

Remembrance of Chris Blanchard

Chris Blanchard, a giant of a human, has left the building. He passed on Sunday, October 28th at 4am, surrounded by people he loved.

Chris was a Parrothead, a frood who knows where his towel is, a father, a husband, a son, a brother, a friend, a teacher, and key to it all... Chris was a giver of himself. He lived his life in pursuit of what really matters. He gave his love by educating, speechifying, traveling, touring and most recently, podcasting. Chris loved systems and logs and checklists and wanted everyone else to love them too. He gave us reasons to love checklists.... and delegation.... and his Amish PDA.

Chris was awesome and helped to chart the path for what farming can look like going into the future. He lived in a constant state of learning and teaching. He wanted his community to live balanced lives filled with hard work for a clear purpose, all in the name of healing the planet... although he didn't talk about that part much.

In order to properly honor Chris, there will be a celebration of his life on Saturday November 10th in Madison, WI at Olbrich Botanical Gardens 4-7pm. All lovers of Chris are welcome... but be advised, this is a celebration of our friend. Attire shall be purple OR Hawaiian in nature. Jimmy Buffet, Lyle Lovett, and Greg Brown will be played. Beverages will flow and memories are welcome. There will be a group toast to Chris as a final send-off at 6:45 pm. Following the event, a disorderly mob will migrate to the Next Door Brewery, Chris's favorite pub, for a love based continuation of the celebration.

For those of you who are not able to come to Madison, you are invited to celebrate Chris wherever you are! Let's do it all together... November 10th 4-7pm CST. Wherever you are, wherever in the world... turn on some Jimmy, Greg, or Lyle, get out your purple shirts, gather with some friends and remember Chris. His impact has been felt throughout the world so let's have his memory celebrated throughout the world as well. Feel free to share a picture of your celebration or a memory/story of Chris on Instagram ([#purplepitchfork](#) & [#farmertofarmerpodcast](#)) or on Facebook.

Chris was a light in the world. We love him and we will miss him dearly. Let's gather together and remember and then go out in the world and get better and better at what we do and what we love... in remembrance and in the spirit of the quote Chris often borrowed from Paul Wellstone, "We all do better, when we all do better."

For further details or questions regarding the Celebration of Life, please email Katie Bishop, katie@prairierthfarm.com.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Chris Blanchard Scholarship Fund to help farmers attend the MOSES Organic Farming Conference.

<https://mosesorganic.salsalabs.org/donationformp.../index.html>

-David Bacchuber, Long-time friend to Chris

-Angie Sullivan, Chris' wife