

IN MEMORIUM

Chapter Chair Thomas Dolan, MN'14 -- Hail and Farewell

Our friend, colleague and Chapter Chair, Tom Dolan, passed away April 7th after extended complications from a double lung transplant. During his times going between the hospital and the ICU, he was always upbeat and cheerful. He would refer to all his follow-up treatments as getting a minor tune-up. His bravery and optimism throughout the time of his declining lung capacity as well as in the hospital were an inspiration.

Tom's exploration passions were spending time in the wilderness and in the study of extreme weather events, primarily tornadoes. He would regularly pack his truck and head to the mountains with his brother Don, or he would drive to a storm site to make atmospheric measurements. Since 2009 he traveled frequently to the Central Plains tracking severe weather and modeling the storms using the available Doppler radar data. By using this radar data, he built 3D views of the tornado structure and compiled them into videos to further improve the visualization of the tornado genesis and the tornado life cycle. These annual trips also provided the data to analyze tornado damage paths and compare the modeled damage paths to the actual radar data, the storm photos, and tornado videos of the event. Tom led three Explorer Flag Expeditions in 2015, 2018 and 2019. The theme of the expeditions: "Tornado Visualization and Doppler Radar Analysis." Work has been presented at two American Meteorological Conferences, six annual meteorological conferences as well as an extended presentation at a storm chasers conference.

