

Jeffrey Deal, 30

Dec. 2, 1972 - March 5, 2003

SUWANEE, GA – Jeffrey Scott Deal was born in Iowa City, Dec. 2, 1972. Growing up he moved numerous times with his parents throughout the United States, so he always thought of Iowa as home. He was the star goalie of his high school water polo team in Beaverton, OR. In his junior year, The Sunset Apollo's were #1 in the state. Jeff was an honor student and received many awards for exceptional scholarship during his school years. He was a French Foreign Exchange Student in Lyons, France. He graduated from high school in Portland, OR. He attended the School of Mines Engineering in Rapid City,



SD, and transferred to Gwinnett Tech when the family moved to Atlanta, GA. Jeff worked part-time at Blockbuster. He transferred to Best Buy where he worked for three years. Since 1997 Jeffrey has been employed at Toys "R" Us. He was manager of Toys "R" Us at the Mall of Georgia.

It was there he met Jennifer Marie Prather. They were married Oct. 12, 2002. He died March 5, 2003, of a massive heart attack while chasing a shoplifter at age 30.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Merrill and Kathleen Deal. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Deal of Suwanee, GA; his parents, Larry and Marilyn Deal of Snellville, GA; his mother and father-in-law, Mike and Cathy Cato of Lawrenceville, GA and John and Linda Prather of Marietta, GA; maternal grandparents, Albert and Loretta Jans of Earling; brothers-in-law, John R. Prather of Atlanta, GA; Michael L. Cato, Jr. of Lawrenceville, GA; and aunts and uncles and other relatives.

Funeral services were held March 8, 2003, at St. Oliver Plunket Catholic Church in Snellville, with Father Peter Jandaczek and Dr. Jim Collins officiating. Casket bearers were John R. Prather, Michael L. Cato, Jr., Tim Ridings, Brian Jans, Jesse Jans and Wyatt Jans. All but Wyatt were attendants in his wedding party.