



The Reverend Doctor Jeffrey Howard Walther

February 24, 1962 - October 25, 2020

The Reverend Doctor Jeffrey Walther, 58 of Esko went to his Heavenly home on Sunday, October 25, 2020 with his loving family by his side. He was born on February 24, 1962 to Howard and Elaine Walther in Wadena, MN. Starting at an early age, Jeff felt called to a life of ministry. Jeff loved the outdoors, especially the national parks. He grew up visiting national parks with his parents and brother which instilled in him his love of nature. Jeff attended Concordia College in St. Paul and Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. Throughout his seminary years, he spent six summers working and ministering with A Christian Ministry in the National Parks. His final summer was in Grand Teton National Park, where he met the love of his life, Christina Stavrou. Thereafter, Jeff and Christina continued for years to enjoy the love of national parks across the country with their extended families. During his twenty-eight years of ministry, Jeff served at Grace Lutheran, Long Island, NY, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN and the last twenty years at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Esko, MN. Jeff loved spending time with his wife, Christina and children, Hannah and Alex. Together they enjoyed camping, hiking, kayaking, playing games and even dancing in the kitchen. Jeff had the great honor of welcoming another son into the family as he united Hannah and Austen in marriage. The joy that he brought to all of us illuminated the entire room, and when he laughed, it was hard not to join him. Before his passing, Jeff completed his Doctorate of Ministry at Talbot School of Theology. His thesis, *The Wonders of God and the Wonders of Creation*, was published in May 2020.

Jeff is survived by his wife of 27 years, Christina; daughter, Hannah (Austen) Kovac; son, Alex Walther; parents, Howard and Elaine Walther; in-laws, Soterios and Elizabeth Stavrou; brother, Tim (Gretchen) Walther; brothers-in-law, Kyp (Sarah) Stavrou, Niko Stavrou; sister-in-law, Jennifer (Paul) Rodine; nieces and nephews, Naomi and Michala Walther, Amalia and Theodora Rodine, Jake Brouillard, Simon Stavrou; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Jeff devoted his entire life to the Lord, and we find great comfort and peace knowing that he will soar forever on eagle's wings, and along the mountain side, resting peacefully forever in Heaven's National Park.

Thank you to the incredible medical team at Essentia Health St. Mary's Medical Center

that took care of Jeff – you were exceptional.

Donations in memory/honor of Jeff Walther may be made to one of the following: St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 4 Elizabeth Avenue, Esko, MN 55733; A Christian Ministry in the National Parks, 9250 E Costilla Ave. Suite 203, Greenwood Village, CO 80112; or Lutheran Island Camp, 45011 230th St., Henning, MN 56551.

A Drive-Thru Visitation will be held on Friday, October 30th from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Esko. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, October 31st at 11:00am. The service will be for immediate family only, but the family invites friends, extended family and community to join in via live stream on the St. Matthews Lutheran Church facebook page, or by parking in the St. Matthews parking lot (4 Elizabeth Ave. Esko, MN 55733) and tuning in to 99.5 FM. Arrangements entrusted to Atkins Northland Funeral Home, Cloquet. To sign the guest book and offer an online tribute, see www.atkinsnorthlandfuneralhome.com

Comments



“ So very sorry for all of youe. Sending our thoughts and prayers to you. Mike & Mary Bottila

Michael Bottila - 17 minutes ago



“ Bruce And Barb Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of The Reverend Doctor Jeffrey Howard Walther



Bruce and Barb Brown - 30 minutes ago