

Michael Paul Liebelt



Michael Paul Liebelt (48) passed into peace and went to be with the Lord on February 25th, 2014, at his home in Fort Peck, MT.

He was born in Bozeman, MT on January 24th, 1966 to Dr. James and Jeanne Liebelt. The family moved to Fort Peck in 1970. He was a 1984 graduate of Glasgow High School and helped lead the Scotties football team to the 1983 State Class "A" championship. He was also a state sprint champion in the 200m dash and played in the

East-West Shrine Game. Michael went on to play college football at Bismarck Junior College before transferring to play football and run track for the Montana State Bobcats. Following football, Michael transferred to Eastern Washington University (EWU) for a nutrition degree and began playing his next sport, rugby. The following year, EWU dropped the nutrition program and Michael transferred colleges to attend the University of Southern Mississippi. He continued playing Rugby, and played for the Southern Miss Golden Eagles in the Southeastern Conference. Michael was invited to a tryout for the USA rugby team in New Orleans and eventually finished his B.S. in Nutrition/Dietetics at the University of Houston. Michael played rugby for a couple more years with Houston's prestigious Woodlands Rugby Club, who was a previous national champion.

Michael stayed in Houston for 17 years, during which he married his love, Julia Siroky, in November 1999. He worked as a lineman for AT&T-Southwestern Bell for 11 years, then went on to work as an Insurance Adjustor for several years. Although his marriage was dissolved in November 2013, he and his wife maintained a deep love for one another.

Michael had returned back to the State he loved most, Montana, to be near family, friends and enjoy the fishing and hunting provided.

Those that knew Michael remember him as a very kind, gentle, compassionate and a fun loving person. He loved animals and especially his dogs. He had a very deep faith and love of the Lord. His favorite Psalm was 27, which he routinely read for comfort. However, through the past few years filled with unfortunate circumstances, personal pain and constant struggles, the weight of it all became unbearable to him.

Michael was preceded in death by his younger sister Kirstin, whom he dearly missed; his uncles Paul Liebelt (Tacoma, WA) and Gerald Van Tighem (Great Falls, MT); and his three faithful dogs Lady, Ben and Cowboy. He is survived by his parents James and Jeanne Liebelt and "dearly beloved" brother Gregory (Shannon) niece Karissa and nephew Kendal, all of Fort Peck.

Aunts and Uncles include: Marcia (Harold) Gassner of Long Island, NY; David (Patricia) Van Tighem, Thomas (Janelle) Van Tighem and (Linda) Van Tighem, all of Great Falls; (Norita) Stewart of Tacoma, WA. Special Uncle - John Borgreen of Great Falls, MT, Cousins include: Steve Liebelt, Cindy Naka, Theresa Gassner, David Gassner, Michael Gassner, Laura Bason, Mary Gambino, John Gassner, Elizabeth Gassner, Christine Lencioni, Kathy Van Tighem, Nick Van Tighem, Jennifer Van Tighem, and Jessica Van Tighem, and a special recognition to a very close friend, Rochelle Lagree

Cremation has taken place. Bell Mortuary is in charge of arrangements. The Rosary Vigil service is Friday, March 7th, at 7:00 P.M. at St. Raphael's Catholic Church in Glasgow, the funeral mass will be held on Saturday March 8th, 11:00 AM in Glasgow, at St Raphael's Catholic Church.

To those that gave support, prayers and counseling to Michael, our family thanks you. May God bless you.