

Obituaries

Benjamin Michael Brogan

May 3, 1977 - June 6, 2007

Benjamin Michael Brogan was born on May 3, 1977, to Gary and Laura Brogan at Rawlins County Health Center in Atwood, Kan.

He was baptized on July 18, 1986, and confirmed on April 12, 1992, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Colby.

Ben graduated from Cheylin High School in 1996.

He was united in marriage to Keri Waterman on Nov. 29, 2003, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Atwood. Ben died on June 6, 2007, at Rawlins County Health Center in Atwood.

Ben was everyone's friend. He was nonjudgmental and came, no questions asked, with love and compassion in times of trouble or fun. High school friends can share numerous stories of trouble, excitement and respect.

An accomplished athlete, Ben was always ready for some competition, lettering in football, basketball and track. He also enjoyed swimming, snooker, darts and football. He encouraged others, coaching summer league baseball, junior high boys basketball and track and high school golf at Cheylin. He had recently accepted the high school's boys basketball assistant coaching position at Rawlins County.

Ben was a son and brother. Ben was a rock and inspiration to his family. He enjoyed fishing, golfing and just being with his family. Being the older brother, he led by example, but if advice was needed, Ben was ready to share his outlook on the situation.

As a husband, Ben was trustworthy, quiet, humorous, strong and handsome. Ben's calming nature was a grounding force. He loved his wife, Keri, and her

memories are of smiles, contentment and joy. They were finishing their new home located on her parents' farm southwest of Atwood.

Ben was a hard worker. He worked at a grain elevator in high school. After attending college for a few years, Ben returned to the area to work on the farm, where he met Keri. They spent many hours driving around fields and making jokes on the radios, entertaining everyone on the crew.

He could drive any piece of machinery and fix any breakdowns. He was in the process of building up his own cattle herd and enjoyed taking time to ride through, checking them and caring for the calves. Ben valued the solitude and responsibility of living in the country.

Recently, Ben began working at Beaver Valley Supply in Atwood. He talked of their latest projects and how well the "guys in the yard" operated together.

Ben was a special man, offering all of his talents to the world. He was proud of the work he did in every aspect of his life. He was ready and willing to take anyone under his wing and listen to their story. He made time for the important things in life, which included family and friends.

Survivors include his wife, Keri of Atwood; parents, Gary Brogan of Bird City and Laura Brogan of McDonald; siblings, Julia Brogan of McDonald, Gary Brogan Jr. of Atwood and Angela Brogan of Colby; in-laws, Martin Jr. and Jane Waterman of Atwood and Timothy and Kristy Plander of Lincoln, Neb.; 11 aunts, six uncles and numerous family members and friends.

Ben was preceded in death by grandparents, Wayne and Gertrude

Stevens and Glen and Shirley Stragey; two aunts, Tammy Stevens and Alice Arnold; and two uncles, Tony Brogan and David Arnold.

A funeral service was held June 9 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Atwood. Burial was at Grace Cemetery in McDonald.

A memorial has been established in his name.

John Robert Hume

Nov. 30, 1942 - June 25, 2007

John Robert Hume, Florissant, Mo., died June 25, 2007, at Christian Ne-Nw Hospital.

He was born at Menorah Hospital in Kansas City, Mo., on Nov. 30, 1942.

He was a farm kid and was active in 4-H as a child, being the county wheat champion for two years and was the guest of the Board of Trade of Kansas City, Mo.

After high school, he graduated from Iola Junior College, attended Kansas State University and John Hancock School of Business.

John was united in marriage to Connie Neitzel of St. Francis.

He was a valued employee for McDonnell Douglas/Boeing and IBM until his retirement. He specialized in computer-problem management and received many awards for excellence of performance.

John enjoyed working with people and worked with amateur hockey in a linesman/scorekeeper capacity for many years. He followed the St. Louis Blues of the National Hockey League for many years.

He was active in church activities (property maintenance, choir and leadership). He helped design the first web-site for his church, the Lutheran Church of the Living Christ.

John loved to travel, particularly when it involved history or trains. He liked cruising, especially small ships cruises on the west coast. He enjoyed traveling by car, ship or train but not by plane.

Survived include his wife, Connie Hume of 43 years, his mother, Flo Hume; aunts and uncles including Dana Hollister, Fleda Raile, Dorine and Raymond Zimbelman and many cousins. He liked people and cared about them and had many friends.

Memorials to the American Cancer Society or the building fund of the Lutheran Church of the Living Christ have been suggested.



GETTING READY FOR FAIR! Karen Krien picks out fair art for the Herald's front door. Selling the art work are (left to right) Lakyn Pettijohn, Dale Northrup, Allyson Northrup and Caitlin Northrup.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

Former resident's company chosen to promote projects

Ole Cram, former resident of Saint Francis, announced that his company Marco Investments, has been chosen by M.R. Cox of San Antonio as the lead southern California agency for representing their oil and gas development projects.

"We look forward to working closely with M.R. Cox in the fast paced oil and gas development business," said Mr. Cram, president of the company. "Our experience as accredited investors ourselves in various other oil and gas development projects, gives us the advantage of truly understanding the needs of high net worth and high income investors looking for the significant tax advantages provided by properly structured oil and gas drilling ventures."

Oil and gas drilling ventures are the only investment 100 percent deductible against ordinary (salary), passive, and portfolio income

providing significant tax savings for qualified investors. In addition, the incomes from producing oil and gas wells are also granted tax savings not seen in other types of investments.

"This country provides these incentives to encourage domestic development of its own oil and gas reserves, reducing dependence on foreign suppliers."

M.R. Cox works directly with large oil and gas developers to offer industry insider opportunities to accredited investors with potential high cash flow returns and low to no maintenance. An accredited investor is anyone with either a net worth of at least \$1 million or an annual income of at least \$200,000 for the past two years and expects as much in the upcoming year.

M.R. Cox, Inc. secures partial ownership in large industry oil and gas development projects and offers a portion of their share back to clients.

"We look forward to working with Marco Investments, developing a strong base of new partners in southern California that we can cultivate long term mutually beneficial relationships with," said Marty Lile, president and chief executive officer. "As the pool of venture partners grows, we will move into larger development projects offering even stronger returns."

With the price of oil and gas continually going up and the demand from developing nations increasing their need for oil and gas, M.R. Cox and Marco Investments have positioned themselves in the right place at the right time to take advantage of these trends, Mr. Cram said.

Mr. Cram is the president of Marco Investments. He is visiting St. Francis to see family this week.

"My heart is still in Sainty. I have always loved the town and its people — it's home."

Reader has an opinion

To the editor:

What in the world is happening at the St. Francis Museum?

I read the letter from Milton Lampe in the June 28 newspaper and couldn't believe that they don't have a key!

Tobe, Betty, Milton and others are the wonderful volunteers that have donated many free hours,

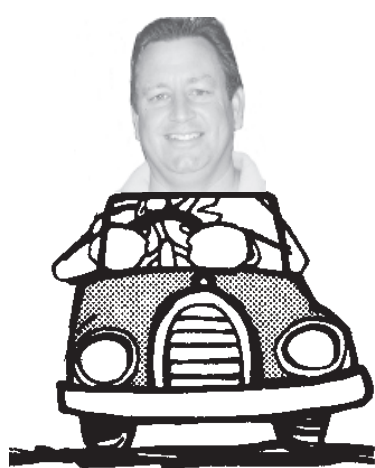
-Letter to the Editor-

items, etc., to the museum. For heaven's sake this is totally out of line! Please rethink this so you don't lose these wonderful people!

Thank you.

Alice (Beringer) Raile
Oxford, Neb.

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The Saint Francis Herald

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