



A Special Child

*You weren't like other children,
And God was well aware,
You'd need a caring family,
With love enough to share.
And so He sent you to us,
And much to our surprise,
You haven't been a challenge,
But a blessing in disguise.
Your winning smiles and laughter,
The pleasures you impart,
Far outweigh your special needs,
And melt the coldest heart.
We're proud that we've been chosen,
To help you learn and grow,
The job that you have brought us,
Is more than you can know.
A precious gift from Heaven,
A treasure from above,
A child who's taught us many things,
But most of all- "Real Love".*

Always In our Hearts



Tracy Donald Paul
May 20, 1960—February 7, 2019

Tracy D. Paul, 58, longtime resident of Humboldt, passed away at Valley View Nursing & Rehab Center in Eldora, following a brief illness, while under the care of Iowa River Hospice. The funeral service for Tracy will be held on Wednesday, February 13th at 12:00 PM at the Abels Funeral & Cremation Service-Creps Chapel in Eldora. Visitation will precede the service at 11:00 am until the time of the service at the funeral home. Burial will follow at the Eldora City Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to the family.

Tracy was born on May 20, 1960, in Eldora, Iowa, to his mother M. Suzette Paul. At the age of 3, Tracy was diagnosed with Prader Willie Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder. At 9 years old, Tracy moved to his first group home, Shepherds, Inc. in Racine, WI. Over the years, he lived in various group homes and in his later years, he settled into his longtime group home, Life Works in Humboldt, where he lived until his sudden illness.

In his younger years, Tracy enjoyed attending Camp Sunnyside for many summers and was lucky to be able to participate in the Special Olympics twice. He also enjoyed attending State Fairs, latch hooking and various craft projects. Tracy liked to dance, loved music and enjoyed going bowling. He was an avid animal lover, Yorkie dogs being his favorite. He also enjoyed watching movies, the scarier the better!

What brought the most joy to Tracy was food, fellowship and spending time with his family. He loved being together with his family at the holidays, Christmas being his favorite. His family was so happy to say that Tracy lived a long, fulfilling life and that his time on Earth brought them so much joy. They were so grateful to have him here for so many years but have comfort that Tracy and his mom are together again.

He is survived by his father Marvin of Eldora; siblings Regina (John) Hoeksema of Bondurant, IA, Eric Paul of Eldora and Monica (Scott) Ridout of Eldora; nephews & nieces Matthew (Nikki) Hoeksema of Ankeny, Cora Paul (Chad) of Eldora, Megan Paul of CA, Emma Paul of Eldora, Becky (Blake) Gustafson of Eldora and Andy Mazurik of Eldora; great nieces and nephew Chloe Hoeksema, Jace Paul, Aspen Stripling and Macy & Paislee Gustafson. Tracy was preceded in death by his mother Suzette; nephew Michael Hoeksema; brother-in-law Tom Mazurik.

In Loving Memory **Tracy Donald Paul**

Sunrise

May 20, 1960

Eldora, Iowa

Sunset

February 7, 2019

Eldora, Iowa

Funeral Service

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

12:00 PM

Abels Funeral & Cremation Service

Creps Chapel

Eldora, Iowa

Officiating

Pastor Allen Craft

Pianist

Linda Weltz

Congregational Hymns

“Amazing Grace”- Verses 1,2,3 & 6

“Old Rugged Cross”- Verses 1,2 & 4

“How Great Thou Art”- Verses 1,2 & 4

Special Recorded Music

“I Can Only Imagine”

Mercy Me

“We’ll Meet Again”

Johnny Cash

Casket Bearers

Andy Mazurik

Blake Gustafson

Tom Vodraska

Chad Stripling

John Hoeksema

Scott Ridout

Interment

Eldora City Cemetery

Eldora, Iowa