



Tony Thelen

December 24, 1970 - February 3, 2018

Tony Thelen, age 47

Farming

December 24, 1970 – February 3, 2018

Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday, February 8, 2018 at St. Martin Catholic Church in St. Martin, MN for Tony Thelen, age 47, who died Saturday at Rice Memorial hospital in Willmar. Burial will be in the parish cemetery.

Relatives and friends may call from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at the Wenner Funeral Home in Richmond. Visitation will continue from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Thursday morning at the funeral home.

Tony was born in Paynesville, MN to Ray and Bernie (Theis) Thelen. After high school Tony worked as a cabinet maker and started bartending. In 1995 he established GoatRopers Bar and Grill in Farming, which he owned and operated until 2013. Since then he spent his time woodworking, driving bus, and working on the family farm. He loved spending time with his nieces and nephews. Tony was instrumental in starting the annual Christmas Care Drive to benefit local families and enjoyed organizing groups for Christmas caroling

at nursing homes on Christmas Eve. His passions included fishing, hunting, gardening, butchering, woodworking, antiques, and above all helping others anyway he could.

Survivors include his mother, Bernie; siblings, Tim, Kim (Kevin) Orbeck and their children, Katherine, Jack, and Samuel; Pete (Jill) and their children, Kylie, Ava, and Shelby; Jason and his children Nathan and Sarah.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ray; and his grandparents.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wenner Funeral Home - Richmond
151 Oakwood Ave. SE
Richmond, MN 56368

Funeral Services

FEB 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Martin Catholic Church
119 Main Street
St. Martin, MN 56376

Tribute Wall



“ Tony Thelen

January 29, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ It will not be same without Tony when the guys come to Illinois in the spring. It seemed like he was the leader of the pack. He was always a pleasure when he came to our home as all the guys from Minnesota are. May he rest in God's peace.
Tina

Tina Wiegman - February 06, 2018 at 07:34 PM



“ Tony had a heart of gold. When I was going through hard times in my life he ALWAYS checked up on me and always put a smile on my face. He will be greatly missed. RIP my friend!

Kelly Dodge - February 06, 2018 at 11:59 AM



“ We have been coming to MN fishing for over 40 years, but I believe it was about 15 years ago when my dad, Marvin, was looking for a place to have a cheeseburger and a beer, and Danny Holthaus recommended Goatroper's!!!! The rest is history. Tony welcomed all of us "Illinois boys" with open arms and treated us like family. He introduced us to many people we now call friends. He had fish fries for us, hog roasts, cream can dinners, etc!!!! I'm glad we got to hangout this past December, but I wish it wasn't time to say goodbye. Thanks for the memories ole buddy, you will be missed.....

-Jared

Jared - February 05, 2018 at 09:55 PM

PV

“ Tony was a great guy. No matter how bad your day was Tony could tell a joke and get you to smile. If anyone ever needed anything all they had to do is ask & Tony would give whatever he had to help out. The world is just a little darker without you in it my friend

Paul Vogt - February 05, 2018 at 09:17 PM

LC

“ Lisa Lemke, Classmate lit a candle in memory of Tony Thelen



Lisa Lemke, classmate - February 05, 2018 at 06:44 PM

PH

“ My Brother Jim worked for Tony when first started Goatropers! When I visited the Bar Jim would be working and Tony would come and always would visit with us! He had a very good personality! He was always a busy guy! He will be missed!

Paul Heidgerken - February 05, 2018 at 04:46 PM

SL

“ Sue Lemke lit a candle in memory of Tony Thelen



Sue Lemke - February 05, 2018 at 09:13 AM

 Sue
Lemke

*May all the memories help you during this terrible time! Praying for you!
-Brian & Sue Lemke*

Sue Lemke - February 05, 2018 at 09:16 AM

BH

my wife and I had the pleasure of attending tonys fish fries the last couple years .he was very hospitable and will truly be missed.

bob hartung - February 06, 2018 at 12:49 PM

JH

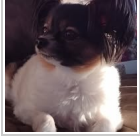
“ *I was a classmate and friend. I remember being teased by the kids at farming school.All the kids would say is Joni and Tony. We both didn't say a word because then of course it gets worse. I also remember arm wrestling all the boys but then when it came to Tony forget it. You can never beat a farmer. Tony was like a teddy bear and he could never say no to anyone. He also helped my brother Randy and him and Tony would laugh and laugh. My brother Will be with Tony now. Too soon, but god needs angels too. Sometimes that is the only way we all get through one day at a time. My sympathy to Tony's family 😊*

Joan Hommerding - February 05, 2018 at 01:29 AM

AB

“ *Tony helped me give Christmas to my boys while I was going to RN school. Such a kind soul. So sorry to hear of this loss!*

Amy Beseman - February 05, 2018 at 01:03 AM



“ *Delores Gertken lit a candle in memory of Tony Thelen*



Delores Gertken - February 04, 2018 at 06:43 PM