

Dennis Opheim, 61

April 1, 1948 - March 15, 2010

HARLAN — Dennis George Opheim, son of Irvin George and Ione (Lieuwen) Opheim, was born on April 1, 1948, in Fort Dodge. He graduated from Humboldt High School with the class of 1966 and continued his education at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, where he was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in teaching in 1970. After graduating from USD, Denny attended the University of Northern Iowa where he began graduate course work.

April 20, 1974, Denny was united in marriage to Pamela Stoner in Humboldt. One son, Joshua, was born to this union. After their wedding, Denny and Pamela made their home in Harlan where Denny taught social studies and history at the Harlan Community Middle School. After he left teaching, Denny worked at Handyman Supply before working at Farm Bureau as an insurance salesman. In 1976, Pamela opened Present Trends in downtown Harlan where Denny joined her in 1983. To many customers, it was known simply as "Denny's Store." Denny took great pride in owning the store and was always friendly and helpful to his customers. He enjoyed all the people of downtown, especially taking daily trips around the square and catching up on all the latest gossip at the local shoe repair store. When Denny wasn't busy working at the store, he enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandson Christopher. He also enjoyed camping and hiking and took several trips with his son, Josh, to Glacier National Park and The Boundary Waters in Minnesota. Denny died on Monday, March 15, 2010, at Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan, having attained the age of sixty-one years, eleven months, and fourteen days.

Denny is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Pamela Opheim, of Harlan; their son, Joshua Opheim and his wife Sarah of Ames; his grandson, Christopher Opheim, of Ames; his sister, Janet, and her husband Dan Peters of West Branch; and his brother, Michael Opheim, of Humboldt; other family members and many friends.

Funeral services were held on Friday, March 19, 2010, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Harlan, with Rev. Steven Chellew and Rev. Bob Hoefler officiating the 10:00 AM service. Interment was held at the Harlan Cemetery with Joshua Opheim, Mike Opheim, Mike Stoner, and Dennis Stoner acting as honorary casket bearers. Serving as casket bearers were: Ben Stoner, Allen Schneider, Tom Merritt, Al Simdorn, Mark Stoner, Roger Rust, Cameron Stoner, and Jacob Stoner.



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