

Thomas William Janik



CADILLAC - Thomas W. Janik of Cadillac died Wednesday night, Oct. 28, 2009 in Selma Township, Wexford County. He was 33.

He was born in Cadillac on Aug. 29, 1976 to Daniel C. and Cathy S. (Johnson) Janik. He graduated from Cadillac High School in 1995, where he ran cross country for four years and track for three years and was a building trades student at the Wexford-Missaukee Career Tech Center. He was currently attending

Baker College in Cadillac. Tom had been a member of the Boy Scouts of America Troop No. 125 of Cadillac since he was 11 years old and had reached Eagle Scout in 1994. Tom also took an active role as a loving father in raising his son, Ben.

Tom was a licensed builder and had been employed with the Wm. Mitchell State Park. He took great pride in being a paid on-call Fireman/ EMT-B with the city of Cadillac Fire Department and was a member of the Cadillac Area Technical Rescue Team. His career as a firefighter started at the age of 18, working with the U.S. Forest Service as a paid volunteer woodland firefighter.

Besides working with the U.S. Forest Service, he served with the U.S. National Park Service, Selma Township Fire Department and was a Helitak crew member with a group out of Southern Indiana and the Ottawa Chippewa (Grand Traverse Band) Fire Service, where he taught fire safety to preschool children. Tom also taught state firefighter courses at Baker College and drivers' training for EMS and firefighters. Tom was also a member of the Cadillac Moose Lodge No. 531.



Survivors include his parents, Dan and Cathy Janik of Cadillac; his son, Ben Janik of Cadillac; sisters, Teresa (Josh) Boyer of Gowen and Lynda (John) Rausch of Comstock Park; grandfather, William F. Johnson of Cadillac; nephews, Jack and Luke Boyer; many aunts, uncles and cousins; and close friend, Sarah Benson of Cadillac.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Clarence T. and Maxine Janik, and Sharon Johnson.



The Mass of Christian Burial will be held 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 2, 2009 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Cadillac, with Rev. Francis J. Murphy as celebrant. Burial will be at Selma Township Cemetery in Wexford County. Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sunday at the Peterson Funeral Home in Cadillac.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the family of Thomas W. Janik.