



**Harper Bates, 40**, passed away at his home in Portland, Oregon after a two and a half year battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Harper was born in Birmingham, and grew up there and in Rochester, Arizona, California, and Harbor Beach. Harper married Amie Yoon in Portland in 2006; they have one child, Nan. Amie was the love of Harper's life. Together they courageously, heroically, lovingly, and with dignity and grace coped with the relentless inroads of ALS. They were an inspiration to all who knew them.

Harper was a graduate of Harbor Beach High School. He had a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and an master's degree from the University of Oregon.

Harper worked as an architect with Hoist Architecture in Portland. He took great pride in working for Hoist both for the quality of the firm's work and for the philosophy of its principals. His wife Amie, also an architect, works for THA Architecture. Both firms have been exceedingly generous and kind to Harper and Amie through the course of Harper's disease and beyond. These things will never be forgotten.

Harper and Amie's many, many friends were at their side at all times of day or night when needed. They stood by them, sheltered them, and rearranged their own lives to form a support group dedicated to meeting Harper's daily physical needs. Harper and Amie never ceased to extol the great gifts lovingly given to them by their friends in Portland and Harbor Beach and throughout this country, Harper's fraternity PI Kappa Phi, their neighbors, the Hoist and THA architectural firms, and their families.

The Portland ALS Center of Excellence of Providence Hospital guided Harper and Amie with kindness, expertise, and constant support through their two and a half year struggle; the clinic members became caring friends. Harper and Amie assisted in raising money for ALS patient care and in furthering ALS research.

Harper had a positive attitude to life that continued to the day he died. Because he always found the best in everyone he encountered, Harper had a very wide circle of friends. Harper was a combination of humor, kindness, generosity, widely ranging philosophical reflection, and a willingness to live "in and outside the box," all of which led to a very enriched life. He traveled throughout Europe and North America including hiking the John Muir Trail with Amie not too long before he was diagnosed with ALS.

Harper is survived by his wife Amie (Yoon) Bates and a daughter, Nan; his parents, Peter and Marlene Bates; his sisters, Wynter (Bates) Etwood and her husband, Brenden, and their two children, sister Shawn (Bates) Muter and her husband, John, and their two children; his parents-in-law Hong and

Hejung Yoon; his brothers-in-law, Steve Yoon and his wife, Helena, and Marc Yoon and his wife, Emily, and their three children; also by many uncles, aunts and cousins throughout the world.

A visitation and cremation took place on Dec. 8, 2011 and a Mass and reception was on Dec. 15, 2011 in Portland.

The Bates and Yoon families would like to deeply thank everyone for their memorable kindness and generosity to Harper, Amie, and Nan. We will miss Harper always, but he will never be forgotten.