



## Jeffrey N. Long

May 5, 1964 - May 29, 2018

Jeffrey N. Long, 54, of Naperville, passed away surrounded by his loving family Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at his home after a courageous eight year battle with cancer, defying the odds not once but twice what he was told by his doctors. He was born on May 5, 1964 in Lakewood, Ohio.

Jeff truly enjoyed life and was an active outdoorsman. He loved Kayaking, biking and was instrumental in reestablishing the Mid-American Canoe & Kayak Race. He was a sports writer for the Beacon News for twenty three years covering local college and pro sporting events including the Chicago Bulls during their championship runs. In recent years he worked for the Fox Valley Park District.

He is survived by his wife of twenty four years, Jenean (Mickey) Long; his two children, Autumn Long and Trevor Long; four brothers, Brad (Laurie) Long, Steve (Jenny) Long, Adam (Katie) Long, Devin Long; his mother, Cynthia Bratta; stepmother, Linda Long; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gregory Long.

A memorial visitation will be held Sunday, June 10, 2018 from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM at THE DALEIDEN MORTUARY, 220 North Lake Street, Aurora, Illinois 60506. (630) 631-5500.

Please visit our interactive website at [www.daleidenmortuary.com](http://www.daleidenmortuary.com) where you may sign the guest book or leave condolences for Jeffrey's family.

## Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Memorial Visitation

JUN **10**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Daleiden Mortuary  
220 N. Lake Street  
Aurora, IL 60506  
(630) 631-5500  
daleidenmortuary@gmail.com  
<https://www.daleidenmortuary.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Daleiden Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Jeffrey N. Long



Daleiden Mortuary - June 06, 2018 at 02:17 PM



“ Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Jeffrey N. Long.



June 08, 2018 at 09:30 AM



“ We send warm wishes of peace and comfort to Jeff's family. He was a true hero in multiple ways. Jeff was a very gifted and capable writer, first with the Beacon sports news, when I first met him, and then with the park district's regular feature stories and releases. His public relations skills were vast and unmatched in comparison to today's media people. Perhaps most of all, his love of the outdoors was inspirational. What a wonderful role model for all of us! Although his life was way too brief, we thank God for his presence and the blessing of knowing him. Nancy and Jim Hopp

Nancy Hopp - June 04, 2018 at 08:32 AM

 Vernon  
LaVia

“ Jeff was a fellow member of the Kiwanis Club of Aurora. He was always smiling, and he always asked me about my 47-years of bird watching exploits. He had a way of making you feel he was genuinely interested in your "story." I will always strive to be more like Jeff in that regard. I am sad he is gone...but extremely grateful he was ever here! I pray for Peace to be revealed for his wife, kids and family who he loved soooo much! Peace is all around us at all times...just seems to be hiding at moments.  
Peace on you all....Vernon LaVia

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**Vernon LaVia** - May 31, 2018 at 03:48 PM

LS

“ I met Jeff last year at a meeting of Kane County PR professionals, and we struck up conversation about our previous days at the local newspapers. He was kind and passionate about his work, and I was glad for our chat. Few people we meet only once can leave a lasting impression, but Jeff was clearly one of those people. I know he will be missed and send my most sincere condolences to his family and friends.

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**Laura Sprague** - May 31, 2018 at 09:19 AM

 Jeff  
Ward

“ *I never actually met Jeff face-to-face, but we carried on a lengthy correspondence via email, Facebook and his regular commentary on my blog. He was a great writer who had a subtle and satirical way of making me laugh at myself. We would joke that he was wise enough to get out of the newspaper biz just as I was getting in.*

*I understand that good journalists never want to be the story, but I wish Jeff had let me know about his battle with cancer so I could've told him that I always appreciated his consistent presence in my life. You will me missed my friend.*

*And, trust me! I'm going to get that colonoscopy.*

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**Jeff Ward** - May 31, 2018 at 08:03 AM

 Kari  
Ann

“ *Jeff touched the lives of so many people. I've known him in the professional capacity (and as a Facebook friend) for more than 10 years and he was just one of those down to earth, genuine guys who was so easy to be around. I looked to Jeff was a mentor and an incredibly talented writer. But more than anything it was his love for his family that stood out. He just beamed with pride any time he spoke about his wife and kids. He will be truly missed. My condolences to his family on this tremendous loss =(*

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**Kari Ann** - May 30, 2018 at 04:06 PM

**AS**

*In the community of writers, Jeff stood out as one who not only knew his craft but also as a writer who understood the significance of communicating factual information. The many journalists who knew Jeff's work and ethics are moved by the loss of an exceptionally gifted writer and very decent human being.*

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**Anthony Stanford** - May 31, 2018 at 10:05 AM

GS

*Jeff was a gifted communicator. His writing was as good as it gets. I feel honored to have had the pleasure of knowing him and working alongside him for about 13 years. My condolences to his wonderful family.*

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**Gary Stutzman** - June 29, 2018 at 12:27 AM