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## Martin F. Barke

Martin F. Barke, 57, of Grinnell died peacefully at his home with his family around him on Sunday, July 1, 2018.

Family, friends, and others whose lives he has touched are invited to a memorial service at 442 East St. South in Grinnell, on Saturday, July 21st, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. A prayer service will be held at 6:30 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be designated to the Martin F. Barke Memorial Fund and mailed in care of the Smith Funeral Home, PO Box 368, Grinnell, Iowa 50112. Memories and condolences may be shared with Martin's family online at [www.smithfh.com](http://www.smithfh.com).



Marty was born on March 26, 1961, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the son of Ruben and Jean Greenfield Barke. He was raised in Grand Rapids and Potterville, Michigan, and was a 1979 graduate of Potterville High School.

After high school, he held various jobs while living in Michigan and prior to moving to Grinnell in 1996. For many years he was employed with Crawford Tree Service in Grinnell and later with Sutherland Printing Company in Montezuma.

On September 2, 2000, he was united in marriage with Linda Lenk Thiesse, in Grinnell, where the couple continued to make their home.

Marty held a strong love for his family and enjoyed shopping for his grandchildren. He enjoyed fishing and camping, working in his yard, and gardening. He held a passion for building creative things out of items he collected. He was creative and knew the value of hard work.

Survivors include his wife, Linda of Grinnell; his mother, Jean Barke of Jenison, Michigan; his daughter, Tiffany (John) Lynn of Hartwick; one brother, Ruben Barke of Odenton, Maryland; three sisters, Molly (Jeff) Barke of Seymour, Missouri, Tena Barke (Jesus) of Jenison, Michigan and Tammy (Gary) Harmsen of Walker, Michigan; four grandchildren, Anthony (Nicole) Hanson-Lynn of Coralville, Eris Lynn of Columbus, Ohio, Garner Lynn of Hartwick and Oliver Lynn of Coralville; his sister-in-law, Adeline Jasken of St. Cloud, Minnesota; and two brothers-in-law, Robert (Gayle) Lenk and Gerald Lenk, all of Browerville, Minnesota. He was preceded in death by his father, Ruben Barke; five brothers, Ed, Jimmy, Mike, Paul and Bruce Barke; and one son, Quinten Thiesse.