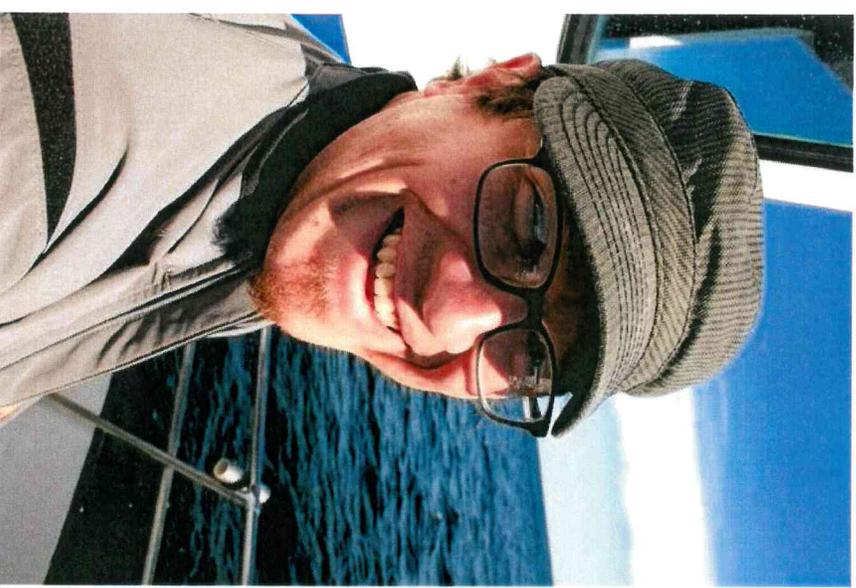


In 2010, Justin met a pretty girl named Summer, who was born in April, who was working in a bar in Spearfish, South Dakota. She shared that she was going to a Ween concert soon, and it so happened that Justin was a big fan of that very band. He also happened to be the proud bearer of a Ween tattoo, which he promptly displayed for her. It was a moment of kismet. His bid seemed to impress that pretty girl enough to keep talking with him, and eventually marrying him and building a life together. He and Summer traveled around the country, visiting bright city skyscrapers, small town cheese festivals, and other wild and random places. They moved to Portland, then Denver, then Duluth. They bought a canoe, they bought a house, they bought themselves fancy cheeses and fancy crackers and ate them like fancy people. They camped and swam and drank in their lives like gluttons. In 2017, they pulled out all the stops and built a baby, Bishop, who promptly became Justin's best friend and proudest accomplishment. He is their finest work. While he left us too soon, we feel so fortunate to have shared this realm with him, that we'll do our best to excuse his Irish goodbye. We are heartbroken, but he was generous enough to share his eyes, as blue as Lake Superior, his smile, bright with a glint of mischief, and his unquenchable curiosity, with his son Bishop, so we take some solace in still getting to relish in these parts of him.

Justin is survived by his wife Summer and son Bishop, his mother and father Marilyn and Sheldon Sheeler, sisters Amanda Mitchell (Marty Blomberg), Michelle Urias (Albert), and Lori Ellefson, brother Jonathan Sheeler (Chantel), mother-in-law Kris Venner, father-in-law Ivan Venner (Colleen), and many nephews, nieces, and extended family members.

He will be deeply missed.

## Forever In Our Hearts



**Justin Anthony Mitchell**

May 26, 1981

December 29, 2025



### **Memorial Service**

10:00 A.M. – Saturday – January 17, 2026  
Leverington Funeral Home  
of the Northern Hills  
Belle Fourche, South Dakota

### **Officiant**

Pastor Harold Delbridge

### **Music**

“On Eagle’s Wings”

### **Inurnment**

Vale Cemetery  
Vale, South Dakota

*Following the service you are all invited to the Vale Community Hall  
for lunch and a time of fellowship.*



Leverington Funeral Home  
of the Northern Hills

~ Family Owned by Mark and Debra Leverington ~  
Nancy Cole – McKenzie Lyons – Serenity Wyatt  
[www.LeveringtonFH.com](http://www.LeveringtonFH.com)

**Justin Anthony Mitchell** (44) of Duluth, MN, died on December 29, 2025. He was born on May 26, 1981, in Dell City, OK, but moved to Hot Springs, AR while still a baby, and spent his early childhood there. At age 8, moved with his family to his mother’s native South Dakota. A couple years later, he was settled with his family on Sheeler Farm, a small segment of emerald corn and cottonwoods on the banks of the Belle Fourche River in Vale, SD.

Justin attended and graduated from Newell High School in 2000 — a brilliant child, but a passable student. He joined the SD National Guard, which took him to locations around the globe, like Nicaragua, Iraq, and Sturgis. He took some college courses here and there, but rarely could they scratch the itch of curiosity that so defined him. Instead, he always seemed to throw himself into every single thing that captured his highly attuned eye for wonder. To know Justin was to witness curiosity manifest. He loved music, literature, games, history, technology, the outdoors, and on and on and on. He was an artist, a photographer, a designer, an animator, and more. He was quixotic, kind, and funny. He was clumsy throwing a football, but moved with a ballerina’s grace on a mountain bike. He built his own furniture, repaired his own vehicles, and paddled his own canoe. He could beat you at chess, beat you at Magic the Gathering, and beat you in a spur-of-the-moment sushi rolling competition. All of it was self-taught. He was a unique and remarkable individual — a true Renaissance man.

