

Times-Standard

Thursday, July 7, 1994

Patrick Hilton Thorpe

Patrick Hilton Thorpe died June 22, 1994, in Wyoming. He was born July 3, 1950, in Weston County, Wyo.

After finishing school in Newcastle, he went to Northwest College, attending his last two years of college in Louisville, Ky. He went to the University of Louisville Medical School, as his father had done, and graduated in May 1977, serving his internship afterward at the University of California Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. After his internship, he stayed in Sacramento for two years of family practice residency and was chief resident of the family practice program in his second year.

Patrick worked as a family practitioner in Newcastle with his father, Dr. Virgil Thorpe, before going to Eureka where he joined Dr. Gary Jaeger in practice. In late 1983, Patrick joined Eureka Family Practice.

In March 1984, he married Lorna Nelson who had a 4-year-old son, Ross Houck. Subsequently, they had two boys, John Patrick Thorpe, known as J.P., and Ian Hunter Thorpe.

In July 1991, he left his practice in Eureka to go back to school at the University of California at Berkeley. There he obtained a master's in Public Health while participating in an occupational medicine fellowship and residency at U.C. Davis Institute of Toxicology and Environmental Health, finishing in July 1993. He continued to do research and occupational medicine as well as family practice until his death.

Patrick was a healer and had been looking forward to returning to private practice that included occupational medicine in Wyoming. During his life, he gathered a tremendous number of people and patients to be part of his extended family. He reveled in his activities in the Rotary Club of Southwest Eureka and was active in numerous health and mental health related agencies in Eureka.

Patrick, loved by all he touched and laughed with, leaves his wife, Lorna Nelson Thorpe, and three sons, Ross, J.P. and Ian; his mother, Elizabeth Thorpe Griffith; two brothers, Stephen Thorpe and J. Kellen Thorpe and his wife, Roberta Willenbrecht; two sisters, Lynn Thorpe and Stacia Thorpe Thompson and her husband, Byron Charles (called B.C.); two nephews, Richard Thorpe and Jason Theodore; and two nieces, Morgan Schopen and Brook Theodore.

The family is establishing a Northwest College memorial scholarship in biology in Patrick's name. Memorial contributions may be made to the Northwestern College Foundation, 231 W. Sixth St., Powell, WY 82435.

Patrick travelled quietly to the creator on the Summer Solstice during a full moonlit night near the Medicine Wheel in the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming. His ashes were scattered with those of his father during a Minneconjue medicine ceremony held at the Thorpe family cabin in Spearfish Canyon in the Black Hills of South Dakota. His laughter, love, compassion and magic have left an indelible mark on all who knew him as father, son, husband, brother, friend, physician, gentleman and scholar.

A memorial gathering will be held at the offices of the Humboldt-Del Norte Medical Society at Edgewood Road and Myrtle Avenue, Eureka, on Friday, July 8, 1994, at 2 p.m.

Thorpe