



People come into this world and fill so many different roles. A little baby boy was born in Billings, Montana June 21, 1965. He grew to become a lifelong source of joy and happiness to his family and countless more. His wit, his concern for the feelings of others, his quiet nature, and his artistic talents impressed and amazed many, time after time. His artistic hand, eye, and mind seemed inexhaustible: Any medium from painting to floral arranging; home decorating to the culinary arts; stained glass to woodworking; still photography to film making; stage, prop, and costume design to dance, music, and theatre. Larry's work was always distinctive, extraordinary, and inspiring. He revealed a world of beauty.

Larry James Sargent's role on this earth ended all too soon at age 42. He passed away January 23, 2008 in Bozeman following complications from a broken arm and pulmonary embolism.

Forging his own creative path from an early age, Larry started drawing as soon as he could pick up a crayon. He noticed things others missed and liked to draw even the ordinary. During a trip to Great Falls, he insisted on a stop in Townsend so he could sketch the water tower. At seven years of age, he illustrated his dad's story, "The Tall Ladder."

He progressed to creating puppets, building a stage, and performing puppet shows with his cousin. Before graduating from Bozeman Senior High in 1984, he created paintings, illustrations, short films, ceramics, and a variety of unique objects and artworks.

At age nine, he joined 4-H and was anxious to prepare a demonstration. His interest was in the preparation of charts and showing results, not in speaking. In fact, he gave his first demonstration on how to shine a penny without saying even one word. A few years later, he won a trip to the Western 4-H Roundup in Denver with a demonstration in photography.

Throughout his years, he did artistic work for many different companies and individuals. Never one to follow someone else's script or make decisions based on money and time, Larry poured his energy into project after project. One of his window displays won the top honor in a contest for the Montana State University Homecoming.

After attending MSU, he was a set designer, graphic artist, stagehand, and office manager for Jay Owenhouse's magic show. For several summers, he cooked at Camp Mimanagish, south of Big Timber. Later, he ran his own floral shop in Dillon, Montana. Most recently he was a customer service agent for SkyWest United Airlines where he enjoyed his co-workers and the travel.

Bozeman dance and theatre audiences saw many of his backdrops, stage and prop designs, costume work, and graphic arts. Eventually they saw him on stage, as he moved from behind the scenes to perform various roles. Perhaps his first appearance was singing, dancing, and playing the part of a football player in a stage production of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. He also took numerous parts year after year in “The Nutcracker,” including the role of the Russian and the prince. He danced in the gazebo scene of the movie *The River Runs Through It*. His last stage design was for a recent performance of *The Sound of Music*. This was fitting, for he loved musicals.

He is survived by his parents, Jim and Alice Sargent of Bozeman, sister Sharon Sargent of Bozeman, and sister and brother-in-law Linda and Leonard Wood of Gilbert, Arizona. Preceding him in death was his sister Janice Arlene. He also leaves behind many dear aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Larry fulfilled his role on this earth trying to make it a kind, gentle, more loving place for all. Had he more time, he would have continued to share his creations, live by his own script, and pursue life and his talents with his gentle spirit and generous heart. We are grateful for his gifts still with us, many in material form, many more in the depths of our hearts.

If you would like to leave a memorial for Larry, he would be pleased to have you choose where it is to go. Services will be held at the Methodist Church in Bozeman at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, January 28.