

Brian Thomas Duchscherer Memorial Scholarship

— 1975-1996 —

There was a young man that we loved so much,
But had to leave with loving and comforting touch.
We hated to lose him in such a tragic way,
But God took him home and wouldn't let him stay ...

The family and friends of Brian Duchscherer found comfort in these beautiful, reflective words written by a close friend, Matthew Herda. Brian lost his life in a vehicle accident on April 14, 1996, at the tender age of 20. He is remembered with great affection by numerous individuals. As a youngster, he was known in Michigan, North Dakota, as the *Lawn-Mowing Boy* who had a compassionate approach to the elderly, especially his grandmother. He was also known as having strong family ties with his mom Rose, his dad Carl, and big brothers Dan and John. Together they enjoyed hunting and fishing, and until his death, Brian would always lend a farm hand to his father.



As he'll look down at his loving mom and dad,
He'll see their pride and love for the son they once had.
He and his dad had a big moose hunt planned,
But through this all, Brian still gave his dad a hand.

Brian, born on November 24, 1975, grew up in Michigan. After graduating from Lakota High School in 1994, he joined the National Guard and underwent training in Kentucky and Maryland. In Aberdeen, Maryland, he did small engine repair. After basic training, he returned to North Dakota and enrolled in the Simulator Technology program at Lake Region State College, beginning classes in January 1996.

Dedicated friends, such as Matthew Herda, D. J. Clark, Erick Clemenson, and Casey Gust, remember Brian as a very kind and generous person. His room in the resident hall was *the place* they would flock to share heroic tales of *the hunt*, and on Thursdays everyone gathered in Brian's room to watch television's prime-time sitcoms. D. J. Clark states, "*Brian's death was the hardest thing that has ever happened to me ... He was one of my closest friends.*" They described him as conservative, helpful, and perfectionist in everything he did.

Lake Region State College students, faculty, and staff were especially fond of Brian's spirit which truly exemplified the overall image of a student.

Now, looking down on relatives, friends, and our small college, that same spirit will live on in the Brian Thomas Duchscherer Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a Lake Region area student.

He may even say to all of us,
*"Don't grieve for me, for now I've gone home.
I died feeling no pain, and did not suffer.
For all I say, 'I love you very much, my Father and Mother*