

# Celebrating THE Life OF John Raisler

### **Visitation**

Friday, April 19, 2024 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. Sacred Heart Catholic Church Miles City, Montana

### **Mass of Christian Burial**

Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Catholic Church Miles City, Montana

# Officiating

Father Jolly Pathiyamoola

## Music

Sacred Heart Musicians

### **Pallbearers**

All of John's friends, family and fellow firefighters are considered pallbearers

# **Rite of Committal**

Custer County Cemetery Miles City, Montana

# Luncheon

Following the graveside service, a luncheon will be held at the Riley Center. Everyone is invited.

> Arrangements By Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home



In Loving Memory Of

**John Raisler** 

July 23, 1964 - April 16, 2024



John Norris Raisler, age 59, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly while training for this upcoming fire season. He was born to Warren and Dee Raisler on July 23, 1964, in Bozeman, MT. He was joined by his brother, Randy, on July 6, 1965, who predeceased him.

John grew up all over the country on various ranches and graduated from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education in 1989. He moved to Plevna where he taught for 5 years before finishing his grades 7-12 teaching career in Fromberg in 1998. John was a proactive teacher as he designed several courses and initiated an agricultural exchange program between Russian and Montanan students in Fromberg. John loved to teach and spent the next roughly 26 years teaching fire courses to many individuals throughout Eastern Montana. He LOVED the Band of Brothers and Sisters! They shared a mutual respect and admiration for each other. John spent a total of 34 years in fire. He loved training others and found the Staff Rides very fulfilling because they applied the decisions made during historic battles toward modern firefighting tactics and leadership. Often, those same tactics bled into his parenting philosophies.

Being a volunteer was John's love language to his Church and community. He was a 4th degree Knight and one heck of a "Pig Dad," and grill master in 4-H! He spent much time "slinging hash" for the church breakfasts as well as delivering Meals on Wheels, "selling explosives (fireworks) to children," at deeply discounted prices and was always the last to leave when it came to helping clean up after events such as weddings or banquets. He would not be outworked!

John met his future wife, Lori, as a favor for a friend. It worked out that both couples were happily married for at least 28 years. He and Lori enjoyed being empty nesters and truly loved each other's company. John and Lori have four children; Laina (Trevor); Joel, Katrina and Jill. His family was very important to him, and he made sure their vehicles all ran, their guns were sighted in, and that his home cooked "grub" would make the kids "squeal with delight!" He loved to nickname common items such as "stupid card" (smart card to scan and enter his place of work); "kid buckets" (car seats); "change the oil" (change a kid's diaper with his yellow dishwashing gloves on); and the "fire children" were the "Tree Row Firefighters" who fought fire on severity. His favorite was the "used meat" section at Reynolds where he could find yummy meats on discount.

John is survived by his wife, children, his mother-Dee Raisler of Miles City, and his favorite one-eyed cat, Squeakers, as well as his notorious "Mafia Car." He is also survived by his aunts, uncles, and cousins on the Raisler side as well as Lori's parents, Mel and Lois Lawson of Arizona, his sisters and brothers-in-law of New Zealand- Beth and Kel Ritchie and Alex and Paula Lawson and his 5 nieces and nephews- Flynn, Peyton, Sophie, Pippi and Miles. He is preceded in death by his father, Warren Raisler, as well as his grandparents, many aunts and uncles and his younger brother, Randy.

Should anyone desire, monetary donations can be made in Lori's name at Community First Credit Union at 2905 Main St. Suite 1, Miles City to support community efforts close to John's heart.



