

Opening Prayer by Rev. Stew Bittman of Unity at the Lake

Living, loving Presence, we gather together to acknowledge & celebrate Christopher's wonderfully lived, rich life and to share in the joy of having known him. We will all be forever gifted by his love of the outdoors, of inventing and fixing things, and, especially, of his family (which of course included his pets).

We're also here to acknowledge & honor our own sadness and heartbreak as we say good-bye; to bless & release him as he moves on to his next adventure.

And so...in this time of remembrance we feel great joy to have known and loved Chris and to forever hold his essence and his light in our hearts. We are grateful for this time to remember how deep love is, and how strong the bond is that we create with each other on this physical plane.

We're grateful to know there is so much more to life than what we experience in these physical bodies. We're especially grateful for our innate knowing that nothing can separate us from the Love and Life that many of us call God. Chris may not have called it that, but I know he believed that love is what matters and that we are forever supported, forever loved.

We hold Chris in gentle strength and tenderness in this moment, as I hope you are doing for me and for yourselves. So it is, Amen