Gary Billy Hicks, Jr., 43

Billy Hicks, 43, died suddenly at his home near Grinnell on Aug. 8, 2010, due to congestive heart failure. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 11, at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home. Visitation will begin after 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 10, with the family present from 5 to 7 p.m., at the funeral home. Family has requested that friends and family honor Billy by wearing sports attire or casual clothing to the funeral and/or visitation. Interment will be held in the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma. Memorials may be directed to the Montezuma Athletic Boosters.

Gary Billy Hicks, Jr. was born on June 5, 1967, at Oskaloosa, the son of Gary Billy Hicks, Sr., and Martha (Rose) Hicks. He graduated with the class of 1985 from Montezuma Community Schools. After graduation, he attended and graduated from Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge with a degree in broadcasting. He was employed for eight years with DeLong's in Grinnell. Billy was very involved with many sports and was a role model for many young student athletes. He was an umpire for baseball and had received a coaching certificate. He also recorded the statistics during football games. He loved helping with sports, breaking down film, scouting, or whatever coaches needed his help with. He took pride with helping kids in athletics and watching them grow. Billy had a passion for bowling and was a member of several bowling teams. He was honored for bowling a 300 game in a league game. He was a member of the U.S. Bowling Association. Family was very important to Billy, they traveled across the state of Iowa, and was four counties shy of visiting every county. Billy will long be remembered for his other interests in hunting, fishing, attending all high school sporting events, collecting NASCAR cars and baseball cards. He was a Iowa Hawkeye, Minnesota Viking, and Chicago Cub fan.

Billy is survived by his mother, Martha Hicks of Grinnell; his sister, Rebecca Froias of Grinnell; his three nephews, Joey Froias III of Newton, Clayton Froias and Trace Froias of Grinnell; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousin, friends and his extended community families. He is also survived by his grandfather, Harley Dale Rose, of Montezuma, and his grandmother, Irene Hicks, of Montezuma. Billy is preceded in death by his father, Gary Hicks; his grandmother, Eloise Rose; and his grandfather, Harold Hicks.