



## Derek J. Ternes

March 6, 1978 - June 26, 2012

Derek John Ternes, 34, Bismarck, died on June 26, 2012. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Monday at 10:30 AM at Church of Corpus Christi in Bismarck with Rev. Paul Becker officiating. Burial will be held at St. Mary's Cemetery. Visitation will be Sunday from 5:00 - 8:00 PM at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck, and will continue on Monday one hour prior to the service at the church. Derek was born on March 6, 1978, to DuWayne and Sharon Eckroth Ternes in Bismarck. He attended Bismarck Public schools graduating from Century High School in 1996. He was involved in Boy Scouts, wrestling and football as a student and became involved in weight lifting and working out in his senior year. He attended UND, graduating in 2001 with a degree in biology. While at UND, he worked part-time at a nutrition store. After graduating, Derek lived and worked in Minneapolis for a year where he earned his World Certified Personal Fitness Training Certificate. He returned to Bismarck to be closer to family. Because of his desire to help people, he opened Nutri Sport in 2002. Seeing a need, one year later he opened his dream gym, Optimum Fitness. His motto "if you look good, you feel good and if you feel good you look good" was part of the success of the business. Derek married Lacey Scherr on May 27, 2005. The joy of his life, their daughter, Messina, was born the following year. After selling the gym, Derek went back to the University of Mary to pursue a nursing degree. He obtained his CNA certification and worked briefly at Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center where he loved working with the elderly. Most recently,

he was taking a break from courses and worked construction for the summer. Derek was a quiet gentle person when he was not troubled. As a youngster, he loved snuggling with the Keeshond puppies that he helped raise. Smokey was always excited for him to come home from college. Derek's desire for knowledge always kept him seeking to learn more. He loved learning about dinosaurs, fossils and rocks and this love he shared with his daughter. He said often that being a Dad was his biggest accomplishment in life and he was a wonderful father. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, and riding motorcycle. He will be forever missed by his daughter, Messina; his former wife, Lacey; his parents, DuWayne and Sharon; his brother, Todd Ternes Sarah Neigum; and many aunts and uncles, cousins and friends, including his best friend, Sam Severin. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Ambrose and Theresa Ternes, John and Ethel Eckroth, and aunts and uncles. Memorials may be given to Medcenter One School of Nursing, University of Mary Nursing Program, or Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.

# Tribute Wall

ST

“ Not sure if this is appropriate or not, but DuWayne and I just want all of you to know we appreciate your kind words and support. This has been a horrible ordeal with lots of unanswered questions. We miss Derek terribly, but with faith, family, and friends we will make it through this. One day at a time. God Bless you all.

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**Sharon Ternes** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ DuWayne, Sharon and Family, I am so sorry about the loss of your son Derek. My heart goes out to all of you. May the Lord comfort you and be with you during this very difficult time. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Anita Thomas

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**Anita Thomas** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ DuWayne, Sharon and Family, Our heartfelt sympathies to you in your loss of Derek. Prayers for you and all that knew Derek. Hugs, Jen & Randy

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**Jen & Randy Kuntz** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ DuWayne, Sharon, Todd, Lacey & Messina - You are all in my thoughts and prayers. When I was living and working in Bismarck/Mandan, Derek trained me in the gym. During those early morning sessions, we had many conversations about work, family and life in general. Underneath all his muscles, he was very kind hearted, especially when he talked about Messina. And he always wanted to help someone down and out - for example, when I was out of work in Bismarck, he refused to quit training me. Rather, he insisted on training me without compensation. The only way I could pay him back once I started working again was to leave a gift certificate for him at the gym when he wasn't there. What a guy. As I posted on his Facebook page, I'll always remember Derek as a hard worker, a caring friend and a loving father.

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**Jason Henderson** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ My sincere condolences to the Ternes Family. Derek will be missed.

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**Scooter Pinks** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HJ

“ DuWayne & Sharon Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this extremely difficult time. May your faith and strength help you to find peace. With each passing day may it help you ease the pain and help you to remember the good times.

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**Harley & Deb Jose** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ DuWayne and Sharon, My deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Derek was one of my first friends in Bismarck, and he is the whole reason I've had the good fortune to know your family. I am forever in his debt for that.

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**Andrew Afshar** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ DuWayne and Sharon, I did not know your son Derek, but I do know he had the most amazing parents anyone could ask for. So sorry, but know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.  
*Bernie TernesKuhlmann*

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**Bernie Kuhlmann** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ I have known derek most of my life. Derek and I went to school together and dated a couple of times. He will forever remain in my heart with that smile that could light up even the darkest of places and melt your heart and his kind kind eyes that held so much spirit. He was a truely great person and I am honored that i was touched by souch a kind soul. My deepest of sympothy to his daughter and family.

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**sara materi** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ DuWayne, Sharon, Todd, Lacey and Messina, I am sorry to hear about the loss of Derek. He was my personal trainer at Optimum for a few years, and then I followed him to the YMCA for a few months for training as well. He was such an inspiration to me, and he always motivated and encouraged me to keep trying new things. It is true, Derek had a passion for helping people, he had helped me in numerous ways, and I probably wouldn't be the person I am today without Derek's guidance! I just wanted to offer my condolences and know that Derek and all of you are in my thoughts and prayers!!! Thank you for letting Derek be a part of my life!

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**Jessica Welk** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ DuWayne and Sharon we are so sorry for your loss of your son Derek. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Mike and Brenda Davis - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Sharon and Dwayne, we are so sorry to hear of your painful loss of your son Derek. You are in thoughts and prayers during this time and forever. May God be with you and your family, Butch and Deb Knapp

Deborah and Butch Knapp - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ My love, many tears, prayers, and warm memories go out to you and your family in this time of loss. Derek will always be remembered in my heart. May the lord help and comfort you! Your friend, Debbie

Debbie Kobilansky - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ DuWayne, Sharon & family, we are so sorry to hear of your painful loss of Derek. Know that you are in our thought and prayers during this time, even though we will not be with you at the funeral. Love and Prayers, Alvina and John Buck Billings, MT

Alvina Buck - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Dear Duwayne, Sharon, Todd, Lacey, & Messina: Very special thoughts and prayers are with you. We are so very sorry for your loss. God needed him for reasons we don't know, but, he is safe and the wonderful memories will be with all of us. We bought him his first "Harley" when he was born remember? We had many good times and will always cherish them

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**Jack & Jan Eiseman** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ DuWayne and Sharon, We were so saddened to hear about the loss of your son. Please accept our condolences and prayers as you go through this difficult time.

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**Alan and Jeanne Reinke** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ Dear Sharon & DuWayne At times like these one rarely knows what to say. My feelings of your loss are indescribable. I believe there is little I can write that can be of any comfort to the two of you. Often times in my life my greatest fear has been the loss of a child and as I have seen others suffer such loss I can only fall to my knees and wonder what it is all about. I am sorry that I am not in in state right now but I know the two of you are well loved and thought of by many people and I hope the support you get from those closest to you is of some help in this difficult time. When Chris died I heard one thing that brought me the greatest comfort - " WHEN WE ARE CALLED FROM THIS LIFE IT IS NOT BECAUSE OF THE NEEDS OF OTHERS, IT IS BECAUSE OUR WORK HERE IS DONE AND IT IS OUR TIME TO GO HOME. May Your Faith Carry You Through This Difficult Time - Jeff T.

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**Jeffrey R Ternes** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Sharon and DuWayne, I'm sorry for your loss, children are the center of our lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

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**Annette Schafer** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Sharon and DuWayne, we were shocked and saddened to hear of your son's death. Words can't express our sympathy for you at this time. God bless and keep you in his loving arms now and forever, Patty and Bill Gereszek

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**Patty Gereszek** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

VW

“ DuWayne, Sharon and Todd: Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May you feel God's strength to help you through this.

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**Val and JoAnn Wangler** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ Sharon and DuWayne, We are so sorry and saddened to hear of your loss of Derek. You are in our thoughts and prayers daily during this most difficult time.

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**Karen and Gerry Lunn** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ I didn't know Derek, but want to send my condolences to Sharon and DeWayne. I am so sorry. Kay

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**Kay Ressler** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ DuWayne and Sharon, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. DeLana

DeLana Bauer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PV

“ Dear Mr. & Mrs Ternes & Lacey, Our hearts go out to you and your family. I always enjoyed my visits with Derek and Lacey, and I will pray for God's Mercy and Grace to touch your lives through this time. Our hugs and prayres, Dom & Linda

Pastor Dom Vettere - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

OH

“ SO sorry.Orrin @ Mayola Holen

orrin & mayola holen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Dear Sharon & DuWayne, We send you our deepest sympathy in lose of your son, Derek. We are praying that God will strengthen you and His Holy Spirit will bring comfort and peace. We mourn with you and feel your pain; if you ever need to get away to talk -we are here for you! Please let us know how we can help. We will keep you in our prayers as we are traveling this weekend to see our kids and grandkids. We'll try to touch base with you when we get back. Until then, know that God will never leave you or nor forsake you during your grieving. All Our Love, Ann & Delvin LaDuke

Delvin & Ann LaDuke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ DuWayne, Sharon, Todd & Messina, Our hearts go out to all of you. Wish we could be there. May God be with you, we will keep you in our prayers. Derek was such a great guy, I so enjoyed our visit last Oct. Will cherish all our memories with him.

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**Ron & Cindy Paul** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ DuWayne, Sharon, Todd, Lacey & Messina - You are all in our prayers for strength during this difficult time. Derek will leave such a void in our lives, but his spirit will live on with many wonderful memories. We will never forget his beautiful smile and his love of family and friends. Know that when he died he woke up in the arms of Jesus. Our loss is heaven's gain. He was the first child I ever babysat and I will never forget that.

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**Jacque Eiseman Bittner** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Dear DuWayne, Sharon, Todd, Lacey and Messina, Derek may be gone from our sight but never from our hearts. Sharing in your sorrow with love & friendship. Peace, Prayers and Blessings.

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**Diane I Leingang** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ DuWayne, Sharon, Todd, Sarah, Lacey and Messina - please know our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time and in the difficult times ahead. Love you guys and we'll always be here when you need us.

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**Lisa and Darold Burch** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Dear DuWayne, Sharon and Todd, There are no words to soften the pain and loss. I am praying for you daily and will continue to do so.

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**Sister Kathleen Atkinson** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Dear DuWayne, Sharon and Todd, Please accept our most sincere condolences as you grieve the loss of Derek. We are so sorry for the loss and pain you are suffering. Our love and most heartfelt prayer are with you. Scott and Lisa Kadlec

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**Scott and Lisa Kadlec** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ Visiting ND will not be the same not seeing him.

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**Jason J Paul** - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM