working with Chris for the last few years. We became close friends and had many good times during my visits to Indiana. I will miss his sense of humor, our visits to Leann's 'farm', and persuading him to watch the Ravens during football season. I will miss you Slick!

Darlene Jones - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM

BB

“ Thoughts and Prayers to all the Irwin Family. Chris, was a special person. He will be missed by all that knew him. GOD BLESS!

Betty Brandt - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM

JT

“ I wanted to offer my condolences to all the Irwin family. I first got to know Chris at Ancilla, it didn't take long to figure out that he was a great guy. I know he will be missed by everyone who knew him. Peace, Jack Taylor

Jack Taylor - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM

KA

“ I want to send my condolences to the family I've known Chris a long time an we have stayed friends throughout te years I am so sorry for your loss. He was an all around great guy and a true friend. Always a warm smile I will miss him and will be keeping all of you in my thoughts and prayers Heaven only takes the best for their angels

Kathi - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM

BR

“ We were neighbors for years at Koontz Lake. Chris was also our insurance agent. We send our deepest sympathy for his family.

Bill & Beverly Rundle - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM

PE

“ To you Marge, Marty, Teresa and Beth, my heart is deeply saddened by your loss. I wasn't one of the lucky ones to have known Chris, but for the few times we met in passing he acted like we were long time friends. I was overwhelmed by that compassion. I realize now he made people feel welcomed wherever he happened to be. An ability of which, I wish I had. I want to hold those memories dear to my heart and remember Chris as someone who gave a little "Chris"mas spirit through- out the year. Marge, I hope you and your family will find strength and peace in dealing with this difficult time. P.S. I hope my dad will give him a holler. Patti Erwin

Patti Erwin - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM

CF

“ Chris and I were friends in high school and he was also my senior prom date. Chris was an all around great guy and friend. He will be missed by all who knew him. My thoughts and prayers are with his family for their loss.

Cindy (Matusiak) Finley - April 29, 2018 at 08:27 PM



“ Christopher-You were my angel in time of need. I truly believe God sent you to protect me and show me there is hope for a future if you have love. You showed me all things are possible with love. I have so many memories to cherish and will look for your bright star at night.

To Chris' family-I am so sorry about your loss. He loved all of you very much. He will be missed by so many.

September 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Dear Sharon and family, I was shocked to read of Chris' death. Please give his family our condolences for their great loss. May he soar with the angels!

Donna & Bob Whitmer - August 31, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Kylie, Logan, Nolan, Makynna and Bailey will miss you greatly. They enjoyed story time, plotting to push you in the lake and pretending they were doctors taking care of you. We enjoyed the hours of watching Disney movies with you.

August 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM