

Tad J. Pope

T.J.



Loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather, returned to his Heavenly Father and the loving arms of his mom and dad on March 20, 2011, after a courageous battle with a glioblastoma brain tumor. He fought bravely to the very end.

T.J. was born on October 6, 1946 in Salt Lake to Tad G. and June Pope (divorced). On February 10, 1948, June married Harold O. Turner. Harold became his dad and best friend.

He attended Mt. Jordan and graduated from Jordan High School. On July 16, 1965, he married his high school sweetheart Pauline Tunbridge. They had four children, Shannon, Stuart, Brandi and Brett.

T.J. worked for the Western Pacific Railroad as a brakeman until the merge with the Union Pacific Railroad. He stayed on as a conductor until he retired. He had 44 years of dedicated service. He took pride in his job and he did his job well. He worked hard to provide his family with a great life.

He was an avid hunter and trapper. He loved hunting deer with his family in Wide Canyon, White Bush and the areas near Holden. T.J. was a great fisherman. He loved fly fishing on the Provo River. He was a fly fishing guide at the L.C. Ranch in Altamont for many years, with his friend Buddy Knight. He tied his own flies and would demonstrate his skills at local outdoor expos.

He enjoyed watching Pauline make floral arrangements and often would offer advice. She worked at Chantillis where he would come and wire pheasants on wreaths so she didn't have to.

T.J. loved his family. His children brought him great pride and joy. He loved the things they loved and supported them in everything they did.

Dad fought hard to stay with us. He is gone far too soon. He will forever be missed, but always be with us.

Survived by his wife, Pauline; children, Shannon Healy; Stuart Pope; Brandi (Avery) Fitzgerald; Brett Pope; grandchildren, Dustin Metz; Katie, Casey, Karley and Cole Fitzgerald; great granddaughter, Mylie Jade Metz; brother, Dan (Ann) Pope; many uncles, aunts and cousins.

Preceded in death by his father, Tad G. Pope (Shirley); parents, Harold and June Turner and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins.

Thank you to Harmony Hospice for their service and to Shannon and Jamie for their loving care.

We are so grateful for our dear friends Mike and Koralynn Drake, Sandy and Mark Johnson, Rick Huff, Gerry Thompson and all Dads' great railroad friends. We couldn't have made it through the good times or bad times without your love and support.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2011 at Goff Mortuary, 8090 S. State Street. Friends may call from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2011 and 1 hour prior to the services. Interment, Crescent Cemetery.