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James Owen Andie
Dec. 28, 1961 - Sept. 23, 2011



A true entrepreneur having successfully started and operated several businesses from construction, building many of the Eddie Bauer and Gateway stores in the western states, to putting in satellite towers for cell phones, learning the business from the ground up and learning to expedite the process, with his company, Western Crane Services, Inc., to his last endeavor, one he had always dreamed of – becoming a bush pilot in Alaska. In all these, he would “conquer and move on” until he met up with flying, which kept his attention even after 20 years and building two planes. Unfortunately, Jim was killed when his plane crashed on Sept. 23, 2011, on Kodiak Island in Alaska – truly he died doing what he loved the most.

Jimmy grew up in the Kern River Valley where he had many friends. He learned the construction trade from his father, working with him for many years and building many houses in the Valley. It was here that Jim began riding motorcycles. Rumor has it that if concrete was used on a job, you can be sure that it was stamped with “Husqvarna” (per Brooks) because that was his favorite motorcycle. Later, he moved to Missoula, Mont. where he met and married Tammy, the love of his life, and spent many years there. He spent his last year and a half living on Kodiak Island in Alaska following his dream.

Jim leaves behind his wife, Tammy, and her two daughters, Shana and Kami and their families, his son, James, and daughter Lauren, and grandson Gatti, and their mother, Becky. Also, his father James and his wife Lori and her son, Jeff, his sister, April, and her daughter, Leentje and her husband, Richard, and son, Jayce, and son, Barend (Bear), his brother, Glen, and his wife, Lisa, and their children, Auguste and Ashton, his brother, Brooks, and his wife, Kristi, and their children, Cooper and Ty, his brother, Ross, and mother, Jane. And of course, many other relatives and friends.

Jimmy had a contagious laugh and was always quick with a good joke or story. If you were in a room full of people and heard laughter coming from one end, it was sure to be Jim in the center of it all. He believed you had to pick your battles, and as his sister said, he had a way of turning words into flowers. He loved adventure and a challenge...“Can’t do” was not in his vocabulary. He truly believed to live, love and laugh! We will surely miss him and the pleasure he brought to all our lives.

There will be a remembrance of his life on Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011, at the airport in Missoula, Mont. Time has not been determined at this point. Any questions, you can call 760-379-6820 (his dad’s cell).

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