

Duane Arthur Kunding

Duane Arthur Kunding, 59, passed away on Aug. 20, 2010 after battling an extended illness. He was born in Pigeon on Nov. 29, 1950, to Arnold and Doris Kunding.

Duane spent his childhood in Sebawaing, working on his parents' farm. He graduated from Sebawaing High School in 1968 and proceeded to Michigan State University. He served three years in the Army. Upon returning to Michigan State, Duane met his future wife, Vicki Powell, and graduated with a bachelor's of science in accounting in 1977. Duane remained an avid—and rabid—Spartan fan for the rest of his life.

Duane began his career with the Auditor General's Office for the State of Michigan. While working there, he became a Certified Public Accountant. For the majority of his career, Duane maintained a private accounting practice.

Duane and Vicki raised two children: Matthew, born in 1984, and Sarah, born in 1987. The family lived in Atlanta, Mich. until 1998 when they moved to Elk Rapids. The love, support and guidance he consistently gave to his family, even during his extended illness, was his first priority and perhaps his greatest accomplishment.

In addition to his wife and children, Duane is survived by his mother, Doris Kunding, sisters Linda Jasman, Carolyn Keipinger, Lois Kroll, Evelyn Stringer and Janice Brown. He also was a cherished brother to his sisters-in-law, Gail Pavlovich and Lynn Powell, an admired father-in-law to his son's wife, Shira Kunding and a treasured uncle to a multitude of nieces and nephews.

Duane was raised and confirmed in the Lutheran Church, and later was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids, where he served as an Elder. Faithful throughout his life, the strength of his devotion enabled him to fight his lengthy illness with dignity and courage.

A memorial service will be conducted at First Presbyterian Church in Elk Rapids at 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27, 2010.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Liver Foundation or the First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids.