



Photo credit: Rebecca Marie Photography

Arlin Dale Devish

January 22, 1967 – February 25, 2026

Arlin Devish, age 59 and formerly of Sioux Falls, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 25, 2026.

A memorial service will take place at 3:00 PM on Monday, March 2, 2026, at Miller Funeral Home Downtown.

Arlin was born in January 1967 to Dale and Lois (Taylor) in Winner, South Dakota. He graduated from the South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD) in 1986, where the friendships he developed became lifelong connections.

Over his 59 years, Arlin worked at a variety of places including KFC, Fuji Film developing, the Deaf Club, restaurants, and lawn care. He was always willing to help his dad around the farm, cutting and stacking firewood and helping with chores. Arlin was a typical Devish — teasing friends, family, and even nurses with his playful spirit.



Arlin as a bear with a sled on the way to Santa's, during the "Jingle Bells" Christmas program, 1980.

Arlin was remembered by many SDSD students for his humor and a little mischievous streak. A few times over the years, his family invited SDSD students to their farm so the pupils could see the pigs — experiences many remember fondly.

One favorite story from his school days tells of a confident senior who boasted that he could run for a touchdown against all the boys. He was quickly sacked and left lying face down. When he looked back to see who had taken him down, he was stunned to realize it was sixth-grader Arlin — his ego flattened in that unforgettable moment.

Arlin enjoyed spending time with friends, going to the Farmers Market, and playing cards at the Deaf Club. He especially enjoyed family vacations, including trips when Rita's grandchildren came along. He loved the adventures and always made sure to get a key souvenir.

Arlin was well remembered throughout the Deaf community for attending many weekend social nights. He valued friendships deeply and enjoyed staying connected with the community he loved.

In July 2023, Arlin moved into Leisure Living in Hartford, SD, where he played cards and did puzzles with friends. While on dialysis, he enjoyed visits from Ivy. In December 2025, Arlin moved into Diamond Care Center in Bridgewater, SD. He quickly settled in and made connections with the workers there, who enjoyed caring for him.



Arlin balancing his bean bag on his head during P.E. class at SDSD, 1976.



His father, Dale, shared: *"Arlin was honest. He was always willing to help me or his friends. He was generous."*

We take comfort in knowing that Arlin is no longer in pain, can breathe easier, and is free from the medical struggles he endured.

Arlin is survived by his father, Dale Devish; sisters, Rita (Jerry) Lawver and Karen Leehane; nieces and nephews; and great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Lois Devish, and his grandparents.

In lieu of flowers, donations will be divided between Leisure Living and Diamond Care Center — places that provided care and comfort to Arlin.



Arlin with his classmates from the SDSD Class of 1986