



Ernest "Ern" D. Drift Jr., 56, of Minneapolis and Nett Lake, passed away on Friday, June 23, 2017, in Minneapolis. He was born on October 20, 1960, in Minneapolis to Ernest and Joyce (Connor) Drift Sr. He grew up in Minneapolis where he earned a Master of Business Administration Degree. He lived in Minneapolis and Nett Lake most of his life and was a member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. Ern worked as a mason in building construction. Everyone knew him as a "good guy" with a great sense of humor. He was always willing to help anyone in whatever way he could. Ern was an avid ricer, and looked forward to the harvesting and processing of Nett Lake wild rice. He was excellent pool player and liked fishing. He will be missed by his family and many friends. He is preceded in death by his father, Ernest Drift Sr., mother Joyce Connor, step-mother Betty Drift; a sister, Judy Drift and a nephew Devery Drift. Ern is survived by 1 son, Jonathan Campbell; 3 brothers, Mike Drift, Jason Drift and Jarrod Ballinger; 5 sisters, Terri Drift, Debbie Drift, Kelly Drift, Denise Pieratos and Cate Donahue; along with numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and other special extended family and friends.

SERVICES: Traditional Tribal Services will be at 10 am Thursday (June 29th) at the Government and Community Services Center in Nett Lake, where the Wake will begin at 5 pm Wednesday. Gilbert Smith will be the spiritual advisor, assisted by Gene Goodsky. The casket bearers will be Tom Drift, Bradley Goodsky, Clarence Roy, Keith Roy, Waylon Drift and Dave Chavers. The honorary bearers will be Richard "Sarge" Lumbar, Frank Villebrun and Suzie Villebrun. Interment will be in the Nett Lake Cemetery. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. To sign the online guestbook, or to leave a condolence for the family go to: www.mlakerfuneralhome.com.