



Brian Baker

September 13, 1968 - February 5, 2026

Brian Leon Baker, age 57, of Topeka, Kansas, passed away on February 5, 2026, after a brief battle with cancer.

Brian was born on September 13, 1968, to Larry and Alma Schweitzer Baker. Growing up in Topeka, he attended Topeka Public Schools and graduated from his cherished Topeka High School, where he was active in both sports and music, including serving as Drum Major for the Trojan Band. He continued to pursue his passion for music while attending and graduating from Washburn University with a degree in Music Education, also serving as Drum Major for the Washburn University Band.

Following graduation, Brian began his career as a high school band director and taught in several Kansas school districts, including Scott City, Perry/Lecompton, and Marysville. Brian utilized his strengths as an educator to transition into a career in business supply chain, beginning as a buyer for Fleming Foods, followed by a similar position with Alco-Duckwall Corporation in Abilene, Kansas. These experiences afforded him the opportunity to begin his consulting career with Accenture. After several years with Accenture, Brian joined his beloved Deloitte, where he was employed as a Managing Director at the time of his passing.

Next to his commitment to excellence at Deloitte was his enthusiasm for all

things golf. He spent many cherished weekends with his golf group, playing as often as possible. He also enjoyed attending golf events and watching the many tournaments throughout the year.

Brian was preceded in death by his father, Larry Baker in October of 2024. He is survived by his wife, Joy Baker, and daughter, Blaire Baker, both of Topeka; his mother, Alma Baker of Topeka; brothers, Mark Baker and his wife Lynette of Kansas City, Missouri, and Scott Baker and his wife, Michelle and daughter, Lizzie of Arvada, Colorado; nephew, Evan Finton of Phoenix, Arizona; along with his brothers and sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and close family friends.

Visitation will be open to all friends and family at Kevin Brennan Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, on Saturday, February 14, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Brian's service will follow at 4:00 p.m. that afternoon, February 14, at Grace Point Church.

In lieu of flowers, Brian wished for memorial contributions to be made towards a scholarship fund at Washburn University. In honoring that wish, his daughter, Blaire, worked to create the Brian Baker Legacy Scholarship, ensuring his passion lives on by supporting future performing arts students.

Contributions may be made through the University's website at "wualumni.org" by selecting the "Give" link and choosing fund name Brian Baker Legacy Scholarship. Checks may be made payable to "Washburn University" with Brian Baker Legacy Scholarship noted in memo line.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 14. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Celebration of Life Service

FEB 14. 4:00 PM (CT)

Grace Point Church
5400 SW Huntoon Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Brian Baker



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - February 11 at 02:44 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Brian Baker.



February 21 at 09:16 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Brian Baker.

February 21 at 09:16 AM



“ Rest in peace my dear friend Brian. You always had a way of making people feel good about themselves. Your kindness, encouragement, and positive spirit inspired so many of us to be better and to grow. The world is a lesser place without you, and you will forever live in our hearts.

Motaz Sabri - February 16 at 08:13 AM

RB

“ *It has been years.. you will be missed. My heart goes to your family.*

Richard Baker - February 15 at 08:18 AM

MN

“ *Brian was an enigma - it has taken me a few days to weigh in - he was one of my "life-changing people" - not sure too many would understand - suffice it to say that I was the "Mom" of his so-called "Three Wisemen & Mom" - he propelled me forward in my career with his support and guidance, and just plain "down-to-earth" brain - "you can't fix stupid" was one of my favorite lines of his - he will always be one of my favorite people in life - my prayers and condolences are with his Family (I know they were the loves of his life).*

Maureen Nagle - February 14 at 09:58 PM

CA

“ *I am so saddened of Brian's passing. I worked with Brian while he was at Washburn, playing piano with him on his recitals the entire time he was there and it was such a pleasure. Brian would come to our home and practice and spend time with my kids and family even on some holidays and he added joy to our life. He will be deeply missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Cathy Altman. - February 14 at 02:55 PM

LK

“ Dear, dear friends,

Our hearts have been crushed for you since learning of Brian's passing on. To dear Joy and Blair, mother Alma, brothers Mark and Scott, we know a host of relatives and many friends are standing with open arms. We wish so much to be with you in person.

Now we pray the Holy Spirit will be the “rod and staff” to comfort and protect.

We have many memories of Brian. But a fun one is of a 6th grade church class of all boys (at least how I remember it). I, Louise, was asked to teach this class at Bible School. After the first morning session dad Larry Baker asked me how it went. I frowned and said, “a bit challenging.” Amazingly, the following days of VBS I had perfect attention to the lesson! What a fun bunch of friends who now will miss Brian so very much, as will this ole teacher!

Love and hugs, Louise and Marvin Kramer

Louise and Marvin Kramer - February 14 at 11:31 AM

MO

“ Brian at the Cancer Challenge, various years.



Mandy Ozimek - February 13 at 02:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Brian Baker.

February 13 at 11:49 AM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brian Baker.



February 13 at 11:49 AM



“ Brian was one of the finest human beings I have had the privilege of knowing. I had the honor of working alongside him at Accenture on the Loblaw account.

One moment that will always stay with me shows the kind of person he was. During a meeting, I received a call that my wife had suffered a fracture. Brian immediately told me to leave and focus on my family. That evening, he sent a meal to our home with a heartfelt note — a simple yet powerful gesture that reflected his compassion and genuine care for others.

He will always be deeply missed and forever remembered with gratitude and respect.

Mahesh Sharma - February 13 at 09:28 AM

JS

“ LOVED partnering with Brian and will miss his contributions immensely. A "Partner's Partner"....always willing to poke, challenge and help. Will miss your smiling face and wise cracks Brian. RIP.

jeff simpson - February 12 at 06:23 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brian Baker.



February 12 at 05:07 PM

GC

“ Very sad to hear about Brian's passing. He did some amazing work at Loblaw, and was recognized well by our client's executives. This last fall I got a chance to play some golf while he and the family were in AZ, and by all accounts he seemed happy and well (and he played some great golf as well - started with a birdie on the first hole!). Prayers for the family and I hope to see many of my colleagues and friends at the service.

Greg Caster - February 10 at 10:55 PM

JU

“ Brian will be missed. I also worked with him on the stores team at Loblaws. He listened to what we had to say and fought hard on our behalf. He talked about his family at home a lot while he was here. My sympathies go out to you.

Julie - February 10 at 08:43 PM

AP

“ I am shocked & saddened to hear of Brian’s passing. I worked with Brian on a couple projects while at Loblaw Companies in Toronto. We were part of the Retail stores team & a very close group who worked hard & had some fun times along the way. Brian was always supportive & went out of his way to help the team around him - no matter the ask. We all have fond memories & he’ll be truly missed. My sincere condolences to his family.....



Adrienne Petropanagos - February 10 at 07:22 PM

MS

“ So sad to hear the news about Brian today. Lost a work colleague that I sat across from for years, and spent 10-12 hours a day, working, joking, sharing stories and talking about our families. My condolences to Joy and Blaire, He was great friend and will be truly missed by many people that had the pleasure of knowing him.

Mark Sloan - February 10 at 05:42 PM

EG

“ I am so very sad to hear of this news. I got to know Brian when he was with Accenture and worked at Loblaw Companies in Toronto. We worked together on a number of fronts and became good friends. Played golf together many times and I got to visit him and his family in Topeka in the fall of 2024. We enjoyed a round of golf and got to watch a K-State football game together. Was a fun weekend. My condolences to Joy and Blaire. May he rest in peace.

Eric Gallant - February 10 at 04:27 PM

DF

“ *Deloitte's Walmart Account Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Brian Baker.*



Deloitte's Walmart Account Family - February 10 at 04:15 PM

JC

“ *I am shocked and saddened to read this. Brian and I worked closely in Canada when he was consulting for Accenture. We would go out after work. We became friends. Brian was a class act but down earth. When he briefly moved to Canada we lived close by and would get together even after we stopped working together. I have so much respect for him and I already miss Brian. Although it has been 5 years, he still found the time to reach out to me last November when my mother passed, a Class act. Miss you Brian. You were one of a kind!*

Jason Cubitt - February 09 at 09:23 PM

KT

“ *I am deeply saddened by Brian's passing. He left us far too early and too quickly. I was fortunate to know Brian through his music. It was my great fortune to be his saxophone teacher at Washington University. Brian excelled in music and became a very fine saxophonist, musician, and educator. He touched many lives with his music, and he certainly touched mine as a student. He became part of my family, and he gained the respect and love of those fortunate enough to know him. He will be greatly missed.*

Ken Ticknor - February 09 at 02:42 PM

DE

“ Brian and I worked together for the last 8 years, lived very similar lives and always seemed to end up working on the same clients and projects. His insightful, pragmatic, deeply experienced approach to life and work always made hard things seem easier and he's the person that you always want at your side. His dry, witty approach would always make things fun and interesting. He was adored by his team mates, respected by his colleagues and clients and obviously deeply loved by his family. I'm proud to call Brian a friend and I will miss him deeply. His was a life well lived, if far too short. My deepest sympathy and condolences to his family, he will be sorely missed.

Daniel Edsall - February 09 at 08:41 AM

JW

“ I worked with Brian and his wife Joy at Perry-Lecompton. Brian was a passionate band director and great fun to have as a colleague. Regretfully, I am out of state on Feb 14 but I send my condolences to Joy and family. Josh Woodward

Josh Woodward - February 08 at 10:07 AM

CH

“ Brian had been a great colleague at Accenture. Affable personality. Heartfelt condolences to the family ! May his soul rest in peace ‘



Chetan - February 07 at 05:57 PM

VR

“ I met Brian when he was with Accenture and visited India for work. It was a pleasure interacting with him. I stayed connected with him on social media even after he moved out of Accenture.

My heartfelt condolences to Brian's family and friends.

RIP Brian

Vrinda - February 07 at 12:18 PM

MO

“ I had the privilege of meeting Brian several times, when he came to Arkansas to golf with my husband Ed. They worked together at Deloitte and Ed always spoke highly of Brian. Brian was a regular participant on Ed's Cancer Challenge team; always being willing to drive here to play and spend time looking for golf balls and sharing stories. Although I've never met Joy, Bryan often spoke about his wife "the amazing teacher". Our thoughts and prayers are with you Joy and family as you grieve this tremendous loss. I will miss seeing Brian playing with Ed.

Mandy & Ed Ozimek

Mandy Ozimek - February 07 at 11:45 AM

RP

“ To the entire family,

Over the past 5 years I have had the privilege of getting to know and serving Brian as the Saturday pro shop assistant at Cypress Ridge Golf Course. As someone who has also served in his role of "cat herder" for golf groups I can say that he did it better than myself or any other that I deal with on a regular basis. A kind and considerate gentlemen who will be missed by his motley crew of vagabonds and thieves. I know many people will be eternally blessed by his memory.

Richard S. Puglisi

Richard Puglisi - February 07 at 09:59 AM

TB

“ *Brian was my friend. He will be greatly missed. He was the ambassador of our golf group, making tee times and just being a great organizer. We had many days of playing golf, enjoying a great day or struggling to just finish. We never knew what day would bring what. Especially with golf. The part I will miss the most is when we were done playing, contemplating who won or lost and just being buds over a cold adult beverage, usually complaining about one or the other winning all the money. Save me a tee time in heaven brother. I will play you five a hole!!*

Tim Bervert

Tim Bervert - February 07 at 12:49 AM

DK

“ *Joy and family, I am so sorry to hear of Brian's passing. You're in my thoughts and prayers. May his memory be a blessing to you.*
Dee Klausman

Dee Klausman - February 06 at 09:09 PM



“ *I'll miss you my good friend.*

Colonel Eddie Shirron - February 06 at 06:42 PM