



Paul Raymond Berka

November 9, 1951 - November 12, 2011

Paul R. Berka, of Brandon, SD passed away at age of 60 at the Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls on Saturday, November 12, 2011. Paul battled cancer for approximately two and half years.

Paul was born November 9, 1951 to Frank and Marie (Kinzie) Berka in Tyndall, SD. He grew up on a family farm. He attended the South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD). When he was a high school student at SDSD he loved to help the maintenance people with their work. He was always willing to help the dorm and kitchen staff with various jobs, especially on Saturdays.

Following his high school, he worked at various places - Tyndall John Deere for four years, Tyndall Chevrolet and Stinson Chevrolet for three years, then John Morrell for nine years, then Soukup Services for 14 years. Then later CSD Lawn and Snow Removal for another 9 years. He was a life-long member of South Dakota Association of the Deaf and South Dakota Deaf Anglers.

He was well-known for being a great help to those who needed help with their vehicles. His favorite hobbies were to ride on his Harley, fishing and hunting.

He is survived by his four brothers, James (Bonnie) of Salem, OR, Emil of Seattle, WA, Charles (Lynn) of Aumsville, Or, and Edward of Tyndall, SD; his three nephews Justin Schenkel of Tyndall, Mike (Sandy) Schenkel of Avon, and Joey (Becky) Schenkel of South Korea; his brother-in-law, Dave Schenkel of Tyndall; one neice, Jodi (Gary) Eich of Silverton, OR; his special friend, Larry Fahy and Marge Morse both of Sioux Falls.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister, Mary Schenkel.

A memorial service was held at 11 a.m., Saturday, November 19, 2011 at Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf. A visitation was scheduled one hour prior to the service at the church, but did not happen on account of bad weather.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Paul Berka Memorial Tree Fund to be planted at Communication Service for the Deaf, 102 N. Krohn Place, Sioux Falls, SD, 57103.

Kober Funeral Home of Vermillion was in charge of arrangements.

(Editor's note: The members of SDAD and the whole Deaf Community across South Dakota express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased for the loss of their beloved ones.)