



I hope there's a place, way up in the sky
Where pilots can go when they have to die.
A place where a guy could buy a cold beer,
For a friend and a comrade whose memory is dear.
A place where no doctor or lawyer could tread,
Nor a management-type would e'er be caught dead!
Just a quaint little place, kind of dark, full of smoke,
Where they like to sing loud, and love a good joke.
The kind of a place that a lady could go
And feel safe and secure by the men she would know.

There must be a place where old pilots go,
When their wings become heavy,
when their airspeed gets low,
Where the whiskey is old, and the women are young,
And songs about flying and dying are sung.
Where you'd see all the fellows who'd 'flown west' before,
And they'd call out your name,
as you came through the door,
Who would buy you a drink, if your thirst should be bad,
And relate to the others, "He was quite a good lad!"

And there, through the mist, you'd spot an old guy
You had not seen in years, though he'd taught you to fly.
He'd nod his old head, and grin ear to ear
And say, "Welcome, my Son, I'm proud that you're here!
For this is the place where true flyers come
When the battles are over, and the wars have been won.
They've come here at last, to be safe and alone,
From the government clerk, and the management clone;
Politicians and lawyers, the Feds, and the noise,
Where all hours are happy, and these good ol' boys
Can relax with a cool one, and a well deserved rest!
This is Heaven, my Son. You've passed your last test!"

~ Captain Michael J. Larkin

Family Receive Friends

Thursday, May 23, 2024 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Rosary & Vigil
will follow at 6:00 p.m.

Funeral Mass

Friday, May 24, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Miles City, Montana

Officiating

Fr. Jolly Pathiyamoola & Fr. Garrett Nelson

Music

Sacred Heart Musicians

Pallbearers

Matt Peila, Jae Notti, Jeff Skyberg,
Jerry Singleton, Ken Stabler & Brian Schwend

Honorary Pallbearers

Les Thompson, Casey Schantz, CB Schantz,
Mac McCloud, Dan Bull, Ed Lockwood,
Shannon Dickson, Matt Whitler,
Taylor Beardsley, Curt Newberg, Dean Nordsvig,
Monte Reder, Jo Jo Sheblie, Shane Balsam,
Sam Peila, Dave Singleton, Larry Singleton,
Mike Wacker, Fred Wacker, John Peila,
Trent Thompson, Kyle Deaton, John Pacht,
Steve Eaton, Clifford Kidd, Larry Mayer,
Ben Notti, Cactus Moore & Alan Kasemodel

Rite of Committal

Calvary Cemetery
Miles City, Montana

Following the interment, a luncheon will be held
at the Miles City Livestock Sale Barn.
Everyone is invited.

Arrangements By
Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home



In Loving Memory Of
Dave Hartman

December 10, 1958 - May 14, 2024



David Ross Hartman, of Miles City, Montana, passed away on May 14, 2024, in Rosebud County, doing what he loved. He was born in Miles City, Montana on December 10, 1958, to Frank and Betty Hartman. He was raised and lived on the family farm located in the Yellowstone River Valley until his death.

David, known to many as “Dave,” started grade school in a one room schoolhouse walking distance from his childhood home. He then attended Sacred Heart School in Miles City, until transferring to Rosebud County High for the remainder of his education. Throughout his life he was a strong supporter of Sacred Heart School, from where his children graduated, and grandchildren currently attend.

In 1985, Dave pursued his dream of becoming a pilot. Dubbed the “taildragger wizard” by his instructor, Dave soloed in a Piper Super Cub after only 3 hours of

training. Aspiring to turn his passion for flying into a career, Dave began hunting coyotes and selling pelts. Although he never stopped participating in predator control, aerial application later became his main professional pursuit. Through these and other avenues within aviation, Dave logged over 26,000 hours with the majority spent below the height of a cottonwood tree. In his later flying career, Dave became passionate and skilled in rebuilding damaged airplanes, and especially took great pride in making Super Cubs into good performers.

Dave’s journey into fatherhood began in May 1987 with the birth of his oldest son, Ross, who required life-flight to Denver Children’s after being born prematurely. Shortly after Ross’ recovery, Dave’s family grew with the birth of Matthew and Jennifer. Thereafter, in May of 2011, Dave married the love of his life, Tina Hartman. Through this marriage, Dave welcomed two more sons, Blase and Jordan, into his family. Dave and Tina’s union was a source of strength and joy for both, and their bond was a testament to enduring love and commitment.

David was a loving spouse, father, brother, and friend. He was especially proud of his eleven grandchildren (one on the way) to whom he was known simply as “Papa.” Our hearts ache from losing him. The loss would be unbearable, save for the hope and promise that this world is not our home. One day we will again see his face and hear his chuckle.

Dave was a simple man with practical taste. When asked by his family members about his end of life wishes, Dave requested “turn me out to pasture so the coyotes can finally have their revenge.”

He is preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Betty Hartman, as well as his beloved sister, Janice, and brother, Paul. Dave is survived by his loving wife, Tina Hartman, and his children: Ross (Teri) Hartman, Matthew (Kristin) Hartman, Jennifer (Trevor) Willis, Blase (Johnna) Roskelley, Jordan (Kendrah) Mackey. He is also survived by his siblings: Arla Jeanne (Bill) Murray, Junelle (Jeff) Lesmeister, Frank (Janis) Hartman, Leila Larson, and Mary (Bob) Wiesner.

In lieu of flowers, drop a 5/16 socket in a wheat field, because, of course, we were always “responsible” for losing his tools.

