



Thomas Wakefield Family Memorial Endowment

Thomas J. Wakefield, a life-time Devils Lake resident, together with his two children, Mikal and Nicole, died in a tragic automobile accident on January 9, 2005, near St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Tom was born to Daniel and Victoria Wakefield on December 25, 1945, in Amery, Wisconsin. Shortly after his birth, the Wakefield family moved to Devils Lake where Tom's father pursued a life-time

career in aviation.

Tom attended St. Joseph's Catholic School and graduated from Devils Lake Central High School in May of 1964. During his high school days, he proved to be a stellar athlete, garnering a full-ride hockey scholarship to Colorado College which he attended for four years. He also attended the University of North Dakota.

His life had many twists and turns from

running the infamous Honker Hunting Lodge in Webster to establishing his own aviation business. During his aviation career, Tom logged many hours as an aerial crop sprayer and a provider of scenic flights over the Lake Region. Most recently, Tom immersed himself in real estate ventures and historic home restoration.

Tom had many talents and pastimes. He played on the Men's Hockey League and served as an assistant coach for the Devils Lake High School team. He was an avid racquetball player, cross-country, and downhill skier, and true outdoorsman. He loved any activity that brought him in touch with nature. He made everything in life an adventure. He is remembered by his family as a loving husband and father, a fierce athletic competitor, and a lover of people.

The best of Tom's life came when he married Devils Lake native Loydene Sigette. From their life together, they were blessed with three children—Lucas, Mikal, and Nicole.

Mikal James was born November 28, 1997, in Devils Lake. During his pre-school years, he had the privilege of attending College Care for Kids at Lake Region State

College. At the time of his death, he was attending Prairie View School, teaching his classmates the many things his dad was

teaching him. He was very social, yet loved to read. He had also recently taken up hockey which brought a glimmer to his dad's eye.

Nicole Victoria was born November 7, 2001, in Devils



Lake. She was an animated three-year-old "daddy's girl." In the months prior to her death, she had become excited about the

idea of playing hockey and was just beginning to learn how to skate with her dad instructing. She loved her mom and her brothers and was crazy about doing anything her older brothers were doing. She also attended College Care for Kids, and Nicole, like Mikal, was always anxious to go to "college" each day.

Loydene and Lucas Wakefield have asked that the annual scholarship from this endowment be awarded to a non-traditional student with one or more children enrolled in the

campus-based child care program. Loy and Tom were always impressed with the care and attention their children received at College Care for Kids and grateful for the college's commitment to the needs of students and the Lake Region community. ✈

