

Brendan Carrick French

October 22, 1992 ~ June 13, 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden, and much too soon, passing of our son, brother, grandson, nephew, cousin and good friend, Brendan Carrick French.

He leaves behind his loving parents, Beth (nee Retzlaff) & Shawn French; sister Mollie; grandmothers Suzanne (nee Schuckert) French, and Jean (nee Carrick) Retzlaff; aunts and uncles Janine (nee French) Foy, Paul & Kristi (nee McGonagle) French, Jeannie (nee Wallace) French, Ann (nee French) & Steven Schmidt, Kay Retzlaff & Thomas McCord, Russell & Brenda (nee Polt) Retzlaff, Curtis & Julie (nee Miller) Retzlaff, Jennifer (nee Retzlaff) & Steven Nowachek, and Eric & Brandy (nee Madison) Retzlaff.

He was a cousin to Travis & Kaitlin (nee Goter) Retzlaff, Calvin & Brittany (nee Werner) Retzlaff, Sara (nee Retzlaff) & Jordan Hinrichs, Laura (nee Retzlaff) & Dustin Christiansen, Chelsey Retzlaff, Lindsay (nee Nowachek) & Matt Stoehr, Christopher & Britney (nee Smart) Nowachek, Natalie Retzlaff, Alex Retzlaff, Caydan Retzlaff, Grace Retzlaff, Alexandra Schmidt, Will & Alexandra (nee Leonardo) French, Andrew French and James Foy.

Brendan is preceded in death by his grandfathers, Robert Retzlaff and David French, his uncle Jim Foy, and his twin brother, Jack Michael French.

Brendan was born in Chicago, Illinois on October 22, 1992, and grew up in the northern suburb of Highland Park, near Lake Michigan.

He later moved with his family to the Greater Philadelphia Area (Yardley, PA) in 2001 and

to Salt Lake City in 2010. He graduated from Judge Memorial Catholic High School in 2011.

Brendan attended the University of Utah, Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) and Utah State University (USU). He graduated with High Honors from SLCC with an Associates of Science degree in 2021, and in 2025 was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Management and Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems at USU in Logan, UT.

Brendan enjoyed playing sports from an early age. At the high school level, he competed in football, wrestling and lacrosse at both Pennsbury HS in PA and Judge Memorial in SLC.

He learned to snow ski on the icy slopes of the Pocono Mountain and perfected those skills on family vacations in Colorado and later on “*the greatest snow on earth*” here in Utah.

He developed a love for nature and the outdoors, fueled by many summers at Cheley Colorado Camps in Estes Park, where he learned to hike, backpack, ride horses, woodworking, target shooting, but most importantly, respect nature and his fellow campers.

With his twin brother, Brendan shared a passion for music. He was a talented bass guitar player and enjoyed producing music by arranging and mixing hip-hop song beats into some amazing, finished products, many of which he sold the rights to other artists.

Brendan loved fishing with friends and family. One of his best memories was when his father took him out of school on his 13th birthday as a surprise to go “down the shore” for a day of deep-sea fishing on the Norma-K charter boat out of Point Pleasant, NJ. He was so proud to win the $180 pool that day with a spectacular black fish.

He adored the natural beauty of Utah and loved to share his knowledge about the formation of the Wasatch Mountains and Lake Bonneville. He collected rocks and geodes from different parts of the world and proudly displayed them in his room.

He was a complex and caring young man with a great love for family, an amazing dedication to friends, and a huge soft spot for animals, particularly his dog, Stevie and his brother’s dog, Mia. Brendan will never be forgotten.

CHICAGO AREA

Memorial of his Life will be celebrated Saturday, June 28, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at St. James Catholic Church, 820 N. Arlington Heights Road in Arlington Heights. IL.

SLC AREA

A Visitation will be held Friday, July 18, 2025, at Larkin Mortuary, 260 East South Temple in Salt Lake City, where friends may call from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

A Memorial of his Life followed by a Funeral Mass will be celebrated Saturday, July 19, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 170 S. University St, Salt Lake City.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to any of the organizations below who impacted Brendan during his life:

Primary Children’s Hospital (SLC)

Hearts United for Animals (“HUA”)

(a no-kill animal shelter in Auburn, Nebraska and a place near and dear to Brendan’s heart)

Utah State University – Quinney College of Natural Resources

Cavalier Crazy Dog Rescue - SLC