

**Celebration of Life
Mark Allen Spangler (1963-2023)**

[PHOTO OF MARK HERE]

Saturday, February 11, 2023 11:00am
Doors open at 10:30am, with luncheon following service.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato
937 Charles Avenue, Mankato, MN 56001
Zoom Meeting: ID 993 5841 1229 Passcode: 883666

Rev. Rita Capezzi, Celebrant
Nancy Cramblit, Pianist
Andy Roberts and Todd Schweim, Greeters
Kat Clements and Jeff Lowry, Tech Squad

[Inside]

Slide Show

Prelude *Marche Funebre* from Piano Sonata No. 2 OP. 25 (1839) by Frederic Chopin

Centering Music: #1002 "Comfort Me" words and music by Mimi Borstein-Doble

Chalice Lighting

Welcome—

Minister's Reflection

Hymn: #6 "Just As Long As I Have Breath" (gray hymnal) words by Alicia S. Carpenter and
music Johann G. Ebeling

First Statement: "In the Desert" by Stephen Crane

In the desert
I saw a creature, naked, bestial,
Who, squatting upon the ground,
Held his head in his hands,
And ate of it.

I said: 'Is it good, Friend?'
'It is bitter — bitter,' he answered.
'But I like it
'Because it is bitter,
'And because it is mine.'

Music for Terry: *Unforgettable* (Irving Gordon) recorded by Nat and Natalie Cole (1992)

Second Statement: "A god in wrath" by Stephen Crane

A god in wrath
Was beating a man;
He cuffed him loudly
With thunderous blows
That rang and rolled over the earth.
All people came running.
The man screamed and struggled,
And bit madly at the feet of the god.
The people cried,
'Ah, what a wicked man!'
And —
'Ah, what a redoubtable god!'

Music for Garrison: *Mad World* (Roland Orzabal), recorded by Gary Jules (1982)

Third Statement: "A Man Said to the Universe" by Stephen Crane

A man said to the universe:
'Sir, I exist!'
'However,' replied the universe,
'The fact has not created in me
A sense of obligation.'

Music for the living: "How Great Thou Art" (Carl Boberg) recorded by Elvis Presley (1967)

Final Statement: From "The Black Riders" by Stephen Crane

A learned man came to me once.
He said, "I know the way, -- come."
And I was overjoyed at this.
Together we hastened.
Soon, too soon, were we
Where my eyes were useless,
And I knew not the ways of my feet.

I clung to the hand of my friend;
But at last he cried, "I am lost."

Closing Words

Hymn: #157 "Step by Step the Longest March" (gray hymnal), to an Irish folk song

Prayer

Chalice Extinguishing

Singing Benediction: "Long Time Sun"

May the long time sun shine upon you/All love surround you

And the pure, pure light that's within you/ Guide your way home (2x)

Recessional: Wonderful Remark (Van Morrison), recorded by Van Morrison for the 20th Century Fox Motion Picture "King of Comedy" (1982)

Luncheon on the lower level in the Fellowship Hall

[back of outside]

Mark was born to Dale and Arlene Spangler in Iowa City, Iowa on June 30, 1963. He had four siblings: Wesley, Luana, Kevin, and Steven. He attended schools in Eagle Grove and Webster City, Iowa, and was a graduate of Minnesota State University—Mankato. He enjoyed an 18-year radio broadcasting career and then spent over 20 years in the education field. He married Terry in 1992, and they relocated to Mankato, MN in 1993. They became parents to Garrison in 1995. In addition to his professional careers, Mark was a published writer and artist. He was a union and political activist for progressive causes, and he rose to become President of MSEA.

Mark had many interests and enjoyed 8-ball pool, bird watching, golf, and Italian food. He had a passion for film noir, horror movies, and coin collecting. He was a huge Elvis fan. He liked and coached MAYBA baseball. He also enjoyed football and was a well-known Hawkeye and Steeler fan. His sense of humor was his best trait and is the one that will be best remembered by those who knew him.

Mark leaves behind his beloved wife, son, and many extended family. They would like to thank all in attendance yesterday and today.

Memorial donations may be directed to:

Mending Spirits Animal Rescue <https://www.mendingspirits.org/>

ECHO Food Shelf <https://www.echofoodshelf.org/>