

## Dion Grooms, 52

Jan. 29, 1959 - Sept. 15, 2011

**WALNUT** — Dion Allan Grooms, son of Wayne and Anita (McMaster) Grooms, was born on January 29, 1959 in Harlan. Dion grew up in Avoca and attended Avo-Ha Community Schools graduating with the class of 1977. While in high school, Dion was a member of the 1974 1A Iowa state championship football team. After high school, Dion began working at the Oakland Beef Plant in Oakland and later at Oakland foods, Bartlett and was currently working maintenance at Wings of America in Avoca. Dion later made his home in Walnut where he was a member of the Walnut Volunteer Fire Department. He



coached various little league teams and especially liked coaching his girls. He also enjoyed bowling and playing in the local slow pitch softball league. Dion would do anything for anybody and was a very proud grandfather. Dion died on September 15, 2011 at the Myrtue Medical Center in Harlan having attained the age of fifty-two years, seven months and seventeen days.

Dion was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his daughters: Ashley and her husband Brian Williams of the Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska and Lacey Grooms of Walnut; his granddaughter, Symbree Williams; his sisters and brother: Jolene and her husband Dean Henning of Clear Lake, MN; Tami and her husband Jeff Harman of Neola, and Allan Grooms and his wife Kerree of Walnut; nieces and nephews; other relatives and many friends.

Pastor Steve Lewis and Pastor David Krueger officiated the 10:00 a.m. funeral service on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at Peace United Church of Christ in Walnut. Honorary casket bearers were Ryan Troll, Danny Petersen, Max Harman, Dylan Hargens, Shane Henning, Jesse Harman, Garrett Grooms, Brian Williams, and Adam Harman. Serving as casket bearers were Jim Blum, Randy Mogensen, Jeff Paulsen, Ron Engman, Mike Schueman, and Wayne Allen. Interment was held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Hancock.

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