

## CHRISTOPHER FICENEC, 59

On the morning of July the 6, 2020, and with one final burnout, Christopher Ficeneq, Alexandria, MN, broke his earthly trap speed record to meet the great reward.

Chris is loved and will be missed by his wife Sheila, kids Nicole of Los Angeles, CA and Kyle of Alexandria, MN; parents Joseph and Audrey Ficeneq of DeLamare, ND; siblings Curt Ficeneq, Fargo, ND, Tami (Bryon) Metzen, Milnor, ND, Robert Ficeneq, Casper, WY, Darin (Jennifer) Ficeneq, Lakeville, MN; 18 nieces and nephews, and his trusty couch companion Jax.

Chris was born March 17, 1961 to parents Joseph and Audrey Ficeneq of DeLamare, North Dakota. The eldest of 5 siblings, he started his love affair with wheels and horsepower early. If it had wheels he had his brothers help him customize it. Between Sunday race days Chris found time to play football and graduate with honors from Milnor High.

Chris attended the North Dakota College of Science where he found his first career in autobody and the love of his life, Sheila Whempner. Chris and Sheila were united in marriage June 18, 1983 and moved to West Fargo, ND where they produced two 'pretty good kids', Nicole and Kyle, and Chris built a bustling shop restoring hot rods and custom motorcycles. Chris also spent 17 years as a member of the North Dakota National Guard, served as a member of Knights of Columbus, and an EVAC volunteer, providing assistance for disaster emergencies in the FM area

After a second degree from NDSU, Chris and the family moved to Glenwood, Minnesota. Chasing his entrepreneurial spirit, Chris, and with the help of Sheila and Kyle, built his company Diversified Foundations, later relocating to Alexandria to be closer to the business.

Chris will be remembered for his unparalleled knowledge of anything with a carburetor, his smoked brisket, and his candid advice. Chris was known for taking on God's wayward sons, bestowing personal guidance and horsepower while they took up temporary residence in the family basement. Chris loved hunting, fishing, and when the kids moved out, camping with Sheila and Jax in their toy hauler.

In September of 2016, Chris was delivered a devastating diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. Refusing to let the cancer define him, he courageously fought the disease for nearly four years, promising to himself and his family to 'make every day count'. He found a renewed passion in an old art, blacksmithing, and in his faith as part of the Men's Ministry in Alexandria.

His family is forever grateful for the incredible doctors and nurses at Mayo Clinic, Coborn Cancer Center, Alomere Health and Douglas County Hospice for their commitment and dedication. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Indy Foundation or the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PANCAN).

## *Remembering the Life of*



*Christopher Ficeneq*

*1961 ~ 2020*

*God hath not promised  
skies always blue,  
Flower strewn pathways  
all our lives through;  
God hath not promised  
sun without rain,  
Joy without sorrow,  
peace without pain.*

*But God hath promised  
strength for the day,  
Rest for the labor,  
light for the way,  
Grace for the trials,  
help from above,  
unfailing sympathy,  
undying love...*



*In Loving Memory of*

## **Christopher Lee Ficenec**

March 17, 1961 † July 6, 2020

### **Mass of Christian Burial**

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Alexandria, Minnesota

Saturday, July 11, 2020 1:00 PM

### **Officiant**

Reverend Father Steve Binsfeld

### **Military Honors By**

US Navy Funeral Honor Guard

American Legion Post #87

VFW Post #936

VVA Post #235

Marine Corp League #1409

### **Honorary Pallbearers**

Jerry Griggs

Shawn Kuntz

Joel Seela

Dale Beyer

Robert Uhden

Jody Wilke

Boyd Fiebelkorn

Dan Jost

Mike Whempner

Todd Whempner

Tim Truelson

Dick Krempges

N.D. National Guard Detachment One Co. C

141<sup>st</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion

Alexandria Men's Ministry

### **Pallbearers**

Jim Hubbard

Jim Bauman

Darrel Saxton

Darl DeCent

Gary Zacher

Brad Averil

### **Burial**

St. Mary's Cemetery - Alexandria, Minnesota