



Ernest Raymond (Ernie) Hanson, 63, passed away from cancer October 10, 2008, with his family by his side. Born on March 13, 1945 in Missoula, MT to Gilmore and Lucile Hanson, Ernie graduated from Helena High School in 1963 and MSU Bozeman in 1968 with a B.S. in Physics. A proud Bobcat, Ernie played intercollegiate baseball for four years, and sprinted one year on the track team. He lived in many different areas of Montana throughout his life, including Helena and Gt. Falls, before finally settling in the Gallatin Valley 25 years ago.

Ernie was an Army Captain, serving his country in 1968 - 1972, the latter two years stationed in Germany until a motocross injury brought him home. He was especially proud to display the U.S. Flag and show his support for our troops. His favorite activities included motorcycle racing, baseball, hunting, bowling, and golf. In spite of a disability from his motorcycle accident in 1972, he achieved a hole-in-one at the Great Falls Speck Memorial Golf Course in 1975.

A dependable employee, Ernie never missed a day of work in his many years with Hanson and McLeod Financial Group. He was a loving son, brother, uncle and friend, who touched the lives of many. Ernie will be dearly missed and will always be remembered for his wonderful sense of humor, love for Montana and his country, and his very kind heart.

Ernie is survived by his mother, Lucile Hanson of Great Falls; sister Deanna Hanson of Bozeman; brother and sister-in-law Earl and Pat Hanson of Bozeman; nephew Kyle (and Sonnet) Hanson of Denver; niece Tricia (and Matthew) Wagner of Denver; and many friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Gilmore Hanson.