

Anthony "Tony" Martin

January 11, 1965 - February 12, 2016

Anthony "Tony" Martin, age 51, of Schaller, Iowa died Friday, February 12, 2016 at his home in Schaller.

A Celebration of Life gathering will be held Monday, March 14, 2016 from 5-7:00 p.m. at the Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Schaller. In lieu of flowers a memorial fund has been established at the State Bank of Schaller in Tony's name. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Schaller is in charge of the arrangements.

Anthony "Tony" Abe Martin was born on January 11, 1965 to Lyle "Abe" Martin and Geri Caffrey Martin.

Tony was welcomed home by his older sisters Becky and Diane and 1.5 years later was not the youngest anymore and begrudgingly welcomed home his baby sister, Missy.

As a child Tony was always on the go, having many childhood friends he liked to play outside with.

One of Tony's favorite games to play was, "car crash" where Tony would take all his hot wheels cars into the garage and lay on the floor driving them around, then suddenly they would have a car crash (at the hands of Dads

hammer). Mom would have to take Tony to the Ben Franklin store in Storm Lake, to replenish his car inventory, or she liked to say stock up for the next go around.

Tony attended Schaller Community School from kindergarten to graduation in 1983. Where he was involved in drama, music, and enjoyed being with his many friends.

After High School Tony went to complete a year at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa later moving back to Schaller. Tony started working at Faith Hope and Charity in Storm Lake, where he met Donna Tews Martin and on December 12, 1987 they were united in marriage at the Methodist Church in Schaller. Donna had gotten a job offer at the State School in Glenwood, Iowa where they moved, making his new home in Glenwood with Donna and her mother, Dorothy or Wid, I am not really sure if anyone really knew her as Dorothy in Glenwood as everyone called her Wid, Tony had a knack for nicknames that stick. In 1988 Alaxandar "Alax" Lyle Martin was born into this union and then were blessed with Zackary "Zack" Anthony Martin in 1990.

Tony loved everyone, but he loved his family the most and put their needs ahead of his own. Tony prided himself and being there for Mom and Dad and always being the rock for them. He became that rock for his parents when tragedy struck in 1975 with the passing of Diane his older sister, and in 1978 with the passing of Becky. This loss strengthened the bond between mother and son, highlighting Tony's devotion to his parents.

Abe passed away in July of 1995 from IPF and although very hard for Tony to do, he was his father's care giver for many years before his passing. The love between Geri and Lyle was greater than a Hollywood movie, and Tony was the rock in his mother's life after she lost her soulmate. After Abe's passing, Tony began to care for his mother throughout the years, Geri was plagued with health issues and Tony was never put off by any of the struggle. Tony

thrived on helping his family, his good will and heart infected everyone around him, and we know it helped Geri with her grief every day. This care a son had for his mother made their bond stronger and stronger with every passing day.

While taking care of his mother, Tony lost Donna, in January of 2008. In this time of grief Alax came to live with dad. Tony loved having his boys closer and his infectious laugh took over the house of four when his son Zack temporarily moved in a couple years later.

Tony and Geri had a mother son bond that could not be shaken, however when Geri passed away tragically in October of 2010, he was lost. Tony tried staying strong for everyone around him, but losing his mother, his best friend, confidant, the Ying to his Yang was more than he could survive. Tony always put a smile on his face and pretended that everything was just fine, when deep down he was so lost and alone without having his Mom by his side.

Tony took his own life on February 12, 2016 so he could go be with Mom, Dad, Becky and Diane.

Tony will be missed by many. He had many close friends and family that are left behind asking questions. What answers we do have are that Tony is finally at peace and where he wants to be, and Tony is with the family that he missed so dearly and we cannot change that. Tony would not have left any of us behind if he didn't think we could be "Tony" strong for each other.

Tony is survived by two sons; Alax Martin of Schaller, Iowa and Zack Martin and fiancée Emily Sackett of Cedar Falls, Iowa; sister, Missy Petersen and friend Tom Geer of Red Oak, Iowa; nieces: Cayla Bunce of Polk City, Iowa;; Alison Petersen of Moline, Illinois; and Kristine Webb and husband Brandon Webb of Rapid City, South Dakota; his loving dogs: Petra, Benji, Fred, and Lucy; close friends: Allyson Hartwig-Munger "A"; Lorrie "El-Roll" Roling; and

many more friends who made his life full of joy.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 14. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home - Schaller

306 S Main St

Schaller, IA 51053

(712) 275-4205

jensenfuneralhomes@gmail.com

<https://www.fratzkejensen.com>

Tribute Wall

EC

“ My deepest sympathies go out to the entire Martin family during this extremely difficult time. I wish I could be there for the service tomorrow night to share in the memories of Tony's life. He was a very dear friend to me throughout my school years at Schaller and his loyalty, creativity and incredible sense of humor always meant the world to me and I am sure they will be missed by all who knew him. Tony, I hope you are at peace now.

Erin (Hix) Christensen

Erin (Hix) Christensen - March 13, 2016 at 05:49 PM

EC

“ Erin (Hix) Christensen lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin



Erin (Hix) Christensen - March 13, 2016 at 05:40 PM

DO

“ Doris lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin



Doris - February 22, 2016 at 01:58 PM

NL

“ Please accept my sincere condolences for the loss of Tony. Psalms 34:18 says that God is near to those brokenhearted. Draw close to God and he will grant you peace & comfort during this grievous time

naomi lewis - February 19, 2016 at 12:52 PM

Kim McClurg Cloyd

“ Years ago, I met Tony on Facebook playing a farming game. As corny as that sounds, it lead to a wonderful long distance friendship. I loved his sense of humor, his love of animals and nature, his devotion to his family and friends, his politics, his love of cooking, his kindness and generosity. I will miss your presence, Tony, and I am truly heartbroken.

Kim McClurg Cloyd - February 18, 2016 at 04:14 PM

April Spanier

“ April Spanier lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin



April Spanier - February 18, 2016 at 03:49 PM

Wendy Schlicher

“ Wendy Schlicher lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin



Wendy Schlicher - February 18, 2016 at 08:43 AM



I want to know "where'd ya get those glasses"? You and I had so much fun, laughter and tears together~~~I will miss you, your voice, and of course your endless bantar!!! Tell Geri that when i get there we will play cards and I already know that she cheats!!! Love you my dear friend and I know you have found peace. As for your boys and the rest of the folks that love you I hope we all find our own peace with this as well!!! Some may be mad, like me, and some may be ok with this but in time we will all make our own peace with this tragedy!!! I love you!!!!

Wendy Schlicher - February 18, 2016 at 08:47 AM



“ *I knew Anthony from the Lizzie Borden forum where a bunch of us Lizzie aficionados gather to discuss the crime and ferret out the truth about the Bordens. Anthony was the kind of person one hopes to meet online - learned, gentlemanly, wise and witty, a genuine person. I speak for myself and assuredly for everyone else on the site when I say we are devastated to hear of his death. He will be deeply missed. Rest in peace Anthony Martin.*

Deborah Gleason

Deborah Gleason - February 17, 2016 at 09:41 PM

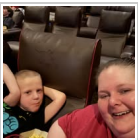
JS

“ Tony was a very loving, caring, giving guy. He had a big heart. He was always concerned about his family and others before he was concerned about himself. This part of him has gone on since he was a little boy. Living next door to the Martin family was such a joy. Besides my Mom and Tony's Mom being best friends our families were pretty close. I always enjoyed it when Tony and Missy would come over and ask me questions about many things, one of them was pretty detailed. Tony made predictions on me of my pregnancies and they all came true. He was always making stuff and bringing it over. He cooked like a professional chef. And always took the calories out. :)

I could go on and on about this great man, but just wanted to share a few things about him that I loved. I wasn't able to get close to Becky and Diane because I was gone and in another state when they got older. He is at peace now and my thoughts and prayers go out to all the family and close friends that were left behind. If there is anything I can do please let me know. God be with you all now and always.

JoAnn (Galles) Spanier

JoAnn Spanier - February 17, 2016 at 06:16 PM



“ I'll miss the family dinners where you went all out to impress me & we had the iPod roaring with the most awesome playlist. I'll take care of your boys like I promised, i guess it's just sooner than I ever imagined I would have to care for AI. I could really use some of your mashed potatoes and creme' freshe' right now in my moms pink bowl you tried to steal 😊

PEACE Tony. Rest in PEACE. Love you forever & always. Your daughter in law. 🙌?💙

Emily Martin - February 17, 2016 at 10:59 AM

DN

“ I worked with Tony many years ago, he was always so much fun to be with, we shared a lot of laughs. :He will be missed by many. My sympathy to you all. Diana Niehaus

Diana Niehaus - February 17, 2016 at 05:58 AM

AM

“ My deepest condolences to the family,R.I.P Tony



Angie Manriquez - February 17, 2016 at 12:23 AM

TD

“ Tresa Dierenfield lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin



tresa dierenfield - February 16, 2016 at 09:40 PM

TP

“ My thoughts and prayers to the family.. but mostly for my best friend Missy who has always been like a sister to me for several years now. My heart hurts for u , please know that I love u dearly and I'll always be there for u, with love Terri



Terri Pesta - February 16, 2016 at 08:55 PM



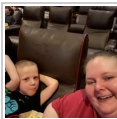
“ *i remember the day i met tony,like it was yesterday! geri,i and tony went to younkers geri said by the time she got there she was bonkers and by the time we got back to schaller we had all laughed so hard our side hurt! thus began my friendship with tony and yes we had many more! i will miss you dearly my friend always tony!r.i.p.*

Candy Garcia - February 16, 2016 at 08:45 PM

AP

“ *Tony was my uncle. So many amazing memories I can't begin to start. I ❤️ you*

Alison petersen - February 16, 2016 at 08:21 PM



I can't wait to meet you. I am pretty sure you'll be there on that Monday!! Safe travels.

Emily Martin - February 17, 2016 at 10:52 AM

JF

“ *Anthony was a wonderful friend, who always had a kind word for everyone. He will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.*

Judy Franks

Judy Franks - February 16, 2016 at 07:45 PM





“ I could fill this wall with the many memories I have of Tony. He was the best personal attendant a girl could as for on her wedding day, the co-worker that made a tough job do-able with his crazy antics and I must not forget to mention his random "Would you rather..." texts that I have received from him through out the years. Tony Martin - one of a kind, a friend to all he knew... he will live on forever in our hearts and memories!

Jodi Libolt - February 16, 2016 at 06:48 PM



“ I worked with Tony at BV Manor in the 1990's, he was one of the best CNA's I've ever worked with. The residents absolutely loved him!!! He always made work fun, it never felt like work. You will be missed Tony ❤️

Jenny Benna - February 16, 2016 at 06:48 PM



“ Stacy Nixon Maymon lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin



Stacy Nixon Maymon - February 16, 2016 at 06:38 PM



“ Rest well ya ole bat! I'm gonna miss you and your sarcastic jabs... I pray that you have found peace and are surrounded by those in Heaven that you love and miss. You will be remembered fondly.

Steph Smith - February 16, 2016 at 06:33 PM

DN

“ I worked with Tony at the Harbor House in the early 80's. He was always one of the funniest and happy people to be with. I'm so sorry for your loss. He will be missed by many

Diana Niehaus - February 16, 2016 at 06:06 PM

MI

“ Anthony was a good person who gave of himself to help others. My favorite memory was of Anthony sharing his love of Lizzie Borden through the forum and by letting me borrow his books. He'll be greatly missed.

Misty - February 16, 2016 at 05:33 PM

PM

“ Pam McCutcheon lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin



Pam McCutcheon - February 16, 2016 at 03:15 PM

ST

“ Anthony was a dear person and I will miss him greatly. A kind and generous soul.

Stefani Koorey

Stefani - February 16, 2016 at 02:02 PM

DH

“ *Doris Harvey lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin*



Doris Harvey - February 16, 2016 at 11:49 AM

DH

I am a former co-worker of Tony's. He always make work fun. My sympathy to his family, You are in my prayers.

Doris Harvey - February 16, 2016 at 11:51 AM

AF

“ *Amy Frehse lit a candle in memory of Anthony "Tony" Martin*



Amy Frehse - February 16, 2016 at 09:45 AM

Michelle Lynn

“ *I worked with Tony many years ago, he was wise and always able to make me smile.*



Michelle Lynn - February 15, 2016 at 09:26 PM