

Montana Trooper

Final Patrol Trooper David James DeLaittre

THREE FORKS — David James DeLaittre was born in Billings on March 3, 1987, to Dennis and Nancy DeLaittre. He was taken tragically from his family on December 1, 2010, during a routine traffic stop in Three Forks.

David was raised in Three Forks, graduating in 2005. He attended college in Billings for a short while before being accepted into the Montana Highway Patrol Academy. This was his lifelong dream to follow in his father's footsteps. He was a fifth generation law enforcement agent who loved his job and cared for each and every person that he met along his journey.

There will forever be an enormous hole in our hearts. He was deeply loved by his family and friends, and they all loved him equally. David was kind, caring, and offered whatever was needed.

He leaves behind his parents, Dennis and Nancy; his sisters, Rebecca and Hannah, who were his pride and joy; stepsister Jennifer Amundsen (Jeff); grandparents Jim and Helen Fergus of Billings, Virginia Nelson of Wells, Minnesota; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and cherished friends. David also leaves behind his love, Brianna Harbolt and best friend, Levi Ewan.

He was met at the Heavenly Gates by his "papa," James A DeLaittre, and his aunt, Stephanie Larson.

Services were held at 1400 hours on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, at the Three Forks school gymnasium.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Montana Hope Project or the David DeLaittre Memorial Fund, c/o First Security Bank, P.O. Box 588, Three Forks, MT 59752.

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Byron James "Jim" Corcoran

Byron James "Jim" Corcoran, 72, was killed in an automobile collision Friday, November 12, 2010, near Acton, Montana.

Born November 27, 1938, in Harlowton, Jim was the oldest son of five children born to Byron and Arlee Corcoran of Ryegate. Raised in the Musselshell River valley, he spent his free time hunting and fishing with friends and playing basketball when he wasn't busy helping on his grandparent's ranch, or working for his father at the family's excavation business. Jim graduated from Ryegate High School in 1956 and briefly attended Rocky Mountain College before joining the U.S. Navy where he served for four years onboard the submarine SS Rasher (SSR-269).

After returning to Montana, Jim joined the Montana Highway Patrol. While working in the Harlowton area, he met Barbara Jean Duncan, born in Two Dot and the two were married in 1962 in Harlowton where the first of their three children was later born. After several years based in Great Falls, he was moved to the Billings area where he and Barbara raised their three children. He attended Eastern Montana College where he earned a teaching degree. Upon leaving the Patrol after nearly 11 years of service, he wore many different hats over the following decades. He worked several years as a paralegal investigator for the Yellowstone County Attorney's Office, and completed training at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va. (1976), the Mont. Law Enforcement Academy in 1977, and then decided to give sales a try. He worked at Frontier Chevrolet where he earned the top national sales award two years in a row. He also enjoyed selling mobile homes for a few years before being drawn back to the law enforcement field. Jim joined the Mont.

Department of Corrections where he worked as a probation and parole officer and then oversaw the Intensive Supervision Program for the State of Montana until his retirement in 2000.

After retiring from the state, he continued his hobby of restoring cars as well as doing remodeling work with a friend and business partner in their part-time renovation business. He greatly enjoyed traveling the country to visit his children and siblings, as well as going camping and fishing with his relatives. Despite a three year battle with cancer, his health had recently improved and he was looking forward to trips he had been planning with friends and relatives.

Jim is survived by his wife, Barbara; their three children, Jennifer (Dave) McKenney of Portland, Oregon, Steve (Pam) Corcoran of Berrydale, Florida, and Daniel Corcoran of Seattle; his sisters, Carol (Bill) Speigner of Laurel, Audrey (Bob) Eckhardt of Lewistown and Judy Corcoran (John Sweet) of Three Forks; and his brother Mike (Sandy) Corcoran of Apache Junction, Arizona; brother-in-law Claude "Bud" Duncan and sister-in-law Dolores Willems; Nieces, Bonnie Gray, Brenda Craig, Kellee Fisk, Traci Atwell; Nephews, Brad and Bart Craig, Joseph, Mark and Jeffrey Keller; and other relatives on his wife's side.

Memorials may be made to the Beartooth Nature Center, P.O. Box 675, 615 2nd St E, Red Lodge, MT 59068 (406-446-1133), Billings Animal Rescue Kare, 111 Moore Lane, Billings, MT 59101, or the Riverstone Homecare & Hospice, 711 Central Avenue, Billings, MT 59102.

A memorial service was held at 1100 hours on Wednesday, November 17, 2010, at Smith Funeral Chapel in Billings. □