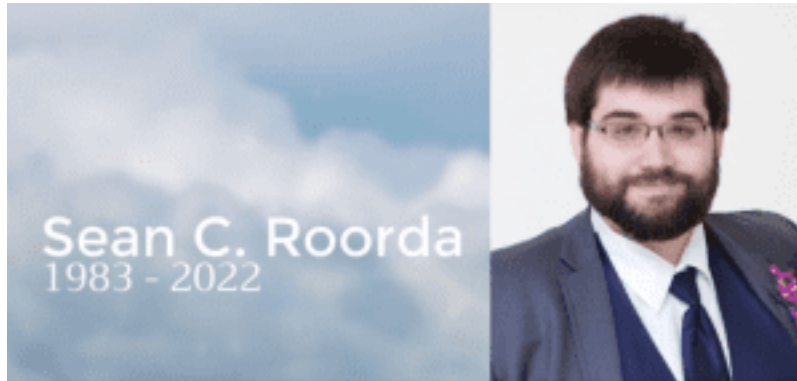


## Sean Roorda Dies Following Battle with Cancer



Sean Roorda, 38, of New Hampton, Iowa, passed away Tuesday, July 5, 2022, following a brief battle with cancer. Sean attended the University of Northern Iowa where he received a bachelor's degree from the Metal Casting Center. He went on to earn a master's degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. Sean was a process engineer at ATEK Metal Technologies where he led many projects and programs developing new parts and processes to produce aluminum cast products for several major OEM customers. He had an intense understanding and insight into solidification modeling, helping to drive continued improvements in the foundry operations. He also played a key role in helping design tooling and identify root cause and corrective actions for casting defects. Sean was an active member of the American Foundry Society as well as the Advance Casting Research Center, where he participated in several advanced research projects, the results of which were shared with the broader scientific community.

*Diran Apelian: "Sean Roorda was a remarkable young man. His life on this earth was not long lived, but the impact he made on all of us will be long lived. A remarkable young man in that he said what he thought, and did what he said, and did it with pride and with full commitment. His work product was always an exemplar to the rest of us. A dedicated man, a serious man, and a deep soul. He was quiet in his ways but spoke volumes by his actions. We are devastated by his loss, but he will always be with us .. always. In solace to all of us and particularly his family, the poem below may be of value to recite."*

"PEACE" by Amado Nervo

Very near my sunset, I bless you, Life  
because you never gave me neither unfilled hope  
nor unfair work, nor undeserved sorrow.

Because I see at the end of my rough way  
That I was the architect of my own destiny  
and if I extracted the sweetness or the bitterness of things  
it was because I put the sweetness or the bitterness in them  
when I planted rose bushes I always harvested roses

Certainly, winter is going to follow my youth  
But you didn't tell me that May was eternal  
I found without a doubt long my nights of pain  
But you didn't promise me only good nights  
And in exchange I had some peaceful ones

I loved, I was loved, the sun caressed my face

Life, you owe me nothing, Life, we are at peace!

*Rod Riek: "I came to know Sean professionally over the last 10 years through his work, and through his graduate education at WPI in Massachusetts. Sean was very bright technically, and very conscientious in his work. But the bigger gift to me in knowing Sean was the personal friendship we developed over these years, despite being from different generations. We often talked of new ideas, and work yet to be done. Memories of those conversations are now a comfort in this sad time."*