



Obituary

Born: Sunday, April 13, 1986

Died: Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Lars' Upbringing

Lars Christopher Knepper (aka #9, Larsi Bear, Big Bear, Kungfu Panda, Chef Gunter, and Von Fienkelstein) was born in Huntington Beach California on April 13th, 1986 in the late afternoon. He came bursting into the world with his lovable, extra action, play extremely hard, go big or go home kind of personality, which kept his parents, Irina and Werner, his relatives, and any babysitter who took care of him constantly on their feet. Anyone who got to know him knew he was charismatic, loving, passionate, competitive, detail oriented, welcoming, humorous, confident, loved his friends and family, was a big teddy bear, and had no filter. He didn't always follow the rules or color within the lines, but he was truly himself, was sincerely interested in people, and always lived life to the fullest.

He would play so hard because he had a lot of work to do in this world. He wanted to figure out how to be a team leader and how to live life fully and happily. So everyday growing up he had something exciting to do whether it was baseball, soccer, mountain biking, trampoline jumping, sandbox sculpting, building forts and birdhouses, and playing street hockey, or drawing, creating kick ass Apollo 13 space race presentations, and frequently terrorizing his sister Annika.

When the Kneppers moved to Seattle, Irina and Werner found the perfect cul-de-sac for Lars to grow up in. Every single one of his 11 neighboring families were so loving and welcoming. Every backyard had everything he could ask for: Trampolines, forts, woods, blueberry bushes, gardens, playgrounds, sports courts, and holiday parties. Lars was known for his sense of community and bringing people together. Anyone who enjoyed a party thrown by Lars can thank Werner, Irina, Annika, and the wonderful families in his neighborhood who taught him how to play, love, and include everyone.

Lars attended Emily Dickinson, Evergreen junior High, and graduated from Redmond Highschool. His brilliant mind liked to learn through watching and doing. When he turned 16 he was fed up with the endless reading for school so he often liked to entertain others while in the classroom. His love for baseball grew more strongly, and he started honing his skills as a pitcher. He got many MVP awards throughout his life and his love for baseball began to take him on a journey to all of the sunny places of the United States. After he got his Associates Degree at Bellevue College he moved to warmer places. He didn't like Seattle weather anyway.

Lars' Recent Life

Service Summary

Visitation

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM, Mon Feb 09, 2015

Glick Family Funeral Home

3600 North Federal Highway
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Celebration of Life

5:00 PM Mon Feb 09, 2015

Glick Family Funeral Home

3600 North Federal Highway
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

His first stop was Hawaii where he was recruited to play ball for the University of Hawaii Hilo on scholarship, discovered his love for fishing, cooking, and golf, and met his life-long best friend Joe Davis who was like a brother to him. He got drafted to the San Francisco Giants minor league team, which took him to Arizona. Later he went back to the state he was born in, California, to live with Tyler Mahon his best friend from childhood. He started selling insurance, and met the love of his life Shana Ostrovitz.

Shana and Lars moved to Florida, yet another sunny state, to start building a home for themselves. Shana helped to make a great man even better. She helped Lars expand his mind and heart, and he worked hard on bettering himself through the Landmark program. He did anything he could do to prepare himself for a family, a community, fulfilling work, and a life filled with happiness. His true passion was his family and friends and he recently decided to devote more time and effort into bringing them together. He was the best big brother to his sister Annika and was a cheerleader for everything she wanted to do in life. Everyone around him was so proud of the steps he was taking to be the best man he could be. He and Shana got engaged, and were excited to start a family. His dream was to recreate the feeling of community his first neighborhood cul-de-sac gave him and call it the "bro-de-sac".

Lars unexpectedly passed away February 4th at 1am during his sleep from unknown causes. His biggest motto was "Happiness for Life" and in his honor we created a manual to live life by according to Lars.

"How to Live Life According to Lars" Manual
The most important thing about playing any game is winning. If you are going to have friends over start cooking burgers and beer chicken at 9am. Be sure to celebrate your girlfriend's half birthdays with special German strawberry cake. Remember in great detail what your friends like, and surprise them with gifts to make them feel special on any mundane day. If you want to make friends quickly, chest bump them. Make time for golfing, AND baseball, AND fishing, AND softball, AND tennis, AND anything sports related. Instead of going to the hospital, just save money by teaching strangers how to put your dislocated shoulder back into place. Always be resourceful and engineer your own creative solutions. For example, if the sunlight is creating too much glare on the TV screen, wrap the windows in tinfoil to block out the sun. If a baseball field is being flooded with water, enroll everyone on your team to channel water off the field into a self-dug drainage hole using the dugout benches. Play on 4 baseball teams at once. Figure out how to get a rise out of your friends and family and push their buttons all of the time. Start learning how to make reduction sauces with fine meat when you go off to college. Show your love for people by making them too much food. Eat lots of cheese

yourself. Go off-roading with your mom when looking for Christmas trees. Smoke cigars with your dad and discuss politics and the way the world works—or how it should.... and have your stepmom teach you how to make the best raw foods. Take a whole week to build a shoe rack for your girlfriend when she is on vacation. Plan elaborate parties with excel spreadsheets. Plan the Beer Olympics and rig the scorecards so you will win no matter what. Call your friends and ask them to explain to you your flaws and how you can be a better friend, and tell them you love them every day. Love everyone so much to the point that you have at least 20 families that consider you to be a son or a brother. Make sure to tell everyone to abide by the rules but don't follow them yourself. Be a big kid all of the time. Write down your goals and have confidence in your dreams. Blast music through your subwoofers so that everywhere you go people know what mood you are in. Coach people on how to hit the tennis ball better even if they didn't ask for your advice. If you are going to eat a hot dog, might as well stuff 3 sausages into one bun. After watching the movie Top Gun, be sure to play "Fly into the Danger Zone" song 10 times in a row singing it at the top of your lungs. Also, sing in the shower. When driving on the freeway, box people in with your best friend, and pretend to fall asleep at the wheel. When playing Clash of Clans, convince everyone to donate their troops and explain to them that it will make the team stronger as a whole. Be a team player. If someone says "I love you" tell them you love them more. Be Real. Play Big. Love Hard.

Lars' Family

Lars will be joining his Great Grandmother Oma Minna in Paradise, and will be waiting (maybe not so patiently) for his family to join. He is survived by his fiancé Shana Ostrovitz, dog Bella "Bear" Knepper Ostrovitz, mother Irina Knepper, father Werner Knepper, step mother Soozie Henderson Knepper, sister Annika Knepper, stepsister Shelby Henderson, Grandparents Edith and Hans Knepper, Maria and Juergen Sierks, Aunt Ina Knepper and Cousin Marina Mustapic, Aunt Bianca and Husband Dennis Sierks-Schilling, Aunt Corinna, Husband Reiner, and Cousin Florian Welzbacher.

Special Thanks to Family and Friends

Special thanks to his other widespread family of friends who loved and looked after him so dearly throughout his life. Thank you to Joe Davis for standing by Lars as a best friend and being a brother to him. Thank you to Tyler Mahon for being his other brother, longtime friend and baseball buddy. Thank you to Matt Blondin for being a second dad to Lars, for always checking up on him, treating him like one of his own sons, and spending vacation time with him. Thank you to Hamish Anderson and family, Katie Conover and family, Pat Toohey and family, Cole Crockett and family for taking Lars in as one of their own so many times. Thank you to

Taylor Davis, Pete Davis, Amanda and Brian Niles, Eddie and Kelly Regan, Jason Gardener, Brian Fitzsimmons "Fitz", and many, many, many others for loving him so much.

Thank you to Shana's family and friends for their loving support. Thank you to Matt Blondin, and Marcus Ghaly for supporting Lars' family through everything.

Thank you to Tyler Mahon and Katie Conover for setting up his funeral fund. If you want to donate to his memorial fund go here

<http://www.youcaring.com/memorial-fundraiser/rest-in-paradise-lars/301957>

Any remaining proceeds will be donated to his favorite charities.

To send the family condolences, make a final personal comment or share pictures please post to Lars' facebook wall or contact the family directly at:

Knepper Family
10169 224th Ave NE
Redmond WA 98053

To share photos with family and friends via Lars' DropBox:

User name: knepperannika@gmail.com

Password: lars#9