

Ivan A. Sanders

Ivan A. Sanders, 71, of Grants Pass died March 12, 2007, in Phoenix, Ariz., where he was visiting family.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Sunday at River Valley Community Church. Committal will be at Sparlin Cemetery in Williams. Best Funeral Services in Phoenix handled cremation arrangements. Contributions may be made to the Gospel Rescue Mission, P.O. Box 190, Grants Pass, OR 97528.

He was born Sept. 30, 1935, in Armour, S.D., to Joseph L. and Elsie Sanders. He grew up and attended schools in Delmont, S.D. Music was always a part of his life and he started playing guitar when he was 10 years old. In high school, he was active in

the band and played the cornet. After attending Dakota Wesleyan University for a year, he joined the Air Force and was stationed at various bases in the United States and on the island of Guam. He played rhythm and steel guitars in local bands and was well-versed in many types of country western music.

On June 24, 1961, in Elizabethtown, N.Y., he married Rosemary Stevens, who survives. Shortly thereafter, they moved to Juneau, Alaska, where the family lived for more than 30 years. After he retired from the U.S. Postal Service, they moved to Grants Pass in 1993.

He and his wife enjoyed rides on their motorcycle and made several cross-country trips. He was a Christian and he enjoyed singing gospel music. He especially enjoyed his family.

In addition to his wife, survivors include five daughters, Liz Chamberland of Mukilteo, Wash., Janice Yatchmanoff of Juneau, Alaska, Roseann Faust and Zenita Haugen, both of Grants Pass, and Yvonne Garcia of Phoenix, Ariz.; his mother, Elsie G. Sanders of Grants Pass; a brother, Glen Sanders of Denver; several grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A daughter, Donna, and a son, Steven, died before him.