

James Toivonen passed away August 6, 2012. He was born on July 16, 1952, to William and Dolores (King) Toivonen. Jim grew up in Virginia, Duluth, and Cottage Grove, MN. Jim was a member of our armed services, serving proudly as a Marine. After the service, he worked for Delta Airlines, moving from the Denver area back to Minnesota, and then out to Salt Lake City, UT, where his children were raised. The call of the beautiful Northland was so strong for Jim, he moved back to "God's country", as he called it, several years ago. He loved being outdoors. He was known for enjoying a good cup of coffee on the back deck of his house, even in the winter, barefoot. He mused quite often, "If they ever put up a stop light in Tower, I'm moving to Sudan!" Jim was such a good natured, fun-loving human being, he was also known for his big belly laugh...sometimes at his own jokes...that's ok, we loved him for it. A bigger fan of the Vikings you have never seen, always holding out hope, that one day, they'll do it! His Native American heritage (a member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa) was very important to Jim, embracing it, long before it was "cool" to. But the absolute love of his life, were his children and grandchildren. He adored them, and would tell stories of them every time you spoke to him. Jim is survived by his parents, William and Dolores of Aurora, MN, a brother George (Shari) Toivonen of Babbitt, MN, and a sister Lauri (Bob) Sieben of Eau Claire, WI. His son, Paul (Stephanie) Toivonen of Roy, UT and daughter Nikole (TJ) Underwood of Bountiful, UT. 6 grandchildren, Braden, Dominique, Alexia, Tehya, Alex and Grace. Countless nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends. A celebration of Jim's life was held August 14th, at Bauman-Cron Funeral Home Chapel in Virginia. Pastor Nathan Sager officiated. Military honors were observed.