



Thomas Will

August 20, 1951 - July 18, 2008

Thomas “Tom” K. Will, 56, surrounded by his loving family, went to be with his Lord on Friday July 18, 2008, after a year-long battle with cancer. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, July 22, at 10:30 AM at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Bismarck with Pastor Lester Wolfgram officiating. Burial will follow in the afternoon, at Beaver Lake Cemetery in Wishek. Visitation will be Monday from 5:00 – 9:00 PM at Eastgate Funeral Service in Bismarck where a prayer and remembrance time will be held on Monday evening at 7:30 PM. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church. Tom, the son of Edmore and Mildred Will, was born on August 20, 1951, in Burnstad and grew up on the family farm south of Burnstad. He much loved and emulated his father and grandfather, George Hellmuth a blacksmith, in his ability to design, build or repair anything. He attended grade school in Burnstad, high school in Wishek, and college at UND and Valley City. It was while in high school that he met his wife, Bev Califf, and they spent the next thirty-four years together until her death in 2004. Tom spent much of his working life as a boilermaker, working and superintending many different jobs at locations throughout North Dakota and the U.S. He was a member of Boilermakers Local 647. He was the regional representative for Moorhead Machinery and Boiler Company and prior to that, the apprenticeship coordinator for the Boilermakers. He loved everything about the outdoors, hunting, fishing and horseback riding. He enjoyed bowling, stock car racing and working on special projects, but his greatest joy came from time spent

with family, his friends and his extended church family. Tom leaves his children: Richard Will and grandson, Richie; Kristine Jamie Vollmer; Melissa Rick Vranicar and granddaughter, Kristen; and Lisa Bob Schobinger; his loving sister, Georgeann Christ Gerr; his best friend and brother, Ken Karen Will; and his special friend Debbie Miller. He is preceded in death by his wife Bev, his parents, and grandparents. Tom will be greatly missed and forever in our hearts. The family prefers memorials be given to Martin Luther School.

Tribute Wall

TK

“ I have some very fond memories of living and working with Tom on the powerlines in South Dakota back in the 70's. When we needed to know how to do something or fix something we'd ask Tom. He knew! If we had a question about something, especially mathmatics, we'd ask Tom. He knew! He was like a big brother. He always knew! And if he didn't... he'd ask Bev! I hadn't seen much of him since moving to Sioux Falls but knowing that he's gone leaves such an empty spot in my heart and in my world. 'till we meet again my friend! Terry Kramer

Terry Kramer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ To Kris and family - our deepest sympathies are with you. May you find peace and comfort in the memories you have of your dad. God Bless, Pat and Jolene

Pat and Jolene Tormey - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ I have fond memories of my high school years with Tom. My prayers are with your family at this time. Sincerely, Tom Schauer

Tom Schauer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ I rode with Tom in his van pool 30 years ago. He served Bismarck State College as a dedicated member of the welding advisory committee and was a true craftsman. I was shocked to hear of his passing, I just had lunch with Tom on July 18th, we talked about deep sea fishing some winter soon in Corpus Christi. Tom was a great friend, and he will be missed.

Ken and Patty Paulus - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ Tom was one of the good guys. Straight forward, decent, helpful and fun. We will miss him always.

Lana and Terry - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ Tom was a great friend to me. I looked forward to seeing his smiling face when he worked in the same building as me. He always knew how to see the bright side of a bad situation. He will be greatly missed.

Toni - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Just wanted to say in the short time I worked with Tom, I always found him to be very conscientious and a pleasure to deal with. He was a great asset to Moorhead Machinery and I will miss him along with his sense of humor and responsibility. So sorry to hear of his passing.

Jim Swanson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Will family. I knew Tom from school and other activities.

Gregory Klein - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SU

“ Debbie, I am truly sorry for your loss of Tom. I know how happy he made you. Take joy in the time you were able to share. I just wished you were able to say good bye to him. I know he will be in your heart always.

Sue - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Tom was one of the best Boilermakers and men I have ever had the pleasure of meeting, working with, or just talking about our lives and how they paralleled one another. Tom will be sorely missed. He was instrumental in the establishment of the L#647 Apprenticeship Training Program that Local #647 members and families have reaped the benefits from, since its inception. The quality of the program that Tom started will continue to be the bench mark for the all the programs in the Great Lakes Area. His positive influence on all that met him was something to behold and I know this from experience and observance. Again, Tom, you will be dearly missed.
Mark

Mark J. Gustafson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ We want to express our sympathy to Tom's family. We want you to know we are thinking of you all, and you are in our prayers. What a great friend, brother, parent he was!

Curt & Sheryl Rohweder - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Tom was a great boilermaker who had many friends. He was easy going and a fun person. He will be missed by all. Rest in peace buddy!

Jerry J. Lee - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ Our deepest sympathy is with Tom's extensive family at this time.

Christina Tosseth - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ To the Will family,we were saddened to see of Toms death,we always thought so much of him and Bev. May you cherish his memory always.Sorry we could not attend the service but all of you were in our thoughts.God Bless, Jo and Vic Vilhauer, Wishek ND

jo Vilhauer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Karen and Ken - so very sad to hear of Tom's passing. I know Karen talked of Tom and his battle with cancer. Way to early in a person's life..... want you to know you are in my prayers to get through this difficult time..... Dennis

Dennis Gad - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ We will very much miss dad & grandpa. We are very blessed by the prayers and expressions of friendship that so many people have expressed. It brings us great joy to know that dad touched so many lives.Our thanks to everyone.

Kris Vollmer daughter and Will Family - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM