



David Sambdman

November 15, 1957 - April 20, 2011

David Gus Sambdman, 53, passed away on April 20, 2011. The heavy burden of a year long trial was lifted from our beloved Dave at his home in the presence of his family. Dave was born on November 15, 1957 to parents Gustav Sambdman and Gloria (Vale) Willstead in Iowa City, Iowa. He was a 1975 graduate of Dixon High School. On September 21, 1985, he married his best friend and soul mate Cindy Kay Hines. On December 8, 1991, Dave was blessed with the other love of his life when daughter Blaire was delivered into this world. Dave began work at the Dixon State School and transitioned to a new career when the state transferred the facility to the Department of Corrections for the state of Illinois where he served in several capacities culminating in the rank of Lieutenant. Widely recognized as the ultimate "Company Man", Dave provided valuable service and input to all wardens he served under, resulting in the ultimate recognition as employee of the year in 1992. He was in charge of the facility's safety and security systems, contributing to many upgrades through his visionary efforts. Dave was also selected to serve as an auditor for many of the correctional facilities in Illinois, reviewing their safety and security systems, personally aiding in improving those sites. He retired in honor in 2008 to pursue other interests. He was an active member of the Dixon chapter of the Elks Club. For 18 years. Passionate about physical conditioning, he was an avid runner and weight lifter. Throughout his life, he enjoyed travelling with Cindy and Blaire. Dave has a great community of friends that Cindy and he loved to spend time with.

He relished doing home projects as well. Dave was the epitome of what all men should aspire to be: one who cherishes their loved ones, helps their neighbors and friends, listens without judgment, is slow to anger, yet quick to forgive, and a defender of those who are weaker. Never a procrastinator, he led by example, not by words alone, though a favorite quote he would often share with Blaire was that "persistence overcomes resistance, so work hard." He served as great friend, mentor, and hero to older brother Fred. More than a brother, he was a father figure to sisters Debra and Lisa. He was the rock of the entire family, guiding through any troubled water. Along with wife Cindy, he instilled those values in daughter Blaire, making her the outstanding young woman she is today. Preceded in death by treasured father Gustav and revered grandfather John Vale, and also grandmother Margaret VanFossen and mother-in-law Mert Larmer. His memory will be cherished and celebrated by the light of his life, Cindy; beloved daughter Blaire; constant companion Rusty; mother Gloria; father-in-law Dick Hines and mother-in-law Kay Hines of Port Orange, FL; brother-in-law Greg Larmer and step-father-in-law Jin Larmer of Rogersville, TN; sisters Debra, Lisa, and Lorie, all of Dixon; sister Sharon of Franklin Grove; brother Fred of Muscatine, IA; brother Buddy of Ashton; several stepbrothers and stepsisters; many nephews and nieces; as well as friends too numerous to mention. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Blaire's education. There will be a celebration of Dave's life for his family and friends to be held Saturday, May 21, 2011 from 2-5 P.M. at Loveland Community Building in Dixon.

Tribute Wall



“ *David Sambdman*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *David Sambdman*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *Cindy we are so sorry to hear of your and Blaire's loss. Dave was a good friend, and a good man. He will be missed. If you need anything please let us know. We love you.*

Jerry and Karen Jones - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Lee, Nick and I want to tell you how sorry we are for both you and Blaire. It has truly been an honor to know Dave and to have him be a part of our life. I have many fond memories that I will cherish.*

Jane Hines - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *DAVE WAS A GREAT GUY. HE ALWAYS HAD A SMILE ON HIS FACE AND IF YOU DIDNT HAVE A SMILE HE WOULD FIND A WAY TO MAKE YOU HAVE ONE. HE WILL BE MISSED BY ALL OF US BUT HE IS IN A BETTER PLACE NOT HAVING TO SUFFER ANY LONGER. GOD BLESS HIS FAMILY YOUR IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS. DOUG PENNY AND JOHN THOMAS*

DOUG THOMAS - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ cindy, i am very sorry about your hubby dave , we have worked together few couple years from dixon develment center and jack mabley center then he transfer to work state correction center , man he was very good man ,he like interpeter for me clinton and georgia , i have teach him better sign language like little asl he pretended like deaf man lol, we have alway taking clients outing for activities,campground olympic,so we are living in florida close in 10 years now god bless you

Clinton Bailey - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Cindy and Blaire we are so sorry. Dave was one of the kindest human beings to walk this earth, what a true blessing from God you both were given. His obituary is absolutely beautiful and so true. He will be sadly missed by so many people. God bless you both and all of your family, if there is anything you need...

Diane Rockwell & Karen Kradle - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ Cindy and Blaire,

May the warm memories you have sustain you through this difficult time.

Sally (Long) Dorfman - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FI

“ *Cindy & Blaire*

We are so sorry to hear of your loss.

Dave was a great guy and good friend. We are hopeful that you find comfort in the many fond memories of him.

It seems like a lifetime ago when we lived a house away and did so much together. We exchanged emails with Dave and frequently talked about getting together. This is proof that you shouldn't put anything off.

If there is anything you need, please give us a call. We will keep in our prayers.

With sorrow in our hearts,

Mike & Bonnie Fiorito

Fiorito - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Cindy, What a shock when I saw Dave's obituary. I think of both of you often and when I am in Dixon I drive by the house quite often.*

My thoughts and prayers are with you through this hard time. God bless you all.

My husband Lloyd passed away in 2001 the year we moved back to IL.

Jane Summers - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ET

“ *Cindy and Blaire, There are no words to tell you how sorry we are to hear of your loss. Dave's work here on earth is finished, but I am sure that God will find him helping others in heaven as he did here. There are prayers for Dave; you and Blaire for peace. May God bless you as you and rest of family move forward in your lives. Stay strong and may the love of friends bring you comfort and may God's love give you peace.*

Ernie, Gayle and Dani Topping

will look forward to seeing you walking up the hill to Jefferson again!

Ernie, Gayle and Dani Topping - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *Cindy & Blaire, so sorry for your loss. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.*

Jackie Green-Funk - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Cindy,
Cinsy, Dave and I were friends for 35 years. We lived together for a year or so. Dave was the perfect friend. If you gave your heart to him you always received his in return. After turning 50 I have realized that you can count your true friends on one hand. Dave was always on that hand. I am so sorry for your loss and your sole mate. God Bless you Cindy and Blair as if you ever need me I will always be here.

Mike Luebke

Cindy,

Even though I have only known you for a short time compared to everyone else I feel that your and Dave's relationship is much like Mike and mine. I can only image your pain in losing a spouse you loved with all your sole. I would love to say something inspirational to ease your pain but I know that is impossible. I hope time, friends and family will help to heal you. Of course, if there is anything I can do for you as a fellow sole mate, mate please let me know. I am there in sprit for you as I'm sure Dave will always be: **BY YOUR SIDE AND IN YOUR HEART.**

Kim Luebke

Mike Luebke - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Cindy and Blaire, we just want you to know that we are thinking of you at this time. We were very sorry to hear for Dave's passing but very glad to know that he was with his family. Please know we have thought of him often and that you both are in our prayers. Ted and Jeannie

Ted and Jeannie Henson - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ *Cindy and Blair,*

My prayers have been with you since I first found out about Dave's diagnosis. Know that and all he taught you and his spirit will never leave you. You were blessed with him and your memories will bring comfort in all the years to come.

Susan Devers - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DL

“ Cindy and Blaire,

The day I found out I sat down and thought of the right thing to say. Then I realized for me, that there really is no such thing. So, I wrote down some thoughts. Know that Missy and I love you. He was one hell of a guy. Here are my thoughts.

A great man died today.

He was family and a friend. He was an exceptional husband and father. I never knew a time when he didn't have a smile on his face. Or a time when he didn't invoke that same smile on a strangers face. He spent his life serving the public. Many never knew him, but those who did will never forget him. They also will not forget what he stood for. I will miss him. He added quality to life. Everything meant something to him, no matter how small. He found humor where most of us could not.

He so desperately loved his family, he told me so himself, not long ago, at our cabin. He also told me how proud of them he was. He described the depth that they added to his life. He explained that his family was the "Sum" of his life, in so many words. He was a very smart man.

He knew what mattered and what didn't. Unlike many people he knew the difference. He was not an ordinary man. He was a fighter. He fought for life as only he knew how, with everything he had. He would expect us to fight also. I will miss him.

Love you Dave. You were the best.

David Lowery - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ You have my deepest sympathy.

sharon gabrielson - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *Dave was a dear friend he and I worked together in Fire Safety for IDOC we had many a good time going to safety classes at the training academy in Springfield. He will be missed by many and especially by me. Cindy stay in touch and let us know when you will be in our area.*

Richard & Mary McDaniel - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *RIP Dave. You were always a good man.*

Stewart Cox - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM