

STEVEN VANDESCHRAAF



PEKIN - Steven R. VandeSchraaf, 62, of Pekin died at 1:26 p.m. Monday, July 6, 2015, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Steve was born on April 1, 1953, in Grand Rapids, Mich., a son of Neal and Janice (Baker) VandeSchraaf. She survives.

In 2001, Steve married Pat (Patterson, Sidell) VandeSchraaf, divorcing in 2005, with whom he was still making a home.

He is also survived by his son, Michael Vandy of Bartonville; his brothers, Tim (Diane) and Craig, both of East Peoria, and Cary (Kathie) VandeSchraaf of Pekin; and several nieces and nephews who were very special to him.

Steve was preceded in death by his infant brother, Randy; and his father.

He served our country with pride in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam Conflict, on board the USS Constellation.

Steven had worked at Caterpillar Inc. for the last 20 years.

His family and loved ones remember him for his smile, laugh and wonderful sense of humor. He frequently loved to join them at home for evening movies and popcorn. Steve was well-known to make very personal handmade gifts for birthdays and special occasions. Steve was an avid Harley-Davidson enthusiast and encouraged youngsters who were interested to always wear a helmet.

Cremation rites will be accorded. A private memorial service is planned for a later date.

Memorial donations can be made to Whitney's Walk for Life, c/o Hult Center for Healthy Living, 5215 N. Knoxville Ave., Peoria, IL 61614, or online donations at www.whitneyswalk.com (team name Steve's Warriors).