

OBITUARIES

Mark Voy

Mark Lynnell Voy, age 54, (son of Dr. Brooks and Vi Ranney) of Yankton, SD passed away Monday, July 27, 2015 at the Alcester Care and Rehab Center, Alcester, SD.

A celebration of Mark's life will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 30, 2015 at the United Church of Christ (Congregational), Yankton, SD with Rev. Molly Carlson officiating and special music by the church choir and the Kratz cousins. Burial of his cremated remains will be in the Yankton Cemetery, Yankton, SD at 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 31, 2015.

Mark's family will greet friends after the service in the Pilgrim Hall while we share Mark's favorite dish, ice cream and chocolate syrup.

The Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home & Crematory, Yankton, SD is assisting with service details.

Mark was born on January 24, 1961 the only child of Melvin and Viona (Thum) Voy of Scotland. It was apparent at birth that something was wrong with this baby. At the age of three months, with death eminent, his life was saved by a doctor who had just come from Germany to begin practicing medicine in Tripp, SD. Dr. Eric Mueller

performed the surgery for pyloric stenosis which enabled food to finally leave Mark's stomach and be absorbed into his digestive system ... and thus Mark lived. Mark's early childhood was filled with many medical problems. At the age of 18 months he had eye surgery and began wearing glasses. Before the age of eight he had four ear surgeries which eventually caused him to lose his hearing in the right ear. He went through a grueling three years of being on the Dolman Delacato Program for Brain Damaged Children, where he learned the alphabet, the names of all fruits, vegetables, animals, counting and numbers and simple reading.

As school age approached, his home school district felt they couldn't serve him and a friend of the family suggested Hope Haven in Rock Valley, Iowa. He was there for six years when the State of South Dakota brought him back to SD and he was assigned to Sioux Vocational School in Sioux Falls. After



Voy

three years he was brought to the newly opened Yankton Area Adjustment Training Center where he spent the next 13 years. Upon visiting Village Northwest in Sheldon, Iowa, he liked what he saw there, especially the puppy farm, and wanted to move there. He was finally granted legal permission and spent the next 16 years there. But Mark always wanted to go back to Sioux Falls, and finally that dream came thru on August 1, 2013. He was very comfortable in his home on Silver Valley Road as a client of the Volunteers of America. Until his health began to fail, Mark loved to go bowling, loved to travel, attend family reunions and do the things most young men like to do.

When Dr. Ranney became Mark's father, he was anxious to know what Mark's actual diagnosis was. Dr. Virginia Johnson, a geneticist with the U of SD Medical School, determined Mark had been born with Smith, Lemli, Opitz Syndrome. This birth defect takes place in the first seven days of a pregnancy when mutations of the DHCR 7th gene take place. This prevents the last step in the synthesizing of cholesterol to take place. Cholesterol is necessary for normal embryonic development to

take place both before and after birth. Characteristics of the syndrome are minor physical defects, retardation, and as the individual grows older, behavioral difficulties become more pronounced. Like most families with a handicapped child born, this family too has searched the world over for help. Perhaps the most difficult part, is finally "acceptance" that this life will forever be impaired.

Mark had a cancer of the lung already noted when he moved to Sioux Falls in 2013. This was successfully treated, but a reoccurrence was found March 3 of 2015. Mark was diagnosed with a broken hip due to the cancer which had spread to the bones and had surgery on March 18th. The surgery was not successful and infection set in and the cancer in his body also became rampant. He spent most of the last four months either just staying at the group home or in the hospital with Colleen at his side.

Mark was finally released from the earthly imprisonment of his own body on July 27, 2015 about 7:00 a.m. in the Hospice Room at the Alcester, SD nursing home surrounded by his mother, Aunt Donna and a wonderful nurse named Rhode. The tears we shed today are first of all, tears of

joy for the release of pain and suffering bore by Mark, and tears of sorrow, for we shall miss him so.

Vi wants you all to know, she couldn't have carried this burden without each and every one of you. First of all, to all the special care givers in Mark's life over in Iowa, Yankton Ability Building Services, and Volunteers of America in Sioux Falls, Mark's grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Thum (deceased) of Scotland, SD who did absolutely everything and then much, much more to help care for Mark. Mark loved his step-father, Dr. Brooks Ranney who provided stability, love and support and also the financial means for Mark's move to Sheldon.

Vi wishes to thank her siblings, Marvin (Agnes) Thum, Marilyn (Bud) Kratz, Donna Mouser for all their support and love and Mark's cousins, whom he loved so dearly: David Thum, Steven Thum, Lori (Rob) Evans, Lisa Kratz, Greg (Stacey) Kratz & family, Randy (Lisa) Ulmer, Michael (Rosie) and Matt Ulmer, Darren & Justin Gerlach, step-sister Carol Hesla, and step-brothers Dr. David Ranney, Robert (Pat) Ranney, special friends, Evelyn Haynes, Emma & Suzanne Brown and Mary Jacobs. Vi was often com-

forted by the words of Mary who always reminded her, "Mark is being just as good a boy as he can be!"

Everyone who knew Mark loved him. And he taught us all

- Patience ... beyond measure
- Love ... unimaginable and unconditional
- Gratitude ... for healthy bodies, minds and souls
- Endurance ... To the point of breaking
- Kindness ... beyond limit

Mark was preceded in death by his favorite cousin, LeAnne Ulmer Gerlach; grandma and grandpa Thum; grandma and grandpa Voy; his dad, Melvin Voy and many others.

Memorials will be divided among the homes for the handicapped where Mark lived.

Online condolences may be sent at www.opsahl-kostel-funeralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
July 29, 2015



Myron Schievelbein

Myron Schievelbein, 83, of Humboldt, died Monday, July 27, 2015 at the Brookview Manor Nursing Home in Brookings, SD.



Schievelbein

Myron Martin Schievelbein, the son of Harold and Eleanor (Davis) Schievelbein was born June 1, 1932 in Humboldt, SD. He grew up in Humboldt, graduating from Humboldt High School in 1950. Following high school, he was drafted into the U. S. Army in 1952, serving in the Philippines during the Korean Conflict. He was honorably discharged in 1954.

On January 22, 1955, he was united in marriage with Marlene Christensen in Sioux Falls, SD. To this union, five sons were born: Mark, Martin, Kevin, Jeff and James. After serving his country, he came back to Humboldt and worked for the South Dakota Department of Transportation in Madison, SD. He continued his road construction career working for Reynolds construction, J.L. Healy, finishing his career as the Sheridan NE County Highway Superintendent.

Myron loved baseball and enjoyed bowling, playing cards and a good visit with family and friends. He especially loved pheasant hunting with his sons, grandsons, nephew and his friends.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Marlene of Humboldt, SD; his sons, Mark Schievelbein of Chamberlain, SD, Marty (Micki) Schievelbein of Yankton, SD, Kevin (friend Robin) Schievelbein, Jeff (Renee) Schievelbein, and Jim Schievelbein, all of Sioux Falls, SD; 12 grandchildren; 9 great grandchildren; a daughter-

Billie Sawatzke

Billie J. Sawatzke, age 90 of Crofton, Nebraska, died on Monday, July 27, 2015 at the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton, SD.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. at the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Crofton with Rev. Michael Schmitz officiating. Burial will be in the St. Rose of Lima Cemetery in Crofton with military honors provided by the Crofton American Legion Post 128 and the American Legion Riders. Visitation will be on Tuesday from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a Vigil Service at 7:00 p.m. at the Wintz Funeral Home in Crofton. Visitation will begin one

hour prior to services on Wednesday at the church. To view the video tribute or to send online condolences, please visit www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com.

Honorary Pallbearers will be April Knapp, Isabel Knapp, Rylen Sawatzke, Baileigh Sailer, Rex Sailer, Ryan Friend and Meagan Sailer.

Active Pallbearers will be Aaron Knapp, Adam Sailer, Ben Sawatzke, Dean Gobel, Kody Schmidt and Kamden Cihlar.



Sawatzke

Billie was born on July 25, 1925 in Crofton to William and Elizabeth (Eggers) Sawatzke. He graduated from Crofton High School in 1943 and then served in the U. S. Army in WWII and the Korean War. He married Linda Seipelt on August 6, 1946 in Omaha, Nebraska. He and his wife owned and operated the Peoples Grocery and Department Store in Crofton until 1988. Billie also worked as a rural mail carrier and tax preparer for many years.

Billie liked to golf and was a charter member of the Crofton Lakeview Golf Course. He was a member of the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, the Crofton American Legion Post 128 and the Rural

Letter Carriers Association. He was very active with the Crofton Appreciation BBQ. He loved to spoil his great grandchildren with candy and balloons. He enjoyed reading, golfing, playing cribbage, camping and visiting with his friends at Wiebelhaus Recreation.

Billie is survived by a son, Kim and his wife Mary of Crofton; 4 grandchildren, Ben Sawatzke and his daughter, Rylen of San Antonio, TX; April and Aaron Knapp and their children, Kody, Kamden and Isabel of Crofton; Ryan Friend of Germany; Meagan and Adam Sailer and their children, Baileigh and Rex of Crofton.

He was preceded in death

by his parents, wife, Linda on Oct. 31, 2013 at the age of 88, a daughter-in-law, Mary K. Sawatzke, 3 sisters, Marcella Bogner, Evelyn Eaton and Loretta Engstedt.

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July 29, 2015



WINTZ
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in-law, Phyllis Schievelbein, and numerous other family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Jim Schievelbein and a sister, Luray Denevan.

A Mass of the Resurrection will begin 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Humboldt, SD. Interment will be in the St. Ann Catholic Cemetery in Humboldt.

Visitation with the family will be from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Thursday at Miller Funeral Home, Westside Chapel.

The family requests that memorials be directed to St. Ann's Catholic Church, Humboldt, SD.

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Kelli Burbach

Kelli Burbach, 49, of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and formerly of Wynot, Nebraska, died unexpectedly Monday, July 26, 2015, at her residence in Colorado.

Funeral services are pending at the Wintz Funeral Home in Hartington.

Doris Gasper

Doris Ann "Toodles" Gasper, 80, of Vermillion, SD passed away peacefully Sunday, June 26, 2015 at the Sanford USD Medical Center in Sioux Falls, SD.

Doris was born November 4, 1934 in Bloomfield, NE to John and Bertha (Jensen) Marvin. She attended school in Bloomfield until age 9, when her family moved to Yankton, SD.

She married Roy Gasper on June 17th, 1952 in Yankton; they just celebrated 63 years of marriage. They moved to Vermillion in 1963 where they raised two children.

Doris was a charter member of the Eagles Ladies Auxiliary where she built great friendships and enjoyed volunteering her time.



Gasper

She worked for 40 years as a grocery checker at area grocery stores until retiring from Jones Food Center.

Doris loved going fishing, playing pinocle, family get togethers and bingo.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents, an infant son Gary and a sister Elaine Winer.

She is survived by her husband Roy "Bud" of Vermillion, two daughters; June (Dave) Nichols of Granger, WY and Jane (Dave) Johansen of Omaha, NE, five grandchildren: Tauna, Rhonda, Erin, Emily and Jackie and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 31 at the Hansen Funeral Home in Vermillion with burial to follow in the Meckling Cemetery rural Meckling, SD.

Visitation will be Thursday, July 30 from 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Visit HansenFuneralHome.com.

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Dakota Hospital Grant Awarded To Vermillion Public Library Foundation

VERMILLION — A grant submitted by the Vermillion Area Robotics Club was approved by Dakota Hospital Foundation. The \$1,500 grant allowed for the purchase of a 3-D printer for use in producing prosthetic devices for the e-NABLE organization.

The grant requested funds to assist the club in areas of growth and service. DHF approved the technology element of the request through funding for the 3-D printer. In working with the Robotics Club, the DHF Innovation Committee expressed an interest in ensuring public access to the technology. This was made possible by awarding the funds through the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library Foundation. The printer is housed and maintained at the library providing club members and general public access to this state-of-the-art technology.

"It is great to see DHF and the Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library come together to make this unique learning opportunity and technology resource possible for our community's youth. While I feel robotics



teaches youth many life skills and challenges youth to design/build really cool robots, I think it is just as important for our youth to see first-hand the potential impact technology can have on people's lives. I also love the learning concept of on-line collaboration and open-sourcing between people all over the world (engineers, scientists, etc.) to design a product using new technology all with the same goal in mind...helping people," said Susan Rolles, VARC Leader/coach.

"We are very pleased to be able to provide this state of the art equipment for use by the Robotics group and others throughout our

community. It's an excellent opportunity for interactive learning, said Lisa Ketcham, President, Dakota Hospital Foundation Board.

Dakota Hospital Foundation held an open grant period from April 1 - 30,

Back row: Andy Howe, DHF board member, presents a check for \$1,500 in grant funds to Susan Rolles, Vermillion Area Robotics Club, joined by club members Wyatt Knutson, Jacob Rettig, Owen Olson, Tim Sereda, Emily Rolles; Middle row (next to 3-D printer): Eliza Mollman, Roger Rolles, Ross Dahlhoff; Front row: Jon Rolles, (holding blue robot hand prosthetic), Caden Dial, (holding red robot hand prosthetic), Henry Anderson. (Submitted Photo)

2015. Five grant applications were received and three were awarded for a total of \$9,500. The next open grant period for DHF will be October 1 - 31, 2015. Learn more at sanfordvermillion.org/foundation.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Billie J. Sawatzke

10:30 AM, Wednesday

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church
Crofton



Yankton
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