

BEN CHRISTIANSON EARTH STEWARDSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

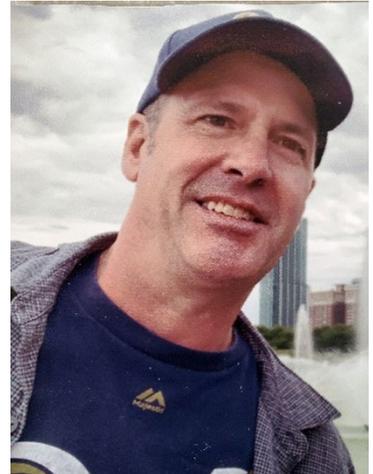


FUND BACKSTORY . . .

Ben Christianson was born to Don and Jane Christianson on September 2, 1969 in Wausau and grew up in the John Marshall neighborhood on Wausau's southeast side. He graduated from Wausau East High School and the University of Wisconsin in Madison with a degree in hydrogeology. He worked for Ramaker & Associates, an engineering firm in Sauk City, and lived in Madison the final 26 years of his life. An outdoorsman, adventurer, and music lover – Ben lived life to its fullest. His brother Jay recalls, "If Ben wanted to go somewhere, he went. If he wanted to do something, he did it. Ben went for it."

Summers were filled with fishing trips to the Turtle Flambeau Flowage with his friends, kayaking and biking, jogging, and other various outdoor activities. Being a typical Wisconsinite, fall meant deer hunting trips on the family's land with his brother, uncles, and cousin in an old-fashioned log cabin. Winter meant downhill skiing and racing at Cascade Mountain or cross-country skiing wherever the best snow was to be found.

Ben Christianson was taken from his earthly life through a random act of violence on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, while working at a job site near Greenfield, Wisconsin. This scholarship was established by his family to perpetuate his memory for years to come.



RECIPIENT SELECTION

To be an Earth Steward encompasses more than being an activist, environmentalist, recycler, and taking note of water and energy consumption. It is a way of life and means to live with integrity, to be a giver, to appreciate beauty in nature, to be moved by the changes in the sun, moon, and stars, to possess a willingness to try new things, to have an incredible work ethic, to be a life-long learner, to live gently, and to be mindful of one's environment as well as to reach out to others when there is a need.

ELIGIBILITY

- Graduating high school senior from Wausau East High School

CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Dedication to the environment
- Display of a strong work ethic, a desire to do things right, and to make things better
- Demonstrate the characteristics of integrity, compassion, caring, empathy, and kindness
- Preference will be given to students interested in pursuing an education and career in earth sciences
- GPA is not a factor in selection

For more information go to cfoncw.org