

Obituary

Mason Warren Darling

April 7, 1984 – September 10, 2020

Mason Warren Darling passed away on September 10, with his loving wife, Kaitlyn Darling, by his side, after his brave battle with ALS.

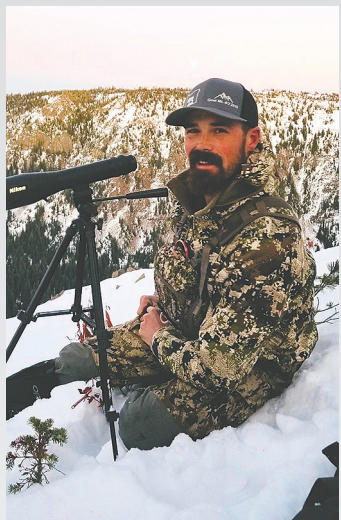
Mason was born in McCall, Idaho, on April 7, 1984 to Sharyl and Mark Darling. Mason grew up in the backcountry of Idaho, graduating from McCall-Donnelly High School, where he met his wife, Kaitlyn. After school, they moved to Sisters, where they lived for 15 years. They were married in 2012.

Mason lived and breathed the outdoors, never passing up an opportunity to go snowboarding, snowmobiling, hunting, or fishing. Mason started his own business, Moon Mountain Masonry, in 2017 and was known for his hard work and honesty. He was the best example of living life to its fullest and loving with all his heart. His passion for hunting, working hard, and having fun was only beat by the incredible love he had for his family. Even with the decline of his disease, he always kept the sparkle in his eye that so many loved and cherished about him, and his love for his family was ever present.

Mason, Kaitlyn, and their boys just moved back to Idaho in 2019 to be close to family and settled in Emmett. Mason poured his heart into remodeling their new home with his dad, Mark, working by his side until it was just how he and Kaitlyn dreamed.

Mason was the type of person who could be best friends with a stranger in a matter of minutes. He was never afraid to take risks and push the envelope in any way he could. He played and worked hard, and he loved even harder. To be a friend or family member to Mason meant he was only a phone call away, no matter what you needed.

Mason is preceded in death by his grandfather, Alvie Dunning; mother, Shery Allen; and brother, Dylan Darling, who all



suffered from ALS. He is also preceded by his grandfather, Arthur Darling; and grandmother, Rosie Darling.

Mason is survived by his wife, Kaitlyn; sons, Milo and Waylon; father, Mark (Rebecca) Darling; sister-in-law, Sedonia Darling; nephews, Ole, Alder; grandmother, Ruthie; grandfather, Bob; as well as his aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and in-laws.

Since his diagnosis, the incredible outpouring of love and support from so many family and friends was so very appreciated by Mason and his family. It was a testament to Mason's personality, character, and impact on others that so many stepped up to help and support him and his family in any way they could.

A service will be held later this year in Emmett, after hunting season, so all of Mason's closest buddies will be able to attend. Kaitlyn and the rest of Mason's family want to thank everyone for all the love and support they have felt over the last few months.

Charitable donations can be offered to the ALS foundation in Mason's name to help find a cure for the disease that has taken too many loved ones too young.

COVID-19: When will pandemic numbers turn the corner?

Continued from page 11

With Oregon's reopening enacted on June 5, 31 of 36 Oregon counties entering the state's defined Phase II status, cases rose significantly.

Week Start	Week End	Total Cases
17-May	23-May	302
24-May	30-May	409
31-May	6-June	800
7-June	13-June	1,269

Afterward, cases continued to rise dramatically; the week of July 5, peaking at 2,456.

To flatten the case uptick, on July 1, Governor Brown proclaimed the statewide mask/enhanced safety regulations. This produced a major, statistically predictable decline in the number of total

cases and hospitalizations

Since August 23, total weekly cases have flattened, averaging 1,412 per week. This level is similar to total cases in mid-June, before the mask/enhanced safety measure proclamation.

We are going into the fall now when influenza increases historically, in part, due to schools reopening as well as people being in closed quarters. Within Oregon, we have much difference with in-person/online school attendance.

Providing a proven calculation for entering a comparative number of cases seen in the "Stay Home, Save Lives" period (March 23-early-June), the mean (average) and standard deviations were determined as well as plotted. Those are: ±1, green; ±2, yellow; ±, red; average (mean) blue.

This analysis dramatically shows that the week of May 31 had 800 COVID-19 cases

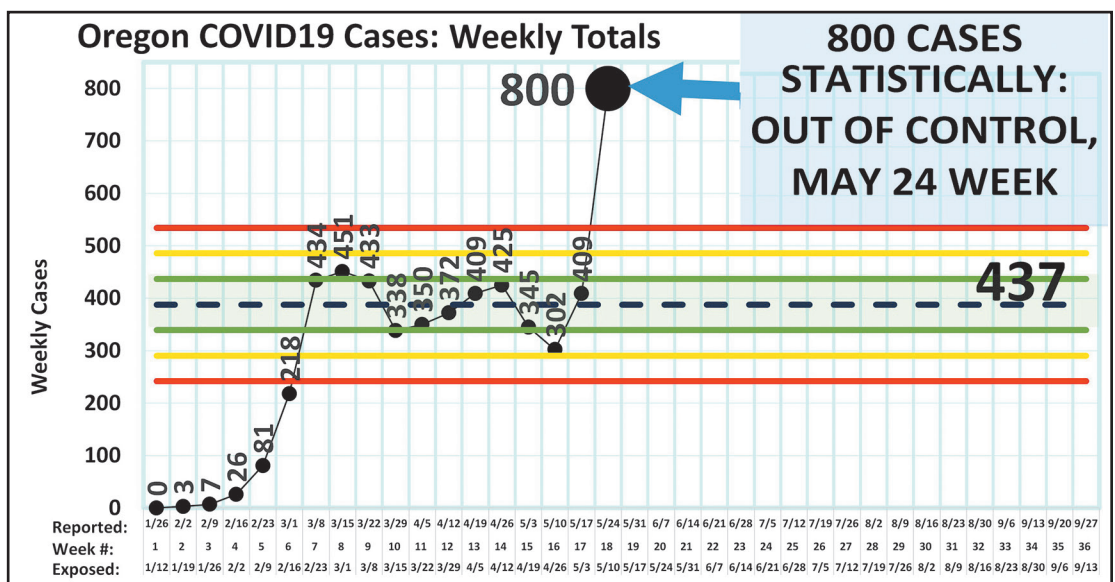
and was statically out-of-control — neither stable nor consistent. In retrospect, this was a tremendous warning that things were worsening! More weeks at high levels validate this conclusion.

Using this chart, a conservative, "new normal" COVID-19 weekly total case level, would be 437. That is derived from the March 8-May 17 period's average, 388, and adding one standard deviation, 49.

Many variables are influencing this process. Importantly, we want to understand and know when the COVID-19 situation is objectively turning the corner.

These numbers do not tell of personal hardship, grief, loss and tragedy for an extraordinary number of families.

COVID-19 rages. With numeric understanding, balanced, prudent, and consistent actions may be able to turn this tide.



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