



Darius "The Wood Man" Heskett

August 22, 1952 - June 21, 2014

Darius Heskett

1952-2014

Darius Heskett ("The Wood Man") lost his battle with liver disease and left this world on June 21, 2014. Darius was born on Aug. 22, 1952, in San Rafael, to Dorothy and Marvin Heskett. The family later moved to Napa. Darius was always proud to say he was in the first graduating class of Justin-Siena in 1970. He received a scholarship and attended the College of Santa Fe in New Mexico. Darius lived most of his life in Napa, but as a young man, he hitchhiked to the East Coast more than once. While in New Jersey, he met his first wife, Pat Hughes, and they had two wonderful sons, Aaron and Shane. Darius enjoyed his time back East and made many lifelong friends while there. While attending Justin-Siena, he was a standout athlete in both baseball and football. What he lacked in size he more than made up for in heart and soul. He played catcher and had such a strong arm that when he threw someone out at second an ankle was broken when hit with the ball. He went on to coach his son Aaron's team, T's and N' Tops, to the championship one year. At the time, that team was considered (by some) the Bad News Bears of the league. That was an exhilarating year.

While working at Slakey Brothers as a wholesale buyer, he bought all the needed supplies for the underground construction when Rohnert Park was being built. He later worked at Raymond Vineyards, Ace Hardware on Lincoln

Avenue, and A.P. Tech before he became too ill to work. His illness depleted his energy, but he was able to volunteer for a period of time at the Volunteer Center working with seniors. He later volunteered at the Wildlife Rescue Center until he could no longer physically do the tasks for the job.

Even though Darius was extremely ill at the time, when his mother could no longer drive, he took her to all her numerous doctor appointments in Napa, Vallejo and Vacaville. In addition, he made sure she got to church every Sunday and on special occasions. For fun, Darius loved to cut and split firewood. He kept many a house warm in the winters throughout Napa, never failing to make sure his mother-in-law Val had enough firewood and kindling. Darius was a kind, gentle soul that never met a stranger. He loved life and lived it well. His illness sapped his strength, but his mental toughness allowed him to live through things that would make most grown men cry. He had that fighting spirit right to the bitter end. Sleep well dear Darius, you have earned your peace, and are free from pain.

Darius was predeceased by his parents, Marvin and Dorothy Heskett, and sister Doreen. He is survived by his wife and soulmate of 28 years, Susan Heskett; sons Aaron (Jody) and Shane (Meredith); stepdaughters Debby Seeley and Chrissy Werris; granddaughters Michelle Seeley, Caitlynn, Cassidy, Elly and Emery Heskett; and grandsons Mitch Seeley and Austin Heskett. In addition, he leaves behind his siblings, Marvin (Gail) Heskett, Doug (Rochelle) Heskett, Denice Player, Donna (Larry) Nichols, Diane (Bob) Rosecrans, Monica (Jemy) Dinov, Duane (Debi) Heskett, and Michael (Cathy) Heskett. He also leaves behind his mother-in-law, Val Jones; and sisters-in-law Gayle Schutte (Chuck) and Terry Ornelas. In addition, he leaves behind many, many, many beloved nieces and nephews, first wife Pat Wetzel and scores of friends from sea to shining sea.

At his request, no services will be held. A celebration of life will be held on Aug. 23, 2014 at a location to be announced. The family suggests if you are not an organ donor, please consider becoming one.

A celebration of life will be held at the family home between 1 and 4 p.m. on Aug. 23. A tribute video will shown around 2 p.m., and light refreshments will be served. This will be an open house type event so feel free to arrive anytime between 1 and 4. Contact Darius's wife Susan for directions.

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm Free

I am following the path a higher power has laid for me.

I could not stay another day, to laugh, to love, to work to play

Tasks left undone must stay that way

I found peace at the close of day

If my parting has left a void, then fill it with remembered joy

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss

It is these things, I too will miss

Be not burdened with times of sorrow

I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow

My life's been full, I savored such good friends, good times, a loved one's touch

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief

Don't lengthen it now with undue grief

Lift up your hearts and share with me

A higher power wanted me now, he set me free

Tribute Wall



“ *Darius "The Wood Man" Heskett*

September 29, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *Darius "The Wood Man" Heskett*

September 29, 2022 at 02:55 PM



“ *America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Darius "The Wood Man" Heskett.*



August 09, 2014 at 01:12 AM



“ *To the Heskett Family, May time and good memories of Darius help you with your loss. I had the pleasure of attending St. Johns and Justin with him. Always a good man. God Bless all of you, Craig Moreno*

Craig Moreno - July 07, 2014 at 10:26 PM



“ *Dear Sue and family,
Please know that you are in our thoughts. We are sorry for your loss.
Ken and Nancy*

Nancy Briggs - June 29, 2014 at 12:21 PM

MO

“ *To all of the Heskett family,*

May GOD bless Darius as he will remain always remain in your hearts.

Sincerely,

The Oweyong Families

Mel Oweyong - June 29, 2014 at 10:46 AM

TL

“ *God Bless the Heskett family.*

*Tom Libby
Fayetteville, Arkansas*

Tom Libby - June 29, 2014 at 08:49 AM

PA

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Patricia - June 27, 2014 at 09:53 AM



Never saw this photo, love it, thanks for posting.

Susan Heskett - June 27, 2014 at 12:42 PM

PA

“ Susan, my heart breaks for you. Darius' gift to us all is the example of Living With Heart and Soul. I know no one else I can point to and say that.

Patricia - June 26, 2014 at 07:11 PM

 Susan Heskett

“ My dear, sweet Darius I love you more than words can ever express. We had so many good times together and plans for many more, especially our planned cruise to Hawaii after your transplant. A higher power had other plans for you, and in my wildest dreams I can only imagine what those are. I know you fought the fight probably longer than you wanted to for me, and I love you for that. I am glad you are at peace and no longer in pain, but I miss you every minute of every day. I know we will be together again, but the world isn't as bright as it was with you in it. Thank you for sending that special sign that your spirit is around me, it did my heart good. Till we meet again.....

Susan Heskett - June 26, 2014 at 06:04 PM

DR

Darius has been and will always be in my heart. The kindest, most openhearted and accepting person I will ever be lucky enough to know, and someone who just struggled with those who were not. As a child, and now as an adult, thank you Darius for being the BEST big brother ever. I love you. Diane

Diane Rosecrans - June 29, 2014 at 02:09 PM