



## Leigh Hanson

December 10, 1951 - January 3, 2009

Leigh Philip Hanson was born December 10, 1951 in Fargo, ND to Gilmour and Sally (Lassila) Hanson. He grew up in Valley City, ND, graduating from Valley City High School in 1969 and Valley City State University in 1973. Leigh attended graduate school in Brookings, SD before transferring to the University of Washington in Seattle.

He met his wife, Linda Helen Waldal, while working for Pacific Northern Oil in Portland, OR. They married in 1984 and were blessed with two daughters, Suzanne and Helen. He also worked at McCall Oil and then Pro-Truck and Equipment for about 8 years. Leigh dedicated his life to his girls as they were the light of his life and he enjoyed taking them to the Oregon Coast, North Dakota, and many other adventurous outings. He was very proud of their success in sports and of their college pursuits.

Leigh enjoyed fishing, hunting, collecting rocks/fossils among other things, and visiting friends. Leigh had a big heart which was shown by his generosity and his devotion to his family, friends, and to the world as a whole, putting it first, and his personal wants and needs second. One couldn't ask for a more loyal husband, father, brother, or friend. He was one of a kind.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; two daughters, Suzanne and Helen Hanson all of Portland; mother, Sally Hanson of Valley City; two sisters, Shelley (James) Williamson of Commerce, GA, Lori Ritchey of Vancouver, WA and niece, Katie Ritchey of Vancouver, WA.

Leigh was preceded in death by his father, Gilmour Hanson, a baby brother,

Craig; and a baby sister.

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY 15. 2:00 PM (CT)

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel  
251 Central Ave. S.  
Valley City, ND

# Tribute Wall



“ We have such fond memories of the Hanson family...wonderful folks...memories of you staying in our home in Eugene, OR while Sally attended a graduate course at the U of O in the summer of 1968. A wonderful kinship evolved from that. We loved our visits with Gil and Sally. We stopped and chatted with Leigh at his home in VC last fall. We are so sorry to hear of his cancer and death. We have a conflict today or we would certainly be at the memorial service. We extend our deepest sympathy to all of you. Love, Richard and Clarice Kadry###imported-begin##Richard and Clarice Kadry###imported-end##

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May 15, 2009 at 01:23 PM



“ I just got to meet Leigh, only a couple of years ago, when he would show up at the Rifle Range in Valley City. Each time he would show up there, he would bring me a different pistol or rifle to shoot. He smiled every time I got my hands on one, teaching me about the operations or history of it. He volunteered in various duties at the range, without any complaints. He often talked about his daughters when visiting Valley City. We shared OUR early symptoms of our fight with cancer. I was surcumed with emotional pain when I learned about his death. How can a man of so much kindness be chosen? My only regrets, is that I never got to meet him earlier. He will be missed, but never forgotten.

Gale Hansen###imported-begin##Gale Hansen###imported-end##

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May 14, 2009 at 11:46 AM



“ I met Leigh thru VC Public Works, and continued to keep up with the family when I went to Bakkegard & Schell, when Leigh would call for service. I was able to keep up with Lori that way. He was always so kind to me and we chatted where ever we ran into each other. Tom remembers him coming into NAPA and the pistol club. Leigh will be missed! He was taken from us far too soon.

Sincerely

Juleen & Tom Cruff###imported-begin##Juleen Cruff###imported-end##

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May 13, 2009 at 09:14 AM