

Gilbert Leroy Stewart was born on April 6, 1948 in White Earth, MN to Charles and Isabelle (Bigbear) Stewart. Gilbert was raised in the Osage area with his four sisters Linda "Dirt", Leonhardt, Nancy Bigbear, Marilyn Bigbear, Lorraine "Susie" Stewart, and four brothers Kenny Conklin, Charles Stewart, Gary Stewart and Russel Conklin. He graduated from Park Rapids High School with the class of 1966 and later from the Vocational Technical College.

While living in Minneapolis, Sonny was instrumental in writing the grants for the Native American Indian Center in Minneapolis. He also worked in the construction business throughout his life, and worked many years for the Holiday Inn, in Detroit Lakes, MN, before retiring in 2008.

Sonny was always busy doing something around the house, he enjoyed building stuff, caring for his two grandsons, Chad Jr. and Dylan and watching Nascar with the boys. He enjoyed visiting others and catching up on the latest gossip. He was truly a jack of all trades.

Deeply loved, Sonny's passing is mourned by son's Anthony, Delton, Greg, Chad Sr. and step-son Robert; daughters: Billie Jo and Christina "Cookie" Stewart, grandchildren: Charlene Stewart, Eljay, Cora and Casey Stewart, Chad & Dylan Jackson, Preston Jackson, Tyrone Butcher, Troy Jack, Alex Jenison, Perry & Landon Heinonen, Jacquar & Kaylene Burnette, Shellbie Tow, Elin Stewart & Taylor Libby, Nathan & Sicily Meyer; great-grandchildren: Ava Bunker and Chaton Clairmont; brothers: Charles Stewart, Russel Conklin and sister, Lorraine "Susie" Stewart; extended family and many friends from the Holiday Inn.

Sonny is preceded in death by his parents Charles and Isabelle; daughters Rochelle and Sheena; granddaughter's Shawna and Brandi Mae; grandson Terelle; step-son Lawrence Butcher; sister's Linda "Dirt" Leonhardt, Nancy, Marilyn; brother's Gary and Kenny.

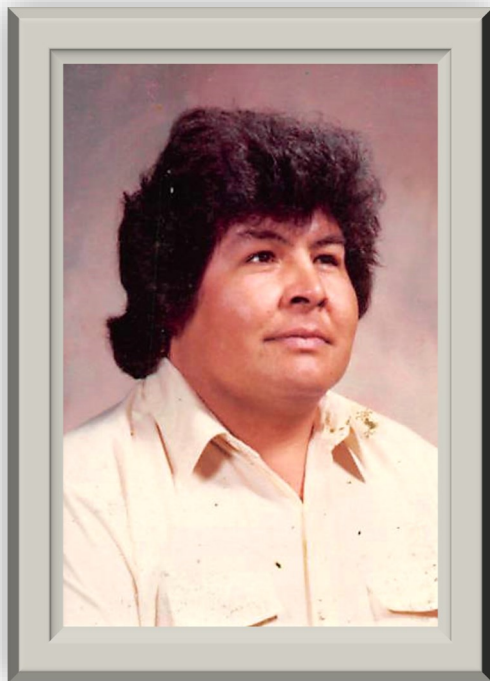
Gilbert "Sonny" Stewart, 70, passed away at his home in Detroit Lakes, MN, on Wednesday March 6, 2019.

In Loving Memory of Sonny...





*“Don’t walk in front of me,
I may not follow.
Don’t walk behind me,
I may not lead.
Just walk beside me,
and be my friend...”*



In Loving Memory Of
GILBERT LEROY STEWART
“SONNY”
Born ~ April 6, 1948
Died ~ March 6, 2019

I am not there

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep
I am in a thousand winds that blow,
I am the softly falling snow.
I am the gentle showers of rain,
I am the fields of ripening grain.
I am in the morning hush,
I am in the graceful rush
Of birds in circling flight.
I am the star shine of the night.
I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room,
I am the birds that sing,
I am in each lovely thing.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there. I did not die.

—Mary Frye



Service of Love and Remembrance

Thursday, March 14, 2019 - 5:00 P.M.
The David-Donhower Funeral Home
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
Spiritual Leader, Mike Swan, *Officiating*

Special Music

Anthony Buckanaga, *Drummer*

Casket Bearers

Jason Haataja, Robby Haataja, Desiree Stevens
Andy Pollock, John “Sonny Man” Big Bear, Leslie Haataja

Honorary Casket Bearers

Russell Conklin, Laurie Conklin, Jamie Danzeisen
Kenny “Junker” Conklin, Verna Fuller
Lee Fairbanks, Tim Collins, Rob Fairbanks Emmanuel
Thompson, Stacy Haataja, Char Ellis, Candace Jimenez,
Linda Leonhardt’s family and
Sonny’s former Co-workers at the Holiday Inn

Interment

Breck Episcopal Memorial Cemetery
Pine Point, Minnesota