

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints, other times there was one only. This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life, when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow or defeat, I could see only one set of footprints, so I said to the Lord, "You promised me Lord, that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has only been one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I needed you most, have you not been there for me?" The Lord replied, "The years when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you."

Riding Off Into the Sunset



Otho Vern Graham, Jr.
September 4, 1967 ~ November 8, 2020

Otho Vern Graham, Jr., 53, of Eldora, passed away on Sunday, November 8, 2020, at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home in Waterloo, following a lengthy illness. A graveside service for Otho will be held on Saturday, November 14th at 11:00 AM at the Eldora City Cemetery. Following the graveside service, a luncheon open house will be held at Dorothy's Senior Center in Eldora. Memorials may be directed to Otho's sister Sandy Scharbarth at: 114 Overlook Cove Loop, Mooresville, NC 28117. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage those in attendance to wear a mask and practice social distancing. Memories and stories of Otho can be shared with the family at www.abelsfuneralhomes.com

Otho was born on September 4, 1967 in Lake City, Iowa, to his parents Otho Vern Sr., and Iona (Courter) Graham. When Otho was 2, his family moved to Eldora, where he attended school. After his parents divorced, Otho and his father moved to Arizona and he attended high school for one year, before moving back to Eldora, graduating high school in May of 1987. Otho decided to move back to Arizona after graduation and began his construction career. While there, he met and married Patricia Cofield. The couple later divorced.

Otho returned to his hometown of Eldora, and worked construction for many years, until he fell ill three years ago and was forced to quit a profession, he loved so well.

In his free time, Otho loved riding his beloved Harley Davidson motorcycle. He enjoyed spending time with his family. When anyone came to visit him, he either had a candy bar for them, or a Little Debbie snack; it was just his thing! Many would say Otho was 'rough around the edges' and although that was true, he would help anyone who needed it; he would give them the shirt off his back. Otho was a truly generous and caring man and made many close friends along the way. He will be dearly missed, but his family finds comfort to know he is reunited with his brother, whom he tragically lost, 40 years ago.

Otho is survived by his father Otho Sr., (Lenora) Graham of Trenton, MO and mother Iona Courter of Eldora; children Sierra (Jon) Decker of Chariton, IA, Michael (Veronica) Royer of Milton-Freewater, OR, Ashley (Ryan) McCown of Glendale, AZ, Megan Crouse, Destiny Crouse and Brandy Crouse, all of Phoenix, AZ, Savannah Graham of Glendale, AZ and Michael Graham of Eldora; 14 grandchildren; sister Sandy (Robert) Scharbarth of Mooresville, NC; nieces and nephew Ashley (Gus) Kern, Amanda (Nicholas) Kennedy & Ryan (Sarah) Scharbarth; many aunts, uncles and cousins; ex-wife Patricia Cofield; and special friends Greg & Dee Priske, David & Rochelle Panthen and Sherry (Monte) Anway. He rejoins in Heaven his brother Cecil Graham; paternal & maternal grandparents; and special friend Curt Wical.

In Loving Memory
Otho Vern Graham, Jr.

Sunrise
September 4, 1967
Lake City, Iowa

Sunset
November 8, 2020
Waterloo, Iowa

Graveside Service
Saturday, November 14, 2020
11:00 AM
Eldora City Cemetery
Eldora, Iowa

Officiating
Lynn & Heather Balvanz

Special Recorded Song
"Amazing Grace"
Willie Nelson

**Please join Otho's family for an Open House Celebration
at Dorothy's Senior Center in Eldora from 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM,
following the committal service at the cemetery.**

