



Benjamin Michael Okes, 26 was taken from us on Sunday, June 10, 2007 as the result of a tragic motorcycle accident.

Ben was born on January 5, 1981 in Torrington, Wyoming to Larry and Janet (Wells) Okes. He grew up and attended high school in Torrington.

After graduation, Ben moved to Bozeman to attend Montana State University where he majored in architecture. He then moved to San Jose, California where he worked for Lynch Construction as a carpenter. Ben had found the love of his life, Jamie Miller, and followed her back to Montana in 2002. They were married on September 21, 2002 in Whitehall, Montana. This was also the year that Ben went to work for Bitterroot Builders, Inc. where he started out as a carpenter. At the time of his death, Ben was a superintendent for Bitterroot Builders. He took great pride in the process of creating a perfect match between the homeowner and their new home. Ben was very creative and loved to come up with innovative ideas to make every home on which he helped build a work of art. The proof of this was in his own home, in which he took great pride.

Ben was recently certified for open water diving and was working towards his rescue diver certification. Ben loved to barbeque, golf, hunt, fish, ski and ride his Harley. Ben's partner for both work and play was his faithful dog Caly.

Ben is survived by his wife and best friend Jamie, his father Larry (Joan) of Torrington, Wyoming, his brother Justin (Kristin) of Great Falls, his grandmother, Jean Okes of Torrington, Wyoming, his grandparents Mitchell and Marie Wells of Durango, Colorado, his uncle, John Wells of Durango, Colorado and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Ben is preceded in death by his mother Janet Marie Okes, his grandfather Don Okes and an uncle, Butch Okes.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, June 15 at 11:00 a.m. at Grace Bible Church at 3625 South 19th Avenue in Bozeman. Cremation has taken place.

Interment will be at Sunset Hills Cemetery. Donations may be made to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.