Thomas James Russell Bennett

Thomas James Russell Bennett was born October 15, 1968, in Vancouver, WA, to Thomas L. & Myrna (Storlie) Bennett. They moved to Bismarck, ND, when he was two. He attended Northridge grade school, Hughes Junior High, and graduated from Bismarck High in 1987. In school, he played basketball and soccer, but BMX racing was his sport. He raced in the first race Bismarck held and encouraged many to join.

He attended Palomar College in California and graduated from the Motorcycle Mechanics Institute in Phoenix, AZ, in 1992. He worked on motorcycles several years in New Mexico and California until deciding selling was his preference. He sold motorcycles and cars in CA, ND, and SD. He moved to the Black hills from Mobridge in 2002 to work construction on the President’s Park. He proudly signed one of the concrete paths. At the time of his death he was working for Bridger Norstegaard.

Music was his passion. He was often heard at open mike & karaoke nights. He always knew the words to every song. He played drums since he was two years old.

Tom, 42, Sturgis, died Thursday, January 27, 2011, in Deadwood.

Those left to mourn his passing are his precious young daughter, Brooklynn Bennett and her mother, Alyssa Anders, and her grandparents, Steve & Sue Anders all of Sturgis; his young son, Brandon Thomas Bennett of Albuquerque, NM; his brother, William Bennett of San Diego, CA; his parents, Myrna and Brad Ansley of Escondido, CA, and Tom and Tamra Bennett of Mobridge, SD; his nephew, Christian Bennett and his mother, Karla, of San Diego, CA; his aunts and uncles, Beverly and Steve Allen of Bismarck, ND, Jim and Kathy Bennett of MT/AZ, and Russ and Sandi Bennett of MN; and many, many special cousins, and friends.

Preceding him in death are his grandparents, Henry and Ethel Storlie, Morris Bennett, and Mickey and Cleon Willette, all of Bowman, ND; his stepbrother, Marc Ansley of CA; and his aunt, Lura Williams of OR.

A memorial for an educational fund for his daughter has been established at NHFCU as the Thomas Bennett Memorial Fund.

In Loving Memory Of

Thomas Bennett

1968 ~ 2011
"Ripple"

If my words did glow with the gold of sunshine
And my tunes were played on the harp unstrung,
Would you hear my voice come thru the music,
Would you hold it near as it were your own?

It's a hand-me-down, the thoughts are broken,
Perhaps they're better left unsung.
I don't know, don't really care
Let there be songs to fill the air.

Ripple in still water, When there is no pebble tossed,
Nor wind to blow.

Reach out your hand if your cup be empty,
If your cup is full may it be again,
Let it be known there is a fountain,
That was not made by the hands of men.

There is a rod, no simple highway,
Between the dawn and the dark of night,
And if you go no one may follow,
That path is for your steps alone.

Ripple in still water, When there is no pebble tossed,
Nor wind to blow.

You who choose to lead must follow
But if you fall you fall alone,
If you should stand then who's to guide you?
If I knew the way I would take you home.

In Loving Memory Of

Thomas James Russell Bennett

Born
October 15, 1968
Vancouver, Washington

Died
January 27, 2011
Deadwood, South Dakota

Prayer Service
Monday, January 31, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.
Kinkade Funeral Chapel

Funeral Service
Tuesday, February 1, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.
Grace Lutheran Church

Officiating
Rev. Michael Fox
Pastor Steve Anders

Special Music
Marlene Kotab
Stan Herst ~ Katie Herst
Steve Culbertson

Congregational Hymns
"Children Of The Heavenly Father"
"Amazing Grace"

Pallbearers
Bridger Norstegaard ~ Michael Huettl ~ Chris Bennett
Graham McPherson ~ Steve Culbertson ~ Rick Hamling

Honorary Pallbearers
All Close Friends and Family

Interment
Bear Butte Cemetery

The family invites everyone to a time of fellowship and lunch in the Sonshine Room in the church basement following the interment service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.