



## Tony Schiller

October 1, 1948 - April 6, 2006

Anthony D. Schiller, 57, of Wadena, MN died April 6, 2006 at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, MN. He was born Oct. 1st 1948 along with his twin brother Larry in Wadena to Philip and Mary Jane (Ogden) Schiller. He graduated from Wadena High School in 1966, then went on to earn a degree from Wadena Technical College in electronics. Tony was a kind man whose loud voice and good sense of humor always livened a room. Throughout his life Tony participated in athletics such as basketball, baseball, football, bowling, and golf. As Tony grew older, he found watching sports just as fulfilling, especially ones in which his children participated. Nothing made Tony happier than spending time with his family and friends, including his grandchildren. His funeral was April 12th at 2:00 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena with Pastor Jon Larson officiating. Interment was in the Wadena Cemetery. Honorary pallbearers were Tony's bowling team and the Huntersville Horseflies 3rd Base Line. Funeral arrangements made by Johnson Memorial Home of Wadena. He is survived by his mother, Mary Jane of Wadena; FiancÚ, Jane of Wadena; daughter, Tonya (Quentin) Roth of Duluth; sons, Phillip (Katie) of Fargo and Matt (Claire) of Burnsville; sisters, Linda Busing of Burnsville and Mary Kay (Tim) Wohlert of Wadena; brothers, Philip (Karen) of Eagan, and Larry (Mary Beth) of Wilmar; mother of his children, Diane (Jerry) Anderson of Wadena; two grandchildren, Madeleine and Lydia. He was preceded in death by his father, Philip Schiller. The family would like to extend a great thank you to the caregivers at St. Cloud

and Rochester Hospitals. Their generosity and kindness is greatly appreciated. The family would also like to thank the many individuals that sent cards, thoughts, and prayers. Your consideration has been an important element as the family celebrates the life of Tony Schiller.

# Tribute Wall



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I have many good memories of Tony from St. Ann's and Wadena High School. He was a terrific guy and I am fortunate to have had him in my life.* ”

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**Harlynl Hanson** - April 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tony's joyful laugh and hearty handshake will be missed. His joyful spirit will live on in his family always.* ”

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**Peg Johnson** - April 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tony was always a super guy--he'll be greatly missed.* ”

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**Becky (Komula) Limke** - April 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Y is the fourth of July.* ”

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April 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

“ Farewell to Tony

*As I stepped to the podium, in front of an overflow crowd of friends and relatives, I immediately began to cry. After what seemed like an eternity, I was able to utter the words "My wife said I would never get through this. I guess she knows me pretty well?". I looked at her and said, "Just breathe, right?", and then I was able to begin?*

*"Tony was born October 1st, 1948, just a few minutes after me. So why is it that when he turned fifty, I turned fifty too?? That seemed to settle everyone down, and I continued. "God, he loved to say that! Every time I saw him in public, he would say those words, and then loudly ask, "Do you know my twin brother, the hippie?? And then he would call me a "big dink" and we'd both laugh. There are many of you here who probably knew Tony as well or better than I. You spent more time with him than I did. After high school we each went our separate ways, and while we would see each other on regular occasions, it was you who spent the last 30 some years in the same town as he. But he and I were twins and because of this we enjoyed a special bond. I don't know why I chose him or he chose me, but I intend to find out. I had a nice talk with Diane yesterday, who also lost a twin. That helped me a lot, and I thank you Di. I realize that time will help me understand this question of sibling choice and the lesson that goes with it.*

*It has been said that "fear is the absence of Love?". Does anyone here recall Tony being afraid of anything? I don't and I believe the reason was that Tony was love! As witness to this, look around. Look at all of you who have come together to remember him and celebrate his life. You are here because he loved you and you loved him! Perhaps his only fear was this capacity to love. You know, it's not as easy as it seems to express love openly. But his heart was so big; he had no choice but to express it. To deal with that, he wore this mask of loud, boisterous, and bigger than life attitude! But that just made him all the more lovable. I think at some point he figured this all out; that it was safe for him to love as long as people didn't*

*think that was what he was doing. And so he would bark and holler and call you a big dink?laugh about it? and have another whiskey coke.*

*Mary Beth and I often use the phrase "we are spiritual beings undergoing a human experience". The human experience is difficult. It involves a lot of choices and emotions we would just as soon not deal with. Regardless of what we do here on earth, we all share a spiritual oneness with each other. And now that his body has been reduced to ashes (oh, by the way Tony, you're welcome for the urn?you owe me one) his energy and spirit will always be with us. Mary Beth has taught me a wonderful Sanskrit greeting? Namaste. It means "I recognize the divine in you and in me". And so Tony, I say to you, "Namaste"?thanks for sharing your energy and your love?.*

*It has been four days since the funeral, and this was a lot easier to put on paper than it was to stand in front of people and say. I guess the healing has begun. I will miss him greatly, as I'm sure all of you will. But life goes on and we still have our own lessons to learn and live out. As I have already told some of you, find quiet moments during the day and ask him to give you a sign that he's watching over us. He's here, watching and loving us all. Namaste.*

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**Larry Schiller** - April 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM