



Bob "Swampy" Maresh

November 3, 1948 - May 16, 2023

Swampy's prayer service is viewable at <https://vimeo.com/event/3412467>

The time of sharing is viewable at <https://vimeo.com/829939467?share=copy>

Swampy's funeral mass is viewable at <https://vimeo.com/event/3412519>

Robert "Bob" "Swampy" Maresh passed away in the morning hours of May 16, 2023, surrounded by Matt, Lacie, Carrie, Adam, Kathryn, Wyatt and Jackson. Bob was born to Gaylyn and Kathryn (Sattler) Maresh on November 3, 1948, in Valley City. Bob grew up on the family farm by Baldhill Dam, then moved to Valley City and lived there the rest of his life. Bob met Carrie Winkels while he was coaching softball. They were married on August 26, 1983, at St. Catherines Catholic Church, Valley City. Bob and Carrie have two sons, Matthew and Adam. Bob loved his boys and was proud to have his name live on.

Swampy was a local legend and a staple in the community. He owned and operated Bob's Excavating for nearly 50 years. Bob loved his work and he was darn good at it. His days of wrestling for the VCHS Hi-Liners and VCSU Vikings drew crowds and packed the stands. Swampy, Swampy, Swampy is what the crowd would chant before his matches. He was a two-time All-American and three-time Conference Champion for the Vikings. Bob coached Bob's Excavating Ladies and Men's softball teams in the 70's and 80's. He

coached and always stood up for his girls, especially against heckling spectators. Bob would never say no to helping anyone or donating his time or money to a cause. He loved following his boys' sports, from their football games to their wrestling matches. Bob loved music, dance, and throwing parties at his shop or house. He loved playing cards no matter what game. His competitive spirit was a force to be reckoned with. Bob worked hard and played hard.

Bob's true light came in 2012, with his first grandsons. Then the gentle giant was tamed when his granddaughter Kathryn was born. Jackson was his hunter; Wyatt was his best buddy and Kathryn was his champ. He said, "There's just something special about that girl". Bob loved his Springer Spaniels: Lady, Freckles, Brandy, Bailey and Rocky.

Bob Lived Fiercely, Loved Fiercely and Cared Fiercely. Bob, Carrie and the boys spent a lot of time in their camper every summer from the red van to the last 5th wheel. He was dedicated to his friends and family, especially to his brother Dennis' sisters. He was a member of the Friendly Dakota Van Club, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Barnes County Wildlife Federation, Valley City Eagles and the list goes on and on.

Bob is survived by his wife Carrie, sons Matthew (Lacie) and Adam; grandsons Wyatt and Jackson; granddaughter Kathryn; sisters Mary (Scott) Tangen, Pam Swenson, Debbie (Wayne) Eggert, Connie Maresh; a brother-in-law Mike Rasmussen; and several nieces and nephews. His in-laws Stan (Jan), Bernie, Ted (Deb) Winkels, Tom (Mavis) Winkels, Shelly (George) Piatz and Caren Winkels also survive him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother and sister-in-law Dennis and Eileen Maresh; sister Bonnie Rasmussen; brothers-in-law Terry Swenson, Chuck Winkels, Robert Anderson and Melvin Olauson; sisters-in-law Bonnie Anderson, Esther Winkels and Annette Olauson; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral mass will be held 10:30 am Tuesday, May 23, 2023, at St. Catherine's Catholic Church, Valley City, with visitation one hour before the

service. Visitation will be Monday, May 22 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm with a prayer service at 7:00 pm at the Valley City Eagle's Club. Interment will be at St. Catherine Cemetery, Valley City.

Memorials may be directed to Valley City Express Wrestling or The Open Door Center of Valley City.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel, Valley City. An online guestbook is available at www.olivernathanchapel.com

Cemetery Details

St. Catherine Cemetery

Valley City, ND

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 22. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Eagles Club
345 12 Ave NE
Valley City, ND 58072

Prayer Service

MAY 22. 7:00 PM (CT)

Eagles Club
345 12 Ave NE
Valley City, ND 58072

Visitation

MAY 23. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Catherine Catholic Church
540 3rd Ave. NE
Valley City, ND

Funeral Mass

MAY **23**. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. Catherine Catholic Church
540 3rd Ave. NE
Valley City, ND

Tribute Wall



“ Oliver - Nathan Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Bob "Swampy" Maresh



Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - May 19, 2023 at 03:26 PM

CK

“ Curtiss K. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.

Curtiss K. - May 28, 2023 at 10:52 AM

DG

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of you, sorry we. Won't be able to be there in person, you are in our thoughts and prayers. Dennis and Judy Gumke



dennis and judy Gumke - May 22, 2023 at 05:55 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.



May 22, 2023 at 03:39 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.



May 22, 2023 at 11:47 AM



“ Carrie and family - May Bob Rest In Peace - So many memories from super VCHS wrestler, successful business man, huge promoter of ValleyCity to “Swampy”; friend and inspiration to all.
Rick and Jo Fitzner

Rick Fitzner - May 22, 2023 at 09:19 AM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Vicki Zinck Metcalf - May 21, 2023 at 04:34 PM



So many memories, you will be missed ❤️

Vicki - May 21, 2023 at 04:39 PM

RE

Swampy I have known you for a loonng time. In high school when I wrestled you were the equipment manager, what ever that is. We wrestled in a classic old gym at Jamestown college. You found a pile of money in the locker room, \$20-25. You turned into coach Rollie. I hope no one claimed it and you got it. It is going to be real tough going to VC and not seeing the Maresh boys!

Roger Etzell

Roger Etzell - May 22, 2023 at 07:01 PM

GR

“ *how swampy got into wrestling. Bob was like our assistant manager for our wrestling team who would wipe down our mats when we were done with our practices i think that's how he got his name swampy one day he was walking through the alley where Ray Peterson lived they got to talking and Ray bet him he couldn't lift a car in his yard .Bob lifted the car, our wrestling coach (Don Rollie) was told and sweet talked into joining our fun group of grablers*

GENE J RUDOLPH - May 21, 2023 at 04:10 PM



“ *I remember Bob being at my house in the 8th grade when the police brought me home. I was caught playing on the roof of the school. He protected me before my dad got home-RIP love Greg and family*

Jetaime Maresh - May 21, 2023 at 02:05 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.*



May 21, 2023 at 11:54 AM

LY

“ Carrie and family, many fond memories of Bob, one that comes to mind is the popular Johnny Holm dances at the Eagles. Johnny would get on Swampy’s shoulders and carry him around the dance floor with everyone cheering!

Lynne & Steve McMonagle

Lynne - May 21, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.



May 21, 2023 at 11:12 AM

CM

“ Our deepest sympathy. Curt and Christine Marshall



Curt and Christine Marshall - May 20, 2023 at 08:03 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.



May 19, 2023 at 01:44 PM



“ 184 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - May 19, 2023 at 11:52 AM

JV

Dear Maresh family

Our sincere condolences your father, husband, and a tremendous man in the community. He has touched so many people with his easy-going nature and sweet temperament. His legacy and memories will live on forever, and we should be so fortunate to have so many people who cared and loved swampy it was such a pleasure to be on his wrestling team, may you rest in peace may your find memories sustain you in days and years ahead. God bless you all sincerely, Joe Vandrovec.

joe Vandrovec - May 19, 2023 at 04:11 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.*



May 19, 2023 at 10:05 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.*



May 19, 2023 at 01:46 AM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.

May 19, 2023 at 01:46 AM



“ *Carrie and family, so sorry for your loss. Bob "Swampy" was our 'go to guy' in dealing with the recent overly snowy winters when our rural yard was buried in snow. We wouldn't have been able to get out of our yard without his expertise and equipment. A phone call and he came out to the rescue. He will be missed. Jim and Bonnie Gassmann*

Bonnie - May 18, 2023 at 08:15 PM

TH

“ I met Swampy 34 years ago when Central Dakota RMEF chapter was started in Jamestown. Swampy was always the first to volunteer his time and efforts to the chapter insuring a successful banquet. We had great exchanges of hunting stories and good laughs together. Through all the years on the RMEF committee Swampy played a big role on the committee as he was such a generous and kind man. I'm thankful to had Swampy for a friend, so sorry to hear of his passing He will be missed. Rest in peace my friend.

Tim Harr - May 18, 2023 at 08:05 PM

DJ

“ A man among men, A friend to many and one of the most generous people that anyone could ever know. Carrie, Matt, Adam and family we send you all our love at this very sad time. I could never say thank you enough to Bob for all he did for me and my family while we were in Valley City. That is just the kind of friend he was. We are with you in faith and prayer.
Kerry and Duane Johnson
Can you imagine what Bob and Louie are up to now!

Duane Johnson - May 18, 2023 at 03:57 PM

RR

“ I'm so sorry for your loss Carrie and family. Bob (Swampy) was a big man with a big heart, and a friend to all. Thank you for sharing him with me on Sunday. I will always remember his kind generosity and good natured smile.

Riley Rogers - May 18, 2023 at 01:32 PM

RM

“ Bob was a warm, friendly, and do anything for anybody, giant (in many ways) of a man . My heartfelt condolences to his family. May many memories and support from those who loved him give them strength.

Rod McKinney - May 18, 2023 at 12:58 PM

RL

“ Many great memories, here are two from wrestling:

One workout we played basketball in the Washington gym. Bob played with one of the 95 pounders on his shoulders. Can't be sure if it was Scott Mandy or not, maybe Mickey Kvien? They were the only ones that could score! That was why we were wrestlers.

Another, during a match, when he had an opponent down, and before pinning the poor bastard he would look up into the crowd to see if he should rub his face into the mat, or not. Guess which choice was the most popular.

Or, on Chautauqua, we had some huge pines along the driveway bothering my lilacs. Bob got them down easily. Then I had Mike Schneider come over to mark the lot lines. Mike says, "I don't think you want to mark those lot lines". "Why not?", I said. "Oh, you just cut down your neighbors trees". Bob got a great laugh out of that one.

Rod Ludwig - May 18, 2023 at 12:42 PM

ML

“ There will never be another Swampy. He is one of a kind. I will always remember the big smile and him always wanting to know how things were going and if we were all doing ok. I know for a fact that he was a true friend to the Lowe boys and girls and we all loved him. Swampy no more pain and sorrows for you Buddy.

Mike Lowe - May 18, 2023 at 12:28 PM

JG

“ So many memories of Swampy harassing my mom up at the winter show !! He will be missed. Praying for your family.
Jennifer Bellmore

Jennifer Gasal - May 18, 2023 at 12:16 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.




May 18, 2023 at 11:33 AM

CN

“ So sorry to read about Swanpy. My sympathy. Caral Nix

Caral Nix - May 18, 2023 at 10:54 AM

MM

“ Heartfelt condolences to the family .precious memories forever in our hearts. God’s peace




monica kunze mohs - May 17, 2023 at 10:41 PM

KK

“ Carrie and family, We were so sorry to hear about Swampy's passing. This is a huge loss to all who knew him. Just know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Tom and Karen (Petersen) Klein

Karen Klein - May 17, 2023 at 10:09 PM

KM

“ My sincerest sympathies to Carrie and all of Barb’s family! He was a great friend to all of my family for many many years. Glad that I saw him last year at the coaches hall of fame induction at VCSU as he and Carrie came to support Craig’s induction. Karen Hansen Murie

Karen Hansen Murie - May 17, 2023 at 03:52 PM

KM

Sorry for the misspelling in my previous message!

Karen Hansen Murie - May 17, 2023 at 03:54 PM

GN

“ Carrie and the Maresh family. we are so very sorry for your loss. of Swampy. I love and care about you all. I'm sending all my love hugs and prayers during this very difficult time. he touched many lives. Gerri and Pat Noonan

gerri noonan - May 17, 2023 at 03:43 PM

TM

“ To Adam, Carrie and all the Maresh family. I am so very sorry for your loss. of Bob. I love and care about you all. I'm sending all my love hugs and prayers during this very difficult time and grieving process. He seemed wonderful even though I never had the chance to meet him. As I know he was quite an inspiration to many. I am here for you always 🙏🌸❤️ and I care please know that.

Love,
Tiffany Manning

Tiffany manning - May 17, 2023 at 03:24 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.



May 17, 2023 at 02:51 PM

VG

“ Reading this announcement just took my breath away. Bob was so kind and caring, always had a smile on his face when we would see each other. He also gave great hugs. Sure going to miss you. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts. Vicki Grande

vicki Grande - May 17, 2023 at 02:19 PM

DL

“ My brothers & I went to a one room country grade school north of Valley city together with Swampy & his sibilings. We pretty much made up the enrollment. It was there that I formed a bond with Swampy that has lasted our entire lives. He was a awesome friend You could always count on Swampy. He would come to your aid in any situation.. In later years I moved to Montana Those early memories always stayed strong in my heart.. Swampy married the most wonderful girl. Carrie you are so fortunate to have spent your married life with Swampy Maresh He touched many peoples lives. .
Darrell Lee Hamilton Montana

Darrell Lee - May 17, 2023 at 01:29 PM

LK

“ I remember when I was still in high school we would never miss a match with Valley City and Jamestown College to watch this massive man annihilate his unfortunate opponent. He was always my hero and still is. I never had a clue that someday I would be matched up with him in wrestling practice. Wow! What a stud and support pillar to our wrestling squad. He will be sorely missed by us all.

Les Kendall - May 17, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Bob "Swampy" Maresh.



May 17, 2023 at 12:06 PM

DF

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Swampy was a great guy and will be missed by so many. Cherish your memories! Sending my deepest sympathies to Carrie and your family.

Deb Feuerherm - May 17, 2023 at 11:26 AM

DP

“ I remember swampy working with Plecity House Moving and he carrying those 150 lbs house jacks around. Remember his awesome smile and friendly attitude . Watching him wrestle in college. Our sympathies go out to Carrie and family.
Doyle & Sharon

Doyle Plecity - May 17, 2023 at 09:04 AM

CB

“ Dear Carrie and family: Our deepest sympathy in your loss of Bob. Treasure the memories and the years you had together. He will be missed.

Chuck & Kaye(Davies) Belzer - May 17, 2023 at 08:30 AM

BP

“ SWAMPY was always a big kind hearted person that was a friend to all, he will be missed, may he rest in peace. Billie (twamley) Poppen

BILLIE POPPEN - May 17, 2023 at 07:02 AM

TM

“ I knew swampy through the Marsh girls “Susie” in high school, if you needed a small or large job done he was the MAN to call!! Big guy with a BIG❤️ and Smile❤️

Teresa Steinhaus Mertz - May 16, 2023 at 10:47 PM

PR

“ Will always hold the greatest respect for this guy. He loved family, friends, community and did all he could to help.

Paula Heinze Rodriguez - May 16, 2023 at 10:13 PM

JV

“ Swampy (Bob) was a large man with a large for his family, his customers and the sport of wrestling. For a large heavy weight wrestler, he could move as fast as 180 pound wrestler. He was an NAIA All American back in the 1970s @ VCSU. He will be missed by all who knew him. May he Rest in Peace.

jim vandrovec - May 16, 2023 at 10:04 PM

WB

In 1969, I returned to VCSC from the Service. The first three individuals I met were Dennis Maresh, Gene Koch, 'n' some 'big' kyd they referred to as Swampy. Immediately, we had a connecting point with a Coach called Don (Mex) Lemnus. Coach Lemnus and I are both from the town of Enderlin. This connection turned into a Friendship of 54 years. I have been very fortunate in my Lifetime, in that, I have been blessed with two Guardian Angels. One, was My Mother-n-Law, Ruth Paulson. Robert Swampy Maresh is the other! I double dog darn you to tangle with either one! I will miss You forever Robert, GOD is with You Bob.....

Wayne Berglund - May 17, 2023 at 04:52 PM

RR

I'm so sorry for your loss Carrie and family. Bob (Swampy) was a big man with a big heart, and a friend to all. Thank you for sharing him with me on Sunday. I will always remember his kind generosity and good natured smile.

Riley Rogers - May 17, 2023 at 05:55 PM

MV

Our sympathies to you Carrie and your family. We will miss the big smile we always got from Swampy. Bob was a master with a backhoe and always did quality work no matter who he was working for. Prayers for you Carrie and all of your family. Mike & Kathy Vandrovec

Mike Vandrovec - May 20, 2023 at 08:28 AM