



## Daniel Ray Braaten

April 16, 1964 - September 20, 2015

Daniel "Moe" Ray Braaten, 51, of Austin, died unexpectedly on Sunday, September 20, 2015 at Mayo Clinic Health System of Austin.

Daniel was born in Austin on April 16, 1964 to Thomas and Lucille (Wehner) Braaten. He attended and graduated from Austin High School in 1982. He then enlisted in the US Army and traveled all over the world during his 4 years of duty. In 1986 he met the love of his life Tamara Novak while attending college. They married on August 26, 1988 in Austin. Daniel worked for several area companies as a maintenance mechanic. He never lost the desire to learn and he achieved many diplomas. Over the past couple of years, he had been working for Ventura Foods.

Daniel enjoyed mowing his yard, gardening, barbequing, cooking, fishing and riding his motorcycle. In his younger years, he was an avid hunter. He developed a soft heart for animals and couldn't bring himself to shoot wildlife any longer. He was an awesome story teller; especially about his family and their wild adventures. He could fill a room with laughter. Daniel was a member of the Masonic Temple. Dan was full of life and lived his life to the fullest. He was always there to lend a helping hand when needed, regardless of who was in need. From putting air in the neighborhood kids bike tires, fixing their chains so they won't fall off, or fixing the plumbing of his daughter's friend. He would often mow the lawns or snow blow the neighbors drive just because he was there. Dan was always just a call away, willing to drop what he was doing to help a friend in need. If you were a friend to Dan, he gave you a nickname and you were stuck with it for life.

Daniel is survived by his wife Tamara of Austin; son, Benjamin Braaten of Mankato; daughters, Emily (Kjell) Jacobson of Kittery, ME and Allison Braaten of Austin; his mother Lucille of Belle Plaine; siblings, Thomas (Teresa) Braaten of Rapid City, SD, Teresa (Myron) Bratsch of Belle Plaine, Lucinda (James) Williams of New Prague, along with multiple nieces and nephews.

Daniel is preceded in death by his father Thomas Braaten, and a sister, Debra Braaten.

Funeral services will be at 11:00 am on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at Crane Community Chapel with Rev. Dale Christiansen officiating. Visitation will be from 5-8 pm on Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at Mayer Funeral Home with a Masonic Service starting at 7:45pm. There will also be visitation an hour prior to the funeral on Thursday. Military Rites will be performed by the Austin American Legion Post #91 immediately after the service. Burial will be private.

# Events

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**SEP** **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

**23**

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Mayer Funeral Home

600 2nd Street NW P.O. Box 27, Austin, MN, US, 55912

**SEP** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**24**

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Crane Community Chapel

Austin, MN, US

**SEP** **Service** 11:00AM

**24**

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Crane Community Chapel

Austin, MN, US

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Mayer Funeral Home** - September 23, 2015 at 04:51 PM



“ so beautiful,,i'm still crying,i remember a few of the times,,just over welming,,,,i keep watching it,,love to you all

**kerry hicks** - September 24, 2015 at 08:55 PM



“ Very lovely tribute to your loving dad and husband he would of loved it i know it brought tears to my eyes in a good way thanks for sharing all these wonderful memories with us he will be missed very dearly

**teresa dolph** - September 25, 2015 at 08:13 AM



“ Such a great guy to be around always making people laugh

**Matt Streiff** - September 26, 2015 at 05:46 AM

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“ It's been many years, but I'll never forget the moments I spent in Austin at the Braaten household. Seeing two adults so in love with each other helped me to believe that true love really does exist. It was like being around a couple of goofy teenagers! To Emily, Tamara, Allison, and Ben, you are all in my thoughts and in my heart. Rest in peace, Dan. You are missed.

**Angela Murphy** - September 23, 2015 at 12:25 PM

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“ Hey Moe !!!! You was always a real good friend of mine. Can't believe it still. Will always remember the machining talk we would have and the awesome hunting memories we shared. Say high to Randy and Ray for me. RIP buddy.

**Brian Brandt** - September 22, 2015 at 09:31 AM

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“ Danny; I told you all that running around the yard in your underwear was going to give you pneumonia. Never thought this situation was possible with such an active and busy sort of fella like yourself.

I remember a few years ago when you were training at the Vocational School in

Albert Lea for your job upgrade. You recognized me before I recognized you. I had never seen you with a beard before. Handsome, is all I could think when realizing who I was talking to.

The Antics you and my brother would get yourself into, never really sure who caused what to occur first or last. You will always be in my memory, a kind, fun loving, and humorous individual. I recall that I mentioned it when last I saw you. Remember, the time many years ago. The sleep-over with my brother outside, a camping experience and both of you wanting someone, anyone to pay attention. I had no idea when I opened my window to see what the ruckus was, to be greeted by both you boys. It showed your youth, your funny and silly childhood antics side. 'You' and 'Ralph' running around, striped down to your shorts. Hooting and hollering like wolves in heat trying to attract my attention, if not anyone else possible, showing how brave and [ahaha] grown-up you both thought you were. You at age 10 and Ralph at age 11, oh yes, grown-up enough to dream.

Memories will never die ... thank heavens for mischievous, adventuresome types like you. Our world at that time was never dull nor will our remembrances of you be empty of fun either!

To you Mrs. Braaten and to the kids; with a kind soul added to your memories, we hope your healing is quick, as quick as time will allow during this difficult time. My husband and I wish you well; along with many Condolences too. Our sympathy goes to your family during this time of loss. Danny was a wonderful person, who will never be forgotten by us.

Shelia (Trimble) & Bill Bachelder

**Bill & Shelia Bachelder** - September 21, 2015 at 02:54 PM