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Kenneth Madsen, 48

Sept. 29, 1953 – Jan. 21, 2002

AUDUBON – Kenneth Eugene Madsen, son of Einar Kenneth and Dorothy Eileen Kauffman Madsen, was born Sept. 29, 1953, at St. Anthony's Hospital in Carroll. He was baptized and confirmed at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Audubon. He attended elementary school in Viola Center then graduated from the Audubon High School with the Class of 1972. Kenny farmed, operated a dairy business and drove a bulk milk truck route for Miller Routes and Produce.

July 6, 1981, he married Kathy Butcher at the Little Brown Church in Nashua. He continued farming and driving the milk route until 1987. They purchased a bar and grill in Irwin which they named the Kozy Komer. They operated the restaurant until they sold it in 1997. Kenny was employed as a truck driver for Sta-Bilt Construction in Harlan for a short time then was an over-the-road trucker for Ameri-Serve and Busing. He has been driving for Bulk-Matic for the past two years following his divorce in April of 2001. He was a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Audubon, and then later transferred his membership to the Irwin Lutheran Church. He died Jan. 21, 2002, in a truck accident near Colona, IL, at age 48 years, three months and 22 days.

Kenny was preceded in death by his grandparents, Hans and Sophie Madsen and Ray and Hazel Kauffmann, and his uncles, Glen Fulton, Allison Deist and Russell Kauffman; his aunt, Becky Madson; and his cousin, Harold Madsen, Jr. He is survived by his parents, Einar and Dorothy Madsen of Audubon; his sister and brother, Kathy (Brian L.) Jensen of Audubon and Terry (Karen) Madsen of Whittier, CA; his nieces and nephews, Shelby Jensen of Audubon and Tyler and Lindsey Madsen, both of Whittier, CA; his special friend, Shari Anderson, and her children, Tyna and Joshua Anderson of Avoca; Kathy Butcher of Irwin and his aunts and uncles, Leona Fulton of Audubon; Emmert Madsen of Audubon; Harold (Betty) Madsen of Glidden; Alton (Barb) Madsen; Maynard (Rose) Madsen; Leo (Janice) Madsen; Ollivene Deist and Alice Kauffman, all of Audubon; cousins and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 26, 2002, at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Audubon, with Pastor Walter Kukkonen officiating. Burial was in the Maple Grove Cemetery in Audubon. Honorary casket bearers were Dick Sorensen and Richard "Pudge" McMahon. Casket bearers were Lonnie Benson, John Fokken, Fred G. Miller III, Dan Fox, Ron Drake, Keith Petersen and Mark Gregersen. Kessler Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.