



Mark Edward Zirkelbach

February 17, 1957 - January 23, 2026

Mark Edward Zirkelbach, age 68, of Evansville, Indiana, who also spent time living and working in Southern California, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, January 23, 2026. Mark was born on February 17, 1957, in Evansville, Indiana, to Elmer Zirkelbach and Lucille (Drone) Zirkelbach, who both hailed from southern Illinois.

Mark was preceded in death by his parents; his siblings Joy, Jan, Richard “Zeke,” and Debbie, and by his father-in-law, Robert Wagner. He is survived by his loving wife, Cindy Zirkelbach (Wagner); his children Zach (Erin) Zirkelbach, Lynnsey (Eric) Miller, and Emily Zirkelbach; his four cherished grandchildren, Carter, Elliot, Lennon, and Lucy, who brought him immeasurable joy and by his mother-in-law, Carol Wagner.

There will be a Mass of Christian Burial held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 6, 2026, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Rev. Christopher Droste officiating.

Friends may visit with the family at Pierre Funeral Home on Thursday, February 5, from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m., with a memorial service at 6:00 p.m. that evening. Friends may also visit with the family from 9:00 a.m. until service time on Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Mark lived a life defined by purpose, humility, adventure, and deep

relationships. A lifelong lover of the outdoors, he found his truest joy on the trail—especially in the mountains of the West. Through the Trans-Sierra Challenge (TSX), Mark completed numerous multi-day treks, including Mount Whitney, the Escalante Route of the Grand Canyon, Tehipite Valley, and many others. Known affectionately by his trail name, “Maverick,” Mark embodied the spirit of quiet leadership, resilience, and steady encouragement that inspired others to push beyond their limits.

Beyond the mountains, Mark built strong communities wherever he went. He was a devoted member of his workout boot camp family, competed in multiple DEKA competitions, and formed lasting friendships through shared effort and mutual support. Whether in the gym, on the trail, or over a cup of coffee, Mark had a rare ability to connect—calm, sincere, witty, and always present.

Professionally, Mark built a distinguished career in healthcare leadership. A graduate of Mater Dei High School and the University of Evansville, he spent several years in Evansville working for Daughters of Charity, now known as Ascension Health, before continuing his career in Southern California. For the last 18 years, Mark served as Chief Information Officer at Loma Linda Medical Center, where he built a lasting legacy of leadership, innovation, and integrity. More than a transformational CIO, Mark was a mentor, teammate, and trusted advisor who navigated enterprise-wide challenges with clarity and vision. His humanity, his steadiness, warmth, and genuine care for people—left the deepest impression. In recent years, he also began teaching leadership courses at the university level, extending his passion for mentorship to the next generation.

Mark was many things at once: a thoughtful executive, an early-morning workout partner, a proud Midwesterner and Indiana University fan, and a friend who could seamlessly shift from discussing technology strategy to sharing life stories. He was multidimensional, grounded, and endlessly

genuine.

Mark's calm presence and sincere humor left a positive mark on everyone fortunate enough to know him. He was a husband, father, grandfather, mentor, and friend whose influence will continue through the countless lives he touched.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Condolences may be made online at www.pierrefuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 5. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home
2601 West Franklin Street
Evansville, IN 47712
(812) 423-6471
info@pierrefuneralhome.com
<https://www.pierrefuneralhome.com>

Memorial Service

FEB 5. 6:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home
2601 West Franklin Street
Evansville, IN 47712
(812) 423-6471
info@pierrefuneralhome.com
<https://www.pierrefuneralhome.com>

Visitation

FEB 6. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2701 W. Franklin Street
Evansville, IN

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
2701 W. Franklin Street
Evansville, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Pierre Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mark Edward Zirkelbach*



Pierre Funeral Home - February 05 at 06:50 PM



“ *Pierre Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mark Edward Zirkelbach*



Pierre Funeral Home - February 04 at 10:25 AM

SB

“ *I worked with Mark for over 20 years on various Epic projects. Even when I was very new to my role, he treated me with great kindness and respect. He always impressed me as being someone that listened more than he talked and was able to help groups achieve great things. Love and Respect, Sean*

Sean Bina - February 16 at 04:17 PM

BS

“ *Mark was a valued industry colleague. Sincere condolences. Bill Spooner*

Bill Spooner - February 15 at 07:35 PM

GM

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Sending our love and prayers to you all.*

Gene and Nancy Morris - February 05 at 09:24 PM

AB

“ *Uncle Mark, I don't really have the words to express how grateful and lucky that we all are, to have had you in our lives. Thank you for all of the guidance, love, humor, mediocre fishing "tips", support, entertainment, showing us how to have a good time (see attached video) And, so much more.*

*Love you & miss you,
-Adam*



Adam Blake - February 05 at 04:47 PM

BM

“ Mark, I know how you would want us to feel, but I just can't wrap my head around it. I just have to faith that God's plan is perfect. He takes amazing people when He wants, not when we want. Your last words to me, and I quote: "Hope to see grandkids graduate and start their lives - hope to be able to hike, exercise and be active fo many years - just talked today about not knowing how long our runway in life is but it's not getting longer so have a full life." To that, I tearfully say Amen. It's selfish, but I miss you bud, the workouts, the mountain bike rides, and just our talks...you are a wide man, and a motivator, and still today, I push because you also told me " the most important step is the mindset to do it when you don't want to..." Love you buddy, go with God.



Brett McPherson - February 05 at 11:56 AM

DS

“ D j S. planted a grove of 3 </store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518>>Memorial Trees in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

D j S. - February 05 at 01:23 AM

VG

“ Vickie G. planted a </store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518>>Memorial Tree in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Vickie G. - February 04 at 08:43 PM

AA

“ Aberdeen A. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Aberdeen A. - February 04 at 07:33 PM

LM

“ Love Harry Miller purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



Love Harry Miller - February 04 at 05:57 PM

LM

“ Love Harry Miller planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Love Harry Miller - February 04 at 05:57 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



February 04 at 01:47 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



February 04 at 12:10 PM



“ *LLUH Administration planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*

LLUH Administration - February 04 at 12:10 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



February 04 at 06:18 AM



“ *LLUH Digital Transformation purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



LLUH Digital Transformation - February 03 at 10:23 PM

LT

“ LLUH Digital Transformation planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

LLUH Digital Transformation - February 03 at 10:23 PM

HW

“ Hannah Wagner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Hannah Wagner - February 03 at 10:18 PM

HW

“ Hannah Wagner purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



Hannah Wagner - February 03 at 10:18 PM

TT

“ This Week Health Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

This Week Health Team - February 03 at 07:38 PM

TT

“ This Week Health Team purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



This Week Health Team - February 03 at 07:38 PM

LG

“ LLU Faculty Medical Group purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



LLU Faculty Medical Group - February 03 at 07:10 PM

LT

“ Loma Linda Service Line Team planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Loma Linda Service Line Team - February 03 at 05:27 PM

LT

“ Loma Linda Service Line Team purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



Loma Linda Service Line Team - February 03 at 05:27 PM



“ 322 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Pierre Funeral Home - February 03 at 03:27 PM

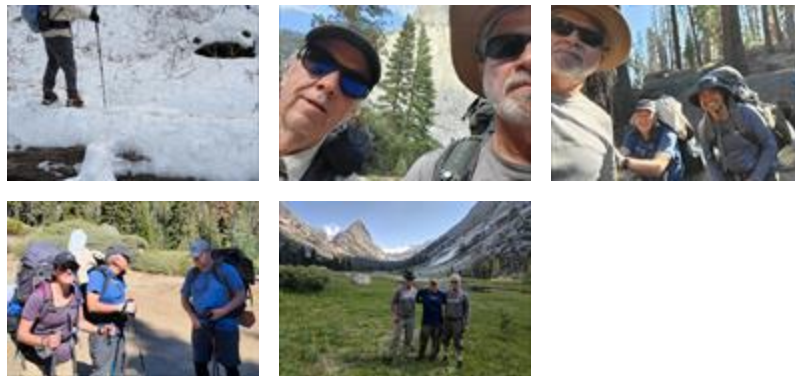
PB

“ Mark and I go back to the mid-1980s, when we first worked together. We were just kids then but over the years as we worked together, I grew to respect him deeply, and that respect became a lasting friendship. We worked together for eight years in Evansville then our careers took us in different directions, but the friendship endured and grew. Whenever our paths crossed, a phone call just to laugh or talk shop, at a conference it always felt as though no time had passed. We simply picked up where we left off.

Late in life for many, we picked up hiking. He became a much more accomplished hiker than I and hiked many more miles. He had a hiking speed I just couldn't keep up with for long. That speed got him into hot water a couple times but that's another story.

Over the years, Mark came to be my dearest friend. What made him so special is that so many others feel the same way. Mark gave his whole heart to everything he did, and to everyone he cared about.

I will miss him deeply, his humor, our banter, and our time on the trails together. He was a better friend than I deserved, and I am grateful for every moment we shared.



Philip Bradley - February 03 at 03:14 PM

WT

“ *with Love, Ganim & the RAVE Team purchased the Divine Light for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



with Love, Ganim & the RAVE Team - February 03 at 03:12 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



February 03 at 09:45 AM



“ *Mark has been a part of my life for four decades. We worked together starting in or 20's, and remained friends as life took us in different directions over the years. Throughout, Mark always made me laugh, and always lived his values. Knowledge and competence. Truly seeing, hearing, and serving others. Work hard and play hard.*

My prayers are for Cindy, Mark's family, and the circle of friends that I am proud to be a part of. We will miss him a lot.

Mac McClurkan - February 03 at 09:33 AM

AH

“ *Angela H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*

Angela H. - February 03 at 08:18 AM

ME

“ Marion & Elizabeth planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Marion & Elizabeth - February 02 at 10:27 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



February 02 at 10:27 PM

SA

“ We all send our condolences to Cindy, Marks children & all the Family 🙏🙏 ☐ Sending Love & prayers, Suzanne(Wagner), & Jerry Arnett & Family, & Vonna Wagner



Suzanne Arnett - February 02 at 10:00 PM

JC

“ Julia Claire planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Julia Claire - February 02 at 08:21 PM

JC

“ *Julia Claire purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



Julia Claire - February 02 at 08:21 PM

JC

“ *Mark was such a kind and genuine soul, with a sense of humor and decency that made every interaction lighter and better. He treated everyone with respect and left a meaningful impact on all of us who had the privilege of working with him. To his family, please know that his goodness lives on in the many people he encouraged, supported, and inspired. He will be deeply missed. May God's comfort surround you, and may His peace carry you through this difficult time.*

Julia Claire - February 02 at 08:15 PM



“ *Sending Prayers for Mark Zirklebachs Family and Friends:
Praying that GOD will comfort all of those whom were affected by the loss of Mark Zirklebach.
May you Rest in Ever Lasting Peace,
Rhonda Jackson*



Rhonda Jackson - February 02 at 07:23 PM

EM

“ This is how I knew Mark. A giant in healthcare and a Good Samaritan. https://www.linkedin.com/posts/edwardmarx_my-friend-of-our-colleague-is-gone-climbing-activity-7421922468195655680-F_o_u?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAAAEUGaABNuf-cebM96QdrpsxyIC-sYxdb_k

Edward Marx - February 02 at 05:28 PM

EM

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/mark-zirkelbach-edward-marx-e9e6c>

Edward Marx - February 02 at 05:34 PM

FC

“ Forever Grateful for your presence for our team - Emergency Department at Loma Linda University Medical Center planted a grove of 10 </store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518>>Memorial Trees in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Forever Grateful for your presence for our team - Emergency Department at Loma Linda University Medical Center - February 02 at 02:13 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



February 02 at 01:20 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



February 02 at 12:34 PM



“ *Bonnie Carter purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.*



Bonnie Carter - February 02 at 11:12 AM



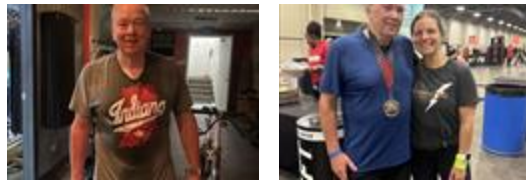
“ *I worked with Mark for many years at Loma Linda. Mark was a very good friend who I greatly miss. I grin when I think of our conversations and how we had many different opinions on many different topics...but one thing we had in common was our love for family and friends', and at the end of the day, that connection always allowed us to leave after dinner the way we started...as friends. I have the hope of seeing Mark in the Kingdom one day, and oh what a day that will be.*

Mike Mahoney - February 02 at 01:07 AM

JR

“ *Mark, I miss you. Your Energy Lab family misses you. You were teammate and teacher, father-figure and friend, keeper-of-order-for-the-dumbbell-racks, and most-likely-to-leave-towel-behind. We love you for being all of those things for us, your gym family. Thank you for some of the best memories, heartfelt smiles, perfect side comments, deep inspiration, and special friendship you gave to all of us.*

You have left a deep imprint on my heart and I am grateful that your family shared you with us and that we got to spend the best part of our days with you. Rest my friend. You did good.



Jill Rooks - February 01 at 11:46 PM

JB

“ *Mark had a way of lifting everyone around him. He didn't just motivate people—he refilled their cup and reminded them what they're capable of. I will honor his memory by doing my best to lift up others as well.*



Joe Bruno - February 01 at 11:26 PM

RY

“ I had the pleasure of working under Mark for a time, and he was truly a joy to be around. He genuinely loved what he did, and it showed in the way he approached every challenge and guided his teams with a constant can-do attitude.
Even after I left the organization, whenever I ran into Mark at a conference, he would always make time to catch up and ask how I was doing. The impact he’s had on the people he worked with—and the work he did at LLUH—will never fade.
You’ll be deeply missed, Mark. Thank you for everything.
— Richard Yaw

Richard Yaw - February 01 at 08:59 PM

DP

“ Although I worked with Cindy for many years in the trenches of pediatrics in Evansville, I never met Mark. I wish I had. He was quite a guy and he obviously had an outsized impact on a wide swath of co-workers and friends. I particularly would have loved to have joined him on his adventures in the splendid beauty of God's creation.
Now may the peace that passes all understanding be upon him, Cindy, and his family.
Dr. Rick Probert

Dr. Rick Probert - February 01 at 08:08 PM

JG

Mark was a great friend of mine for years, and will be so missed!

Joe Grotius - February 01 at 11:37 PM

JM

RIP Sir.. May your journey be fruitful and fill with Love. It was a pleasure working under your watch. Juan Munoz

Juan Munoz - February 02 at 01:08 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



February 01 at 07:41 PM



“ Greg and Nicole planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Greg and Nicole - February 01 at 07:41 PM



“ Drone & Hoyal families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.

Drone & Hoyal families - February 01 at 07:32 PM



“ Drone & Hoyal families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mark Edward Zirkelbach.



Drone & Hoyal families - February 01 at 07:32 PM

JK

“ Thank you for sharing Mark with us all these years at Loma Linda. He was a friend, leader, and colleague and even after I left, he always had a warm smile and quick-witted comment that made you laugh. I know he loved his family dearly and I was blessed to be a part of his team for several years and learn from him. He will be sorely missed. -Jeff Kim

Jeffrey Kim - February 01 at 07:19 PM