



## James Kouba

October 26, 1938 - October 3, 2013

NORFOLK -- A celebration of life for James Kouba, 74, Norfolk, will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Stonacek Funeral Chapel here. The Rev. Tim Fleener will officiate with burial at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until service time on Monday at the chapel. He died Thursday, Oct. 3, 2013, at Faith Regional Health Services in Norfolk. Born Oct. 26, 1938, near Pierce, James was the son of Emil and Emma (Silhacek) Kouba. He attended Pierce country school, graduated from Norfolk High School in 1957 and attended Norfolk Junior College in 1958.

He married Darlene Sladek on May 29, 1969, in Yankton. After James and Darlene were married, they resided in Norfolk. James worked as a chef at Holiday Inn and was head chef at Norfolk Country Club. He worked security at Henningsen Foods for over 12 years. He fought cancer and was declared cancer free in July of 2011. James' greatest joy was spending time with his family and cherished the time he spent with his grandchildren at get-togethers. He also enjoyed reading, gardening, cooking, art work painting, watching movies and cracking jokes. Oftentimes, James would be seen at Prime Stop reading, drinking his coffee (black) and visiting with people who came in. He always had a smile on his face, and was known for his ability to make people laugh with his quick witted humor. James also enjoyed his Bohemian Culture and was proud of it, speaking in Czech at times. He was a kind, gentle, loving, generous man who loved Jesus and will be treasured in the memory of those who had the pleasure of knowing him. James was a member of Heartland Baptist Church

in Norfolk. Survivors include his wife, Darlene Kouba of Osmond; a daughter, Tricia and husband Mike Mahan of Norfolk; a daughter, Tammy Baber of Norfolk; daughter, Tonya Ketelsen of Osmond; two step-daughters, Deb and husband Tim Thompson of Osmond and Marilyn Onnen of Sacramento, Calif.; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; nieces, and nephews; and two sisters-in-law, Lorrena Kouba of Norfolk and Phyllis Kouba of Norfolk. He was preceded in death by his parents, Emil and Emma; four brothers, Emil, Eldon, Marvin, Melvin; and a grandson, Joshua Hoile. Casketbearers for the service are his grandchildren: Kendra Voelker, Adryann Kouba, Emilee Aschoff, Cassandra Aschoff, Jacob Aschoff, Jessica Mahan, MaKayla Mahan, Seth Rodgers.

# Tribute Wall



“ James Kouba

October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ Tonya, Adryann, and Seth,\r\nI am so sorry to hear about your dad/grandpa. I know what an important influence he was and will be in your lives. I pray that those memories remain with you and help your healing in your time of loss.\r\nChristy Erickson\r\nTucson, AZ##imported-begin##Christy Erickson##imported-end##

October 08, 2013 at 12:12 AM



“ My sympathy to all of you. My Mother, Evelyn (Hradec) Lodl was a first cousin of Jim. I fondly remember Jim at Emma's (his mother's) house, always ready with a joke or story. He was so proud of his three daughters and talked of you often. I actually have one of his paintings, it is of the Grand Tetons. My Grandmother Mary (Silhacek) Hradec had it hanging above her sofa for years. I now have it and it brings fond memories. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Kathleen Lodl##imported-begin##Kathleen Lodl##imported-end##

October 06, 2013 at 07:56 PM