



Madalyn "Madi" Rose Prewett

October 1, 2019

Our funny, beautiful, and incredible girl, Madalyn "Madi" Prewett passed away in her dorm room at CU Boulder on October 1, 2019. She was 19 years old. We are, of course, heartbroken. She was born in Loveland, but grew up in Fort Collins where she has been surrounded by her extended family.

Perhaps you know Madi from Redeemer Lutheran Preschool where she was happy, bubbly and liked to dress herself in crazy outfits. She said she wanted to look "chalet", which meant "beautiful" in her mind.

Or maybe you knew her from Zach Elementary where she was smart, tenderhearted, and an excellent speller. She loved her teachers and was always up for hugs.

You would have seen her at Preston Middle School doing back handsprings and splits because she loved gymnastics. We loved watching her as she tried to figure out who she would be in this world.

Perhaps your child played with Madi or against her during her many years of playing soccer for either Arsenal or Storm. She was a fierce midfielder who gave 110% to every game.

Or possibly you knew her when she went to Fossil Ridge High School, where Madi's amazing personality became more defined. She was so incredibly funny. But unfortunately, it was also during this time that Madi started to get sick. So you might not have seen her during class or Homecoming or at games; Madi was so exhausted with constant vomiting, dizziness, fatigue, and migraines that she had to miss out on much of her junior and senior year. In spite of this, she was able to still graduate with her class in May 2018.

There will be some who read this that knew her from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where Madi was able to go in the fall of '18, when there was a brief, albeit short, break in

her symptoms. Although we felt like her illness was improving, she spent much of this semester at the hospital and doctor's appointments. She still managed to get a 3.8 because she never gave up. Madi loved this time in her life. In spite of everything, she made some great friends and was able to enjoy the beaches and mountains whenever she could. However, by February she became too ill and had to come home from Hawaii. In addition to the physical battle she had been fighting for 2 years, she also had to deal with a number of blows to our family. The hardest of which was the cancer diagnosis and eventual death of her most beloved cousin, Kate, in August 2018. By now the depression that had previously come in waves became an ocean that tried to pull her down.

For those of you who knew her, you wouldn't have seen Madi this spring because she stayed in her room, exhausted but trying everything possible to fight this. This time was filled with numerous doctor and hospital visits to address her physical illnesses (by now, she had been diagnosed with more than one) and intensive therapy and treatment for her mental illness. But maybe you met her at CU Boulder, where she decided to go after her symptoms improved in July. The first half of the year was so hard on her and now that she felt better, Madi was ready to live! She had so many things she wanted to do, create, and see!

Two weeks before her death, however, Madi mentioned that her symptoms were coming back in full force. It was difficult for her to just get out of bed, much less get to class and study. The day before she killed herself, she told us she worried about having to live a life on disability and having to live at home forever while she watched everyone around her go on and live the life she wanted to live. We assured her, as always, that we were all supporting her and that she had made so many improvements that we were sure she would be able to have the life she envisioned. After a difficult Monday, she decided that the incredible physical and mental burden that she could never take off was too much to carry, and she decided to put it down permanently.

There are a few things about her that we want to world to know.

We don't blame Madi at all; we have all watched how hard she fought to stay alive. We are angry, however, that our poor girl got knocked down time and time again and never got a break. We are angry that she didn't get to have the life she deserved and worked so hard for.

We want you to know that Madi is the strongest person we know, and she was a fighter. When she was told that the best chance for a recovery was exercise, she dragged herself on the treadmill to run an hour. Every day. And this was after she had lost so much weight,

she didn't have any nutrients in her body, and she hadn't gotten any sleep because of the constant vomiting that happened even at night. Our weak girl gave it everything she had. Madi did everything she was told to try and get better. She took every prescription, made it to every appointment, took notes on everything the doctors said, she was a proactive client with every counselor, and she practiced everything they taught her.

We take comfort in the knowledge that Madi knew she wasn't alone and that we, as a family, were her biggest cheerleaders. She knew that we would all continue to do anything we could to try to get her some effective help. She knew we would carry her on our backs if we could.

We take comfort knowing that Madi never doubted how much she was loved. She was very vocal to us and her friends about how close our family was and how much we all loved her. We know that she loved us all as well.

We're very proud of her for being honest with her struggles on social media. It is so hard to find something genuine in that sea of photos with everyone displaying the best times of their life. But Madi took a chance and made a post on April 19th where she talked about her struggles with depression and thoughts of suicide to her 1,102 followers and she steered people toward resources to help them. We are so incredibly proud of our girl for being vulnerable and authentic! She was nervous about doing it, but soon felt relieved when so many people reached out to her for help and told her that they, too, were struggling.

We are thankful that she had great friends supporting her. Whether she was here in Fort Collins, Honolulu, or Boulder, Madi managed to find people that loved her and made sure she knew how amazing she was. They would make sure she could join in Homecoming, even if it meant they left the dance to bring her home when it became too much. They sat quietly with her on the sofa and watched TV when she couldn't sit up. They helped her with her classes and they cheered her on. They kept texting and reaching out to her, even when she wanted to just curl into a ball.

We are thankful to all the people who have reached out with food, a sympathetic ear, or their own stories of our girl and how much she meant to them. We are also thankful to everyone who has been praying for our family.

If you didn't know her, you really missed out. Madi was so funny and fun to be around. She rarely complained and always tried to be optimistic. When talking about her or watching videos of her, we feel such a loss that such a vibrant and incredible light has

gone out in the world.

Although Madi was a huge part of many lives, it is us, her family, who will feel her loss the most. Madi is survived by her parents, Gary Jr. and Linda, and her four siblings: Maike (24), Ava (17), Emily (17), and Noah (4). Her grandparents are Gary and Beccy Prewett of Fort Collins, Eunice Krivonak of Loveland, and Don (Gail) Mayo of Broomfield. We are very lucky to have our extended family nearby and Madi was able to grow up with their constant support. They are John and Megan Prewett of Fort Collins, Adalyn and Steve Odom of Houston, Alex Prewett of Fort Collins, Lynette and Mike Nugent of New Zealand, Pam and Greg Miller of Broomfield, Don and Teresa Mayo of Arvada, and Dianna Mayo of Denver. Additionally, she had many cousins that lived nearby. Madi is preceded in death by her aunt Patty Lovisone of Denver, her grandpa Edward "Papa" Krivonak of Loveland, and her incredibly loved and missed cousin, Kate Prewett of Fort Collins. We hold on to the hope that she and Kate are now together and causing a ruckus up in heaven.

We will celebrate her life on Tuesday, October 15th, at 4:00 pm at Windsong Estate Event Center. Their address is 2901 Saddler Blvd, Severance, CO 80524. And while we love flowers, they also tend to die. We ask that anyone who knew her send or bring photos or a memory to share. At this time we want to gather every part of our girl that we can.

Events

OCT **Memorial Service** **04:00PM**
15

Windsong Estate Event Center

2901 Saddler Blvd., Fort Collins, CO, US, 80524

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - November 12, 2019 at 07:45 PM



“ 51 files added to the album Memorial Service



Linda Prewett - November 25, 2019 at 02:56 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memorial Service



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - November 22, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Slideshow of Memories



Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - November 12, 2019 at 02:11 PM



“ I didn't know your daughter. I simply heard about her life and death in the news and in here obituary here. I have been faculty and staff at CU Boulder, and am both saddened and heartened to hear of her struggles... saddened for obvious reasons, heartened because of what you've included in her obituary about her life, outlook, determination and treatment of others. My family has dealt with this same issue; my college-aged cousin took his own life in his apartment three years ago back east. I think of these young men and women; we all need to, I believe. We have a lot to learn about their struggles and successes, and those who these souls leave behind often bear the responsibility of teaching the rest of us what we may need most to learn... however hard the lessons.

At this point, all I can say is thank you. Your family and your daughter encourage me to reflect, love and care more.

John - November 07, 2019 at 10:56 AM



“ Hello John. Thank you for sharing this. Depression is something I have struggled with and would be great to talk with you about some ideas that could perhaps be put into place at CU that address this pervasive and debilitating feeling so many human beings live with. I am part time at the university have ideas for group areas students could run themselves that are centered around movement, music and bringing people together and enable them to feel more deeply connected with themselves, more effortlessly and authentically connected with others, and feel a part of and connection with the world around them. Would be happy to share more about how easy this type of wellness environment could be initiated such that students can connect instead of feeling no other choice than to permanently disconnect.

Lisa - November 07, 2019 at 12:07 PM



“ Thank you so much, John! Now that she is gone, we want her death to have some sort of meaning or purpose. But it's hard to figure out how to do that. Maybe just sharing her story will start some conversations that can lead to some sort of help or understanding for people who struggled like she did.

Linda prewett - November 07, 2019 at 12:23 PM



“ Sending love from Florida!! I have a daughter who also struggles with Pots..As this brought tears to my eyes we will light a candle for Madi. We have an event with Dysautonomia International this Saturday & Madi will be in our thoughts & prayers..I hope you can have comfort in the special memories you made together! Sending all our love..

Keely & Ayla Thureson



Keel ThureSon - November 06, 2019 at 04:34 PM



“ Thank you for reaching out and posting a message. Hope that you have a great event with beautiful weather this weekend!

Linda prewett - November 06, 2019 at 07:32 PM



“ I'm so, so sorry. I'm also the parent of a CU student with POTS. Although we haven't met, I'm shedding a tear and sending you heartfelt condolences.

Kathleen - November 06, 2019 at 12:19 AM



“ Thank you, Kathleen. Wish our potsies could've met up. It's such an isolating illness sometimes.

Linda prewett - November 06, 2019 at 07:27 PM



“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



Ryan & Cheri Soulier - October 27, 2019 at 10:53 AM



“ Thank you for sharing those! Life sure was simpler then.

Linda prewett - October 28, 2019 at 09:28 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album

Goes Funeral Care & Crematory - October 16, 2019 at 02:48 PM



“ I sadly learned about your daughter Madi's passing on the CU parents' page. As a parent and having a daughter also named Madalyn, I was drawn to learning more about your beautiful girl. Reading your tribute to her, I could feel her light and energy without personally knowing her- so powerful. I love the memories from those she touched like Clara and Johanna and all her many family and friends. Remember God could not have made earthly ties so strong so as to break them in eternity. Sending you strength and love.

Nicole Murphy - October 15, 2019 at 09:48 AM



“ My daughter was friends with Madi at the beginning of their high school years. I read your beautiful tribute and am very saddened by all that Madi and you all have had to endure over the last several years. I am so so sorry for everything. Please know that our family sends our love, thoughts and prayers to all of Madi's family and friends. We are thinking of all of you and was deeply touched by your words. Is there anywhere that I can send a donation in Madi's honor?
The Vos Family

Leah Vos - October 14, 2019 at 04:45 PM



“ Thank you, Leah! I think donating to Dysautonomia International or Standing Up To POTS would be beneficial to people like my girl. Thank you!

Linda Prewett - October 18, 2019 at 01:05 PM



“ Thank you. I will definitely make a donation in honor of Madi. Nobody should have to go through what she did. I hope they can find better help for others in the future. Hugs!

Leah Vos - October 19, 2019 at 09:27 AM



“ Madi was an amazing girl. I had the pleasure to meet her in 2015 when she came to Italy to my place for a short exchange. She was the first American I met and she was the funniest. I remember how she would always take a lot of pictures to make sure she didn't miss anything and how she tried to convince us that chicken McNuggets were a good match with a strawberry milkshake. Or I remember how much she had loved Venice when my family and I took her there. Before she came to Italy, she had made a bucket list of the things she wanted to do with me and one of those was to do homework with me, I never knew why. She was a great travel companion and reassured me during our flights to Colorado that everything was going to be fine. When I finally got to Fort Collins, Madi was extremely excited to have me meet her family and friends. When it was time for me to leave, she cried so much. Little did I know that was going to be last time I saw her forever. She was so extremely adorable and bubbly. She was a loving soul that gave everyone the most of her love. My family and I are extremely sorry for your loss. Madi was certainly a great person who could have accomplished so much in her life, and did not deserve all the bad things that happened to her. We send all our love from Italy, Madi will be greatly missed.
Clara Pazzaglia



Clara Pazzaglia - October 14, 2019 at 03:39 PM



“ Preston Middle School remembers Madi fondly. She made our classrooms and our hallways better places while she was here with us.

Eric Walz - October 14, 2019 at 12:08 PM



“ I am so very sorry for Madi's struggle and for your loss. What a wonderful young lady she was.

brian Mele - October 14, 2019 at 07:22 AM



“ A caring parent shared this on the (closed) CU Parents Facebook page. I want you to know that my husband and I both read it. Having a sick child is almost unbearable and your sweet girl just never got a break. You wanted the world to know who Madi was and thanks to your beautiful writing, we got to know her a little bit. Thank you for sharing your beautiful, tough, brave, loving daughter with us. We are thinking about her and your whole family with love.

Nancy Davis - October 14, 2019 at 12:25 AM



“ Madi was such a sweetheart and so genuine with everyone. She will be greatly missed.

Don Mayo - October 13, 2019 at 10:17 PM



“ Your tribute brought tears to my eyes. My daughter is a sophomore at CU, and life is hard enough sometimes without adding health issues into the picture. Madi sounds like such a fighter! From one Mother to another my heart breaks. Know that your family is in my prayers.

Kathy Nikolaus - October 13, 2019 at 02:51 PM



“ I never knew Madi but empathize with her & you with her health struggles. How sad that no one medical professional could help her. Madi is truly a beautiful young woman who has emitted love & caring to others her whole life. May those qualities endure through those who love her continuing her thoughtfulness towards others. My Sincerest, Deep Condolences to all who cared for & will love her – Always...

Beverly Hill - October 13, 2019 at 02:17 PM



“ I don't know your family and never had the honor of meeting Madi. My daughter is a freshman at CU and lives in Stearns East. I can't even imagine how difficult it must be for you to know that your baby had to struggle so much. I am thankful her friends at CU were kind and generous with their time and love to support Madi. I know if my daughter had known her, she would have also reached out. She was deeply saddened to know someone just like her had lost her life. Please know many strangers are out here praying for you to have peace and strength and for Madi to rest in peace now. <3

Lina Fedynshyn - October 13, 2019 at 12:43 PM



“ I'm a CU mom, when I have heard what happened, Your grief overcame me in the sorrow, I have felt in my heart for your family. We have said many prayers for you and your family during this difficult time. May the lord watch over you, and know she is out of the pain. God bless The Trujillo's

Amanda Trujillo - October 13, 2019 at 12:27 PM



“ I am so heartbroken for you and your family. Your tribute is so beautifully written. Madi, Ava and Emily were the first neighborhood friends that my girls met when they showed up at the back door one evening. The bonus of having 6 backyards with no fences. The “neighbor girls”, my littles called them and boy did my girls love watching Madi on the trampoline trying to mimic her every move. Now she is pain free and can flip, tumble and run endlessly. Our deepest condolences. Becky & Dan Arguello

Becky Arguello - October 13, 2019 at 11:50 AM



“ Linda, Gary, and family - we are so sorry to hear this news and learn how hard she fought with the illness engulfing her. Thank you for sharing such a touching tribute. My favorite memory of Madi is that she was the first to greet us when we moved into the house. She came over and said that she wanted to “check out the kid situation” and wondered if anyone could come over to play yet. She had a great sense of humor beyond her years that I always appreciated. Love and peaceful thoughts to you all.

Claudia Davis - October 13, 2019 at 11:26 AM



“ Thank you, Claudia! I could just hear Madi saying that. She had so much personality and spunk. Hope you guys are well and thank you for sharing.

Linda Prewett - October 19, 2019 at 05:18 PM



“ Thank you for being so incredibly honest at this excruciating time in your lives. The son of a friend attended FRHS and was a dedicated soccer player as well. My own son is a freshman at CU Boulder this year so this has hit home for us. Your strength and obvious desire for something good to come of this tragedy is amazing. Please know that so many families you don't even know are holding you in their hearts and prayers. You are a beautiful family who raised an obviously amazing and beautiful daughter!

Brenda Harju - October 13, 2019 at 10:58 AM



“ Dear Linda, Gary and Family,

We are sending you our deepest heartfelt sympathy and love on the loss of your dear daughter Madi. Although we never met Madi, we certainly enjoyed spending time with most of your awesome family at Staci's home on several occasions Madi certainly was a beautiful young lady, both inside and out. Treasure the many happy times you shared and all the wonderful memories you created. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to each of you.

Pat and LeRoy Shaffer

Pat and LeRoy Shaffer - October 12, 2019 at 11:43 PM



“ What a beautiful tribute. We are so very sorry for your loss. My son goes to CU Boulder and lives in the same dorm as Madi did. While he never had a chance to meet her, he felt a heavy heart when she passed. To know that she lived in the same dorm and he could have been a friend, broke his heart. I can say this to you, she is in Jesus's arms, healthy, safe and whole. Our family will be praying for you, but know she is with the Lord.

Lisa Fredrick - October 12, 2019 at 12:24 AM



“ Thank you, Lisa. Assure your son that there wasn't much he could have done. She could have had all the friends in the world and she would have still been exhausted and wanting to permanently sleep. Thank you for taking the time to reach out to us.

Linda and Gary

Linda Prewett - October 12, 2019 at 11:04 PM



“ Thank you for this honest, loving , heartbreaking and earnest window into yours and your daughters journey.

morgan - October 13, 2019 at 01:50 PM



“ This is a wonderful tribute to your daughter! I have a son at CU and his brother has suffered from depression anxiety and panic attacks since he was 16 so i understand the roller coaster you have been on as her parents and siblings. I pray you find peace in knowing she's healthy now and her burdens are lifted even as yours are heavy.

Melanie Haste - October 13, 2019 at 03:13 PM



“ Thank you, Lisa, for those warm words. It really does help to know others are thinking about her as well.

Linda and Gary

Linda Prewett - October 13, 2019 at 11:50 PM



“ I wanted to share a memory from almost a year ago which is one of my favorites with Madi. I met her at UH Manoa and she was my first real friend here. For a long time, she was the only real friend I had, the only one I could constantly have a sincere heart to heart conversation with and then burst out laughing. Tomorrow is my birthday, and all I can think about is how a year ago I spent it with this beautiful girl. I was so nervous I'd have to spend my birthday alone, given I was struggling to make friends after moving here, but Madi always reminded me that I wasn't alone and spent it with me. We went to The Cheesecake Factory and then went to Waikiki Beach for a night walk. It was such a clear and pretty night, and I had such a fun time. I'm so lucky to have had her by my side on that day and many others so that I can look back on all of them with a smile, remembering her loud, genuine, and contagious laugh and spirit. My heart goes out to the family, I keep this wonderful girl in my thoughts every day



Johanna Leo - October 10, 2019 at 11:54 PM



“ Thank you so much for that memory, Johanna! I can just imagine the two of you walking on the beach. That was such a beautiful place and I'm glad that you were able to spend your birthday with our sweet girl

Thank you for sharing.

Linda and Gary

Linda Prewett - October 11, 2019 at 11:27 PM



“ I ONLY REMEMBER HER AS A "PLAYING HER HEART OUT" MID FIELD SOCCER PLAYER AS PRE-TEEN AND EARLY TEEN. IF THE WHOLE TEAM HAD BEEN MADE UP OF MADIS THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN INVINCIBLE. I KNOW SHE WILL BE MISSED DEARLY AND MY HEART GOES OUT TO THE FAMILY

Tom Black - October 10, 2019 at 02:55 PM



“ Thank you, Tom. She really did give it her all on the field, didn't she? We used to love watching her play. Thank you the kind words.

Linda and Gary

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 11:39 PM



“ What a beautiful tribute. I am so sorry for your loss and the struggle your beautiful daughter bravely endured for so long. She is whole now and at peace. My daughter lives in her dorm and was so sad for Madi and for you. Know that even strangers like us that you never met are thinking of you, mourning your loss and are sending prayers of peace and strength. She sounds like she was an incredible person and a true gift to those who knew her.

Carrie Myers - October 10, 2019 at 02:13 AM



“ Thank you, Carrie. It comforts us to know that there are people at CU who made it a point to look her up and read about her life.

Gary and Linda

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 11:44 PM



“ Gary and Linda. I'm so very sorry for the loss of your beautiful daughter. My son lives in that same dorm and I was so very sad to hear of Madalyn's passing. What a lovely and loving tribute to her. She sounds like a strong, sensitive, smart and loving soul who will be dearly missed by those she touched. My prayers go out to you and your family. Gretchen

gretchen - October 12, 2019 at 12:07 AM



“ Martina Sohn lit a candle in memory of Madalyn "Madi" Rose Prewett



Martina Sohn - October 09, 2019 at 08:23 PM



“ Thank you, Martina!

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 11:40 PM



“ My most heartfelt condolences from far away (I live in Italy). My daughter heard about this tragedy and told me about it - her dorm is also in Stearns. What an exceptional young woman and the tribute to her is so heartwarming. A blessing to you all, and I shall light a candle for her at a church in Rome today.

Deirdre - October 09, 2019 at 09:13 AM



“ Thank you so much

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 12:52 AM



“ Our hearts physically hurt. Madi made our trips to Colorado memorable, full of fun, silliness & love. She will always be close to our family. We feel honored to have known Madi and will carry her in our heart and souls forever. The Krivonak family.



Neil Krivonak - October 09, 2019 at 02:56 AM



“ Thank you, Neil! The girls really had a good thing going with their annual pop and water sales. Too bad it came crashing down when that do-gooder church set up camp next to them to give away water for free:)

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 12:58 AM



“ Gary, Linda and the whole extended crew, We mourn the loss of Madi along with you and appreciate that you gave those of us who didn't know her well such a vivid glimpse into her life. Thank you. Love, Kathy and Jim Haselmaier

Kathy Haselmaier - October 08, 2019 at 09:34 PM



“ Thank you, guys. She was an amazing person!

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 12:56 AM



“ Madi's laugh was so genuine and infectious! The love in her heart was always shared with others through a hug or kind words. Her presence will be remembered and missed by those who knew her!

Teresa Mayo

Teresa Mayo - October 08, 2019 at 04:18 PM



“ Thank you, Teresa. Her laugh is one of the things we miss the most.

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 12:59 AM



“ Rita Lucero lit a candle in memory of Madalyn "Madi" Rose Prewett



Rita Lucero - October 08, 2019 at 12:48 PM



“ Thank you, Rita, for thinking of our girl.

Linda Prewett - October 10, 2019 at 01:00 AM



“ We'll see you again. In the meantime, you girls please keep things down to a dull roar.

John Prewett - October 06, 2019 at 09:25 AM



“ What a beautiful image! Thank you

Linda Prewett - October 07, 2019 at 12:35 AM