



## Craig Crossen

May 20, 1950 - December 3, 2020

My friend, Craig Crossen

I knew Craig Crossen for fifty years, dating back to our undergraduate days at the University of Minnesota. Craig was a friend of mine, or, to speak more accurately, is a good friend of mine. Hundreds of years after the death of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, God said to Moses, "I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; speaking in the present tense, not the past tense, which could only mean that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were very much alive, hundreds of years after their physical deaths. In the same way, Craig is very much alive today.

Craig grew up without a father's influence on a small dairy farm in Princeton, Minnesota. He ran the farm with his mother and grandmother. He never lost his love of the hard physical labor of baling hay, cutting grass with a push mower, and shoveling snow. He was in full agreement with C.S. Lewis' statement that 'sweat is the kindest philosophy of all.'

Craig was very much an intellectual. You did not need to be very long in his presence to realize that his intellect in a wide range of subjects (astronomy, the ancient near east, philosophy, mathematics, music) towered over yours. Yet he was able to converse with my young children on their level. More than once, when asked a question I did not know the answer to, I would tell them that they would have to wait for Craig's next visit. What is remarkable is that he took them seriously and more importantly, paid attention to them.

He loved discussing spiritual matters, and how our views had evolved from the burst of enthusiasm and sense of urgency of our Campus Crusade days in the early 1970's to a firm conviction and hardened resolve of wanting to finish the race well. He had a quiet but very sure faith. He has finished the course set out for him. The Bible tells us "Blessed (happy) are the dead who die in the Lord from now on...that they may rest from their labors" (Rev. 14:13). Perhaps that is why Craig's last facial expression was that of a smile.

by Ken Deusterman



# Events

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**DEC**   **Service**   11:00AM  
**12**

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St. Ann's Catholic Church  
514 1st St. SE, Wadena, MN, US

# Comments

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“ I never met Craig but his book 'Sky Vistas' has been my companion for years as I have gazed in wonder and silence at the night sky. I learned of his passing, and this page, accidentally because I periodically searched the internet to see what he might be writing. He had a profound knowledge of the structure of our galaxy, and a facility with language which allowed him to convey his understanding with vividness and ease - so different from technical astronomy, which he had yet mastered. His interest in Babylonia and ancient astronomy revealed a deeper sense of how we meet the world not only through our senses, but also with what our time and place allow us to imagine. At a distance I mourn his passing, May he rest in peace. Quinton Deeley

**Quinton Deeley** - October 15, 2021 at 07:54 PM

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“ I met Craig while at the U of MN. We became good friends although years later our paths diverged and we lost contact. I can certainly attest to his love of music, astronomy, and cats. I had been hoping to re-establish contact with him. Wonderful man and will never forget him.

**William Thomas** - December 27, 2020 at 11:11 AM

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“ Dee Goerge lit a candle in memory of Craig Crossen



**Dee Goerge** - December 12, 2020 at 10:05 AM

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“ Craig was a nice man. We enjoyed our breakfasts and conversations with him. His love for cats touched us too as he cared for our Socks many times. We'll miss Craig. Leo & Sharon Kempf

**Leo and Sharon Kempf** - December 12, 2020 at 10:02 AM

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“ Deb Haraldson lit a candle in memory of Craig Crossen



**Deb Haraldson** - December 11, 2020 at 11:53 PM

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“ Lea And Mike Snyder lit a candle in memory of Craig Crossen



**Lea and Mike Snyder** - December 11, 2020 at 08:36 PM

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“ Jerry And Kathy Peterson lit a candle in memory of Craig Crossen



**Jerry and Kathy Peterson** - December 11, 2020 at 07:40 PM