

## Scott Sojka, 43

*Aug. 25, 1961 - April 8, 2005*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** — Scott Louis Sojka, the eldest child of Kenneth and Karen Moser Sojka, was born Aug. 25, 1961, in Iowa City. He attended school in Iowa City and transferred to Harlan Community Schools when he was in the fourth grade. He was active in Boy Scouts and the Harlan swim team. Scott played football for the Harlan Cyclones. He graduated from Harlan Community High School in 1979. He attended the University of Iowa and was a walk-on for the Hawkeye football team.

Scott moved to Chicago in 1985. He worked in heavy construction in the Chicago area for the Herlihy Co. He was a member of the Operating Engineers for International Union Local 150. Scott was also the owner and manager of Tip Top Garage Doors. He was a 33rd Degree Mason member and a past master of the Masonic Lodge #824 AF&AM in Downers Grove, plural member of Hinsdale Lodge #934 and Pleiades Lodge #478, where he served as a chaplain, and also Matteson Lodge #175. He was also a member of the Shriners, the Scottish Rite and the York Rite, the Medinah Shrine, the Emerald Club and the Square Club, and a member of the First United Methodist Church in Downers Grove. Scott was an 11-year member of the Masonic Fraternity. He was initiated as an Entered Apprentice June 4, 1993, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft Jan. 21, 1994, and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at Grove Lodge #824 Feb. 25, 1994. Scott served as a Worshipful Master of Grove Lodge #824 in the 1999-2000 term. He served as Senior Warden during the State Lodge Officer competition in 1999 and as a result, the lodge won first place. He also served as Senior Warden for the opening of the Grand Lodge Session in the year 1999. He was honored posthumously by the Hinsdale Lodge for initiating scholarships and 12 scholarships were given this year. The Pleiades Lodge Scholarship which he initiated, was named the Scott Sojka Scholarship Fund following his death. He died April 8, 2005, at Darien, IL, as the result of a motorcycle accident at age 43.

Scott was preceded in death by his grandparents, John and Mabel Sojka and Elmer B. and Wanda Moser, and his uncles, Thomas Sojka and Robert Moser. He is survived by his parents, Kenneth and Karen Sojka of Harlan; a sister, Suzanna (Kirk) Fjelstul of Decatur, GA; a niece, Kathryn "Katie Rose" Fjelstul; and other relatives.

Masonic services were held April 11, 2005, at the Toon Funeral Home with funeral services immediately following officiated by Rev. Deborah Fisher from the First United Methodist Church of Downers Grove. The burial was held April 12, 2005, at Clarendon Hills Cemetery in Darien, IL.

