



Kim Jorgen Larsen

September 23, 1955 - April 10, 2016

Kim Larsen

September 23, 1955 to April 10, 2016

Kim's final battle ended on the night of April 10th as his spirit left his weary body behind and this warrior journeyed on to Valhalla.

Kim's wish was to remain at home until the end of his life. He was at peace in his own bed with loving family and a close friend present to comfort him and witness his departure from this life. He never forgot his Viking heritage and fought his disease with the quiet fortitude of a warrior, thereby earning his entrance to the Norse warrior's reward: Valhalla.

Kim loved his wife of 35 years, Joanne, his children Amber (Mikael) and Mark, and his grandchildren Colton and Christian with the same quality of spirit, softened by a gentleness that grew even stronger in his later years. Other remaining loved ones are his mother Thyra, his sister Lotte (Billy); brothers- and sisters-in-law Werner, Kathy, Fran (Ernie), Janice, Michelle, Jim (Laurie). Kim had a special bond with his cousin Brian, a chosen brother, and Brian's son Victor who was Kim's godson. He also cared deeply for his many cherished relatives and friends in both Denmark and here in Canada.

His father Jørgen, his granddaughter Freya, and his very close friend Mark Webber predeceased Kim.

Kim was a generous, open-hearted man with a keen mind, a playful sense of humour and a joy for life that endeared him to people. He and Joanne shared a love of travel and of hosting friends and family. He had a deep passion for music and a love of good food, his Harley, and “footy,” all of which he delighted in sharing. He was a true and loyal friend. He looked forward to joining his “Breakfast Club” buddies every Saturday morning, visiting with friends over home-cooked meals or just getting together for cards or social events. He was a history buff, an avid reader who always had a book on the go by his bedside, and he enjoyed watching films of all genres.

Once a year he had the pleasure of reconnecting with friends from all over as they came together to enjoy a weekend at the Edmonton Folk Music Festival. If the weather was good, the Harley would call to Kim and he could not resist going out for a ride, sometimes alone but often with friends who shared the passion. To the delight of many, he began experimenting with baking over the past few years and made some delicious birthday cakes, cinnamon buns, and other goodies. Kim also had a creative side and carved walking sticks for those who expressed an interest in having one.

Kim was a member of local 488, spending his working life as a pipefitter/gasfitter. Leaving the tools behind, he later worked as a scheduler; project manager and construction manager for various large oil projects in Alberta. During his working years he developed many friendships that enriched his life.

He was full of gratitude for the extraordinary gift of a liver transplant in 2012, giving him the opportunity to experience life on a new level after returning from death’s doorstep. The years he gained were appreciated and lived to the

fullest. He felt blessed to have more time to develop a bond with his young grandsons whom he loved more than he thought possible. He looked forward to meeting his first granddaughter Freya, and the grief he experienced over her loss was beyond measure. He also met other transplant recipients and their partners with whom he could share this truly life-changing experience. Many deep connections with new friends were made at this time and treasured by Kim.

Kim optimistically endured many medical interventions over the past 5 years and felt fortunate to have the wonderful care he did. Heartfelt thanks go out to all of the health professionals who were involved in his care, including Dr. Judy Cooney and her caring office staff; Dr. Vince Bain; Dr. Norman Kneteman; Dr. Mang Ma; Dr. Gerald Todd; Dr. Trent Dusang; Palliative Care Nursing Team (Lesley, Amy and Fred); Ryan Bullock, Pharmacist; Lab Technicians at Edmonton Clinic; Bonnie Woloschuk, University of Alberta Hospital: Liver Transplant Team & Post transplant coordinators Julianne and May; nursing staff on transplant ward 3G2; nursing staff on trauma unit 3F2; Patrick – Food Services 3G2/3F2; Jennifer Holman, Jon Ashmead and Amanda Perrott from Rehab Therapy Team; Dr. Karen Cogan. Kim often spoke of you with the highest regard.

To all of the family and friends who called, visited, or supported us in any way during Kim's illness, thank you so much for your kindness. Both Joanne and Kim felt uplifted by the unwavering love and caring that was so generously shared.

A celebration of Kim's life will take place at 1:30 pm on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at Cloverdale Community Hall, 9411 - 97 Ave., Edmonton, AB, T6C 4N4.

Please send condolences to Serenity Funeral Service, 5311 91 St NW,

Edmonton, AB T6E 6E2 Edmonton, Alberta. In lieu of flowers a donation to the Canadian Transplant Association, Canadian Liver Foundation, or University of Alberta Hospital Foundation would be appreciated.

In Kim's memory, please consider registering to become an organ donor at <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Pages/OTDRHome.aspx>.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **30**. 1:30 PM (MT)

Cloverdale Community Hall
9411-97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB

Tribute Wall

LH

“*Kim and Joanne met my husband and myself in clinic where we shared our experiences about being transplant recipients. We discovered that we had our transplants on the same day. Our paths would take very different turns. God must of saw that the Viking warrior could handle a challenge, because Kim certainly fought the battle of his life. I admired the way he never gave up or became bitter with the many obstacles put in his way. The Kim I'm going to remember is the Kim that worried about how his health and death would affect Joanne and his children. The man who could tell you stories about his grandsons adventures and whom shared his grief with the loss of their granddaughter. The man that could tease you about riding anything other than a Harley. The man that would share his stories and listen to yours. The man that would always ask about your health and be genuinely happy when things went well for you. The man that lived his life to the fullest. So Kim ride your Harley to your Valhalla. We will remember you and miss you. Lorna and Earl Horth*

Lorna and Earl Horth - April 30, 2016 at 10:20 AM

KF

“*Our thoughts and prayers are with your family today Kim. Your friends and coworkers from 'many a moon ago'. Midwest Constructors*

Karen Fallowfield - April 30, 2016 at 09:11 AM

MT

“ *My deepest condolences, Kim was a friend and colleague, he rode down from Edmonton when I picked up my new Harley years ago, because he said no one should go on his first ride alone, I will miss you Brother*

Mark Tomblin

mark Tomblin - April 29, 2016 at 07:26 PM

SS

“ *Suzanne S. purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Kim Jorgen Larsen.*



Suzanne S. - April 29, 2016 at 02:11 PM

CC

“ *Simply a great guy, a devoted friend, a first class family man, and a true inspiration to all who knew him. A man of integrity, honesty, fairness, and true grit, and I know he was admired by all who knew him. He had a great sense of humour, which I told him he had to have to support Manchester United.*

You will be missed by me and Brenda and our daughter Christine and her husband Dave.

*Your buddy
Col*

Colin Craig - April 28, 2016 at 10:52 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Kim Jorgen Larsen.* ”



April 28, 2016 at 06:01 AM

DD

“ Kim and I met in the U of A Hospital in 2012, when he had his liver transplant. We became transplant buddies. We knew each other for less than four years, but we walked through the valley of the shadow of death together. And I'm so sad he didn't make it out the other side.

Our first contact was a shared smile in the transplant ward, because he couldn't speak at the time, thanks to the toxic effect of the immuno-suppressant drug he was on. We shared a lot more smiles and laughs in the coming months, as Kim rehabbed from his transplant and I waited for my second one. We would see each other in the hospital rehab gym, where our mutual physio and friend Jon Ashmead took such good care of us. Kim helped me survive those long months, not just while he was coming to that gym, but after he was discharged.

We discovered we had many common interests, not least among them the Edmonton Folk Music Festival. In 2013, when I was so weak I could barely walk, he would pick Teresa and I up at our home and drive us to the site, where thanks to his generosity and that of his close friend Terry Wickham, we were allowed to sit backstage with the performers. He did the same thing the next year as I struggled to recover from my second transplant.

Our friendship started because we were fellow survivors, but our bond grew strong because of Kim's open heart and generosity of spirit. I always felt good around him, and I hope he felt the same way around me. We laughed a lot together, and hugged each other a lot, and called bullshit on a lot of the same stupid crap we saw going on in the world around us. We felt the same sense of gratitude towards the people who stood by us in our darkest hour -- our wives, our friends, the great medical professionals who cared for us. I watched him suffer over the last months, weeks and days of his life, and I was so proud of his dignity and courage. He and Joanne handled his death with grace and a nobility of spirit that sets an example for us all. Kim was a great warrior and my brother in arms. I miss him terribly.

Derek Drager

Derek Drager - April 27, 2016 at 11:58 AM

LI

“*Kim was not just my cousin - he was my friend and soul mate. We grow up together and play together with Laila and Lotte - sometimes you was some of a tease. Your parents emigrated to Edmonton with you and Lotte in 1966. We reunited after 16 year when I visited my family in Edmonton. Amber was 3 months old and even then you and Joanne took care of my and we had a great time together. In 1999 I spent my holiday and stay in yours house for 2 weeks. At once I got the feeling that "were there is room in the heart there is a room in the house". You told my a lot of Edmonton Folk Festival and Toender too and we had a great time boths places. You had a heart of gold and gave so much. As my friend Birger said to me after spending a cup of coffe with you; Kim got a powerfull charisma. During the last 15-20 years you and Joanne came to Denmark - I allways look forward to see you. And I enyoed to have you around me. When you arrived to Copenhagen the first thing you and Joanne wished was a Danish Hotdog and for breakfast you had one or more buns with poppy seed. They are goodies! Kiim, I will miss you and we will meet later. My deepest compassion to my family in Edmonton. Whit love from Lisbeth*

Lisbeth - April 27, 2016 at 11:15 AM

HK

“ Kim

What can I say? I met Kim through Nelson Whalen a ways back while working up north at UE-1. There I worked with Nelson and was subsequently laid off. Somehow in the mess of things I got a call from Kim asking if I would come to work for him at Nexen Long Lake. I have not met anyone, anywhere, more charismatic, caring and full of life, and I mean FULL of life. If we go through life and meet one or two GREAT FRIENDS we are indeed lucky. I have to say Kim is one of those. Kim was not afraid to tell you what his thoughts were and in some very explicit ways, but these thoughts were meant for employers, owners, wholesalers and such. When it came to people Kim knew, or more importantly friends, Kim was most considerate, caring and kind. He had a unique way of making you feel special. I know I did. Now I am not saying Kim was easy to work for, as he often demanded "what you said you could do" be done. And in that I learned an awful lot from this great bear of a man. There are so many stories to tell but that will have to be for another time. We get so busy in our lives and I have to apologize to Joanne, Mark and Amber for not making time to visit and have a beer or two. I will truly miss one of my best friends. Without Kim I know I would not be doing what I am today. He gave me such an insight, in his way, to work but far more importantly to living life. There were no dull moments with Kim. Kim was, what I would say, as hard nosed, when it came to Mark and Amber. He only wanted what was best for them and he made them toe the line. But I have to say, there is no one, who loved his children more than Kim. I am so proud to have known Kim and I like Nelson am so very, very grateful that he allowed me into his life. I have grown, loved more, and worked harder having known Kim and because of him. I will truly miss this gentleman. I tried to get him to wear a tie on Tie Mondays but alas could not. I know as he looks down on us he will have a smile.

Thank you Kim for being a part of our lives.

Howard and Laurie

Howard Krekoski - April 25, 2016 at 10:33 AM

“ Kim and I first met in the fall of 1981 at the Strathcona Refinery Upgrade project where Wayne & I gave him his first foreman's stripe that I'd like to think launched him on a career of management & supervision to which he took with a natural intuition & became one of the very best managers that anyone could ever hope work with - he made work fun and endeared himself to all who were fortunate enough to be on his teams. He later returned the favor by encouraging me to go back to university and make an important career change that has enriched our lives for the past 18 years. During those early years I was living a dual life as a pipefitter to support an alternate role as production manager of the Edmonton Folk Festival that demanded countless personal sacrifices - a situation that wasn't lost on Kim yet fostered much teasing at our jobsites until I succeeded in coercing Kim, Wayne, and others to come out one summer and help erect the site. That first weekend of music, fun, and social interaction changed the way Kim looked at life as he has told me so many times - a gift we gave to ourselves and a safe haven for our families to unite in celebrating life and fellowship.

Kim took delight in sharing new and exciting personal events - the new acquisition of his Chevy Avalanche (that he accidentally set afire while refueling at the local Seven Eleven one cold morning - a side-splitting story as he would tell it as he could find humor in the most obscure situations) then the addition of the Harley - we were one of the first stops on his route from the shop to show it off and share the wonder and excitement. It was the coolest looking Harley I had ever seen, having been a previous owner of other models. He eventually convinced me to get one of my own so we could ride together and that became a seamlessly synchronized experience filled with a cerebral satisfaction unmatched in any other shared activity. What incredible memories to cherish.

He was always eager to share his personal family stories and events and I recall that this typically occupied much of our dialogue whenever we were together. He cherished and admired his family greatly with a heart-on -sleeve reverence that brought forth a mutual closeness to the tender inside of his life. He was aglow with

unbridled delight whenever stopping by to visit us with Colton in tow. Kim has been a treasured personal friend & companion, beloved to myself and family, endearing us to his family & friends. Over the years we spent much time together in sharing away-from-home living accommodations and countless commutes to & from work. The time he spent with us to share a clear and humble appreciation and gratitude for his life with Joanne, Mark, & Amber will continue to inspire for all our days. How fine you all are to us. We wish you strength in the time to come and comfort in knowing that your Husband, Dad, and Grandad was one of the very finest people any of us will ever have the privilege to know. Blessings, The Whalens'

Nelson Whalen & Family - April 25, 2016 at 09:04 AM

 Sue
Chaudry

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sue Chaudry - April 24, 2016 at 06:27 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Jan Stainbrook - April 22, 2016 at 09:45 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Kim Jorgen Larsen.*



April 22, 2016 at 02:43 PM



“ *We have known each other from we were kids in Denmark. It is a long time ago. Your mom and dad, my aunt and uncle, owned a summer house in Denmark and your dad rode a motorbike. Just like yourself. Later my mom remarried and also moved to Canada. I came to visit in the holidays and met Joanne when you were engaged to be married. Later you had Mark and Amber and in the end two grandsons. We all wish you well on your last journey. With love from cousin Laila, aunt Grethe and Henrik*

Laila Wendel - April 22, 2016 at 02:01 PM



“ *The Viking sword and shield Kim made for our grandson Odin*



Alan Kellogg and Liz Nicholls - April 22, 2016 at 10:59 AM

MI

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Michelle - April 19, 2016 at 09:48 PM

MI

“ No words can describe the sadness in losing such a special person whom I looked up to, and who had granted me the privilege of countless fond memories which I will cherish forever.

Despite him leaving us, we will continue to feel his presence as we discuss those heart warming memories with many pleasant emotions.

I will miss you Kim, but this is not final, as we will meet again to have further good times together.

My thoughts, love and prayers to Joanne my sister, my niece Amber and nephew Mark, their families and to the many friends who were close to Kim.

Michelle Stoetzel

Michelle - April 19, 2016 at 09:23 PM

SM

“ *Kim was my fun, laughing, sometimes teasing uncle from the time I was a teen. He was loved and will always be remembered. Our hearts and love go out to Joanne, Mark, Amber and Kim's family.*



*Rest in peace Kim,
Love Sandra, John, Bryce, Christian and Landon*

Sandra McKernan - April 19, 2016 at 07:07 PM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Kim Jorgen Larsen.*



April 19, 2016 at 05:53 PM

FS

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Fran and Ernie Schack - April 19, 2016 at 05:05 PM

JO

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Joanne - April 19, 2016 at 02:56 PM

JO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joanne - April 19, 2016 at 02:54 PM

BR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



brian - April 19, 2016 at 01:49 PM