

Derek Iverson Spring Fling Tribute:

Derek Iverson was a beloved member of the Mt. LaCrosse family and ski racing community. Derek passed away on May 28, 2020 at the age of 37 due to refractory Hodgkin's lymphoma. Derek a native of Onalaska, graduating from Onalaska High School in 2001.

Derek had an appetite for life and knew how to enjoy a moment. His presence and humor put a smile on the faces of all who knew him. Derek could always be counted on for a good time, with a quick smile, laugh, and sarcastic joke to make any situation seem lighter and brighter. When asked what his super power would be, he stated "to make people laugh and cry at the same time". In this, he definitely succeeded.

Derek was a man of many talents. He was a natural born athlete who could ski better than he could walk and loved skiing and ski racing best. He grew up ski racing, starting at Mt. La Crosse. His racing career provided him many opportunities to travel the US, Canada, and the world, enjoying many new sites and adventures and meeting some amazing people through the skiing community. Ski racing eventually led to ski race coaching, contributing to the successes of many Mt. La Crosse Ski Team (now known as Coulee Alpine Racing - CAR) athletes.

Derek was no stranger to hardship, but he never let it slow him down. He battled cancer for over four years with grace, humility and positivity. He was truly an inspiration. During that time he allowed himself to be a "guinea pig" in hopes that it would not only help himself, but also others. Derek felt that life was short enough and wanted to enjoy it to the fullest. He sure knew how to live!

Mt. LaCrosse, the local ski community, and race family were near and dear to him. Mt. LaCrosse was his second home and the people were family to him. And as Derek would always say... "Take care of each other!" - Derek

