

January 25, 2014

The Life of James Neuhardt



- Services for James Neuhardt, 66, of Huron will be 1 p.m., Saturday, January 25 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Aberdeen. Rev. Liz Dieseth will officiate. Burial with military honors will be held in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery, Ferney.

- Jim died January 21, 2014 at Manor Care Health Services in Aberdeen, after a long battle with cancer.

- James Jarold was born on July 27, 1947 in Britton to Clifford and Alea (Wolff) Neuhardt. He was raised and attended school in Forbes, North Dakota, graduating in 1965. He enlisted in the US Army and served 16 months in the Vietnam War as an Infantry Small Arms Specialist. Following his honorable discharge, he purchased a business in Denver. He was united in

marriage with Janice Dack on June 29, 1969 in Sterling, Colorado. The couple later moved back to the family farm and were blessed with two children. James and Janice traveled and did cooking demonstrations for Salad Master. James and Janice moved to Barnard where James worked for Stein Sign and Service Sign of Aberdeen. Jim began his insurance career working for Aid Association for Lutherans in the mid 80's after moving to Groton. Jim took a position with Royal Neighbors of America in the early 90's and moved to Elko Nevada. In the late 90's Jim moved back to SD in Huron after taking a position with Western Fraternal Life as the SD State Manager. During his years of service in the insurance world Jim earned many awards and also served as the SD Fraternal Life President.

- James and Janice raised registered Cocker Spaniels and registered Great Danes, with Ginger and Baron being his two favorites. Jim not only passed on his love of animals to his family but also his understanding that animals, especially horses and dogs, are true blessings and friends. They also opened up their home as foster parents for over 64 children and they became legal guardians of their first foster child, Shane Iron Heart.

- Jim loved to collect antiques, but especially antique or unique rifles, pistols, knives, and even swords. Jim loved to fish and hunt, and spent as much time as he could doing both with his family. Jim loved to make sausage and to pass on the family recipes and techniques of harvesting the food you hunt and preparing it for your family. Until his move from Groton there was always a "summer kitchen" or butcher shop built and used all year long for butchering chickens, geese, beef, pork,

and deer. Butchering was a family event, gathering everyone from Grandma and Grandpa, aunts, uncles, kids and neighbors. All worked together to cut up the meat and make the sausage. Jim worked hard to be sure this continued and because of his passion it still does every year.

- Celebrating his life is his daughter, Kiersten (Clint) Sombke of Ferney, his son, Shane Iron Heart, his brother, Dennis (SaDell) Neuhardt of Bristol and four grandchildren: Wyatt Sombke, Brody Sombke, Alea Neuhardt, Genevieve Neuhardt.

- Preceding him in death were his parents, his wife, Janice and his son, Destri.

- Honorary Casketbearers will be Jim's Minnesota relatives.

- Casketbearers will be Clint Sombke, Wyatt Sombke, Brody Sombke, Dennis Neuhardt, Matt Neuhardt and Nick Neuhardt.