



"I came, I saw, I loved"

In memory of Cole Drechsler

These are perfect words of inspiration, and they perfectly inspired Cole Drechsler during his life and until his death in 2015. He was killed at age 20 in a tragic car accident in a head on collision by a drunk driver driving the wrong way on the highway.



Photo Credit – Alan Johnson

Many people look for inspiration in life, and yet many people ARE the inspiration in life. Cole Drechsler was the latter. Cole continues to be known around the Cloquet Community for his passion of an authentic self, his sharp intellect and love of the "spice of life," including Chai Tea.

Thinking of Cole reminds us of the sincere respect and kindness he showed every day toward the people around him: family, friends, teachers and people he just met.

"He was a listener," his mom, Dawn, said. "I try to live each day like he would."

Dawn related that much of Cole's life was spent actively cheering on those around him.

"He was determined to make the world a better place," she said. "His determination carried over into doing extraordinary things like Polar Bear Plunges into the icy waters of Lake Superior, or training for grueling marathons. Remarkably, his positive attitude and witty humor always carried him along the way."

It is with the idea of kindness, respect, positive energy and love of life that the Drechsler family has funded the Cole Drechsler Family Fund, in memory of Cole. Dawn, Paul and the Drechsler family hope that Cole's name will remain closely associated with the bright light that still shines in the Cloquet community and inspire many students for years to come.