

Week of July 23, 2023



From Woody: On Friday, I read a wonderfully moving article in the USA TODAY by Dana Hunsinger Benbow about Scott Rolen, who is one of two players inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame yesterday in Cooperstown, NY. The article was headlined, *A BOY WAS DYING. CARDINAL HOF INDUCTEE SCOTT ROLEN QUIETLY BECAME HIS BEST FRIEND*. Scott Rolen had first met 9 year old Tyler Frenzel when Tyler's gym teacher, an old friend from youth baseball days, had contacted Rolen. He told Rolen about the wonderful boy and his awful illness. Rolen invited Tyler and his parents to a Cardinals game in St, Louis and before the game took them into the locker room, gave Tyler lots of souvenirs and took him onto the field for batting practice where he introduced him to other players. Tyler's parents were very grateful, but assumed that they wouldn't hear from Scott again. Here are the words from the news story:

The relationship between Rolen and Tyler blossomed. Tyler would write to Rolen and Rolen would write back. Rolen rejoiced when Tyler's cancer was in remission, and he grieved when Tyler would relapse. He called him, wrote him, visited him in Carmel, pampered him at Busch Stadium and was there for Tyler when he had needed him most. Tyler's mother, Pam said, *"He just wanted to spend time with Tyler and focus on him rather than pose for pictures and make himself look good."* In September, 2004, Tyler's health took a turn for the worse. His cancer that had been in remission had returned. The Cardinals were in the playoffs and then the World Series. It was the series when the Red Sox finally broke the curse. Tyler's mom Pam said, *"During one of the most important times in his baseball career, Scott unselfishly reached out to my son and made him smile again."* Scott came to a several-months-early birthday party for Tyler. He and Tyler, like two old friends, went down to the cellar to play video games, when Scott came right after the World Series. Tyler died in December of 2004. He would have been 10 in March of 2005. He was eulogized by Scott at his funeral. Rolen ended the eulogy with these words, *"I love that little boy with all my heart. And I'm going to miss him every day of my life. I want to thank you, Pam and Eric, for letting your little boy touch my life and enrich my life and my daughter's. He will live on in us for the rest of our lives."* Scott was at the funeral with his wife Niki, who was nine months pregnant with their daughter, who they named Raine Tyler Rolen.

Scott Rolen is a deserving new member of the Baseball Hall of Fame and of the Hall of Fame of good people in the world.



Brownie Sundaes: We will be selling brownie sundaes at the Concert on the Common, Tuesday, July 25. I hope you plan to come and enjoy the concert and a delicious brownie sundaes!



Sunday, July 30th ~ after service

Join us for food, fellowship, and fun!

Burgers, hotdogs, lemonade, and iced tea will be provided. Please bring a side-dish to share! Assorted lawn games will be available. A dessert auction will be held at high noon!

Please sign up below to bring a side-dish and/or a dessert to raffle off.

Click on the button to sign up.

Hope you'll be able to join us!

Click here to sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44ADA82EA4F85-ccnb1>



For July and August, flowers for the sanctuary will be "Potpourri" meaning a mixture of whatever anyone would like to share from their garden. No need to sign up. Vases are available in the kitchen if you need one. And many thanks in advance to those who can contribute to our worship service.



Church Library: The Church Library up and running in the church parlor. We are just getting started but if anyone wants to borrow a book it will be on the honor system. Borrow whatever book you want to read and return it when you're done. Also, if you have a book that you'd like to donate to the church library just leave it on the shelf. We want only books by Christian authors.



Peace Quote Everything I know, I know because of love.....Leo Tolstoy, War and Peace