



James Douglas Willis

March 18, 1964 – June 8, 2009

(From Pivont Funeral Home – June 2009)

James Douglas Willis, 45 of Sandstone, died Monday June 8, 2009 at Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV after a sudden illness.

He was born March 18, 1964 in Hinton, a son of the late Eugene C. "Jim" & Betty Andrews Willis.

He was also preceded in death by one brother, Mark Willis of Wayside, WV and a brother-in-law, Scott Young.

Doug was a well-known referee of basketball games, a former deputy sheriff in Summers County and recent candidate for Sheriff of Summers County. He was a former employee of West Virginia American Water Company. He loved nothing better than his family and friends and spending time with them. His love of life was evident in the way he was always ready with a joke and a laugh. He never failed to entertain, or at least, get a reaction from everyone.

He is survived by the loves of his life, his wife, Tamela Jean Garten Willis and sons, Colton Scott & Logan Mark Willis both at home. Two sisters, Eugenia Cheryl Basham & husband Bob of Cool Ridge and Donna Gail Basham & husband Donnie of Jumping Branch. Two brothers, David Brett Willis & wife Debi of Waxhaw, NC and Dennis Andrew Willis of North Carolina. Father & mother-in-law, Gene & Freda Garten of Oak Hill. Brother-in-law, Todd Garten & wife Sunny of Tampa, FL. Sister-in-law, Donna Kay Willis of Wayside. Aunts, Mildred Sutherland of Millboro Springs, VA and Edith Andrews of Meadow Bridge. Uncle,

Roy Boone of Hildale. Nieces, Shelley Ross & husband Jason, Brandi Wilburn & husband Nathan, Nikki Willis & Tiffany Robinson & husband Chris. Nephews, Jeremy Willis & wife Vicky, Justin Willis, Bobby Basham & wife Jessica, Dusty Basham & wife Cassie, Jarrid Basham, Brett Willis, Andrew Willis & wife Alicia, Tristan Garten & wife Vanessa, Alex Garten & Aaron Sassanoian. Great nephews, Nick Ross, Dylan Basham & Broc Robinson. Brother by love & lifelong neighbor, Tim Grimmett and best friend, Chris Cales & wife Tina. He will also be greatly missed by a multitude of cousins & friends. His dogs, Einstein & Minnie will also miss him very much.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday June 12, 2009 at Pivont Funeral Home Chapel in Hinton with Pastor Bill Fox officiating. Burial will follow in the Willis Family Cemetery at Sandstone. Friends may call from 6 until 9 p.m. Thursday evening at the funeral home.

Nephews will serve as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be; Chris Cales, Bill Jeffries, Tim Grimmett, Rick Blevins & Ernie Lilly.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a fund for his two sons, HC &4 Box 93, Sandstone, WV 25985.