

Jonathan Andrew Choate, 57, of West Barnet Road, Barnet, Vt., died at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital on Dec. 26, 2008.

Jonathan was born on Nov. 2, 1951, in St. Johnsbury, Vt., to Charles Augustus and Mary Jane (Hartley) Choate Sr. He graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1969 and from Vermont Technical College in Randolph, Vt., in 1971 with an Associate Degree in Agricultural Science. Following graduation, he returned to Barnet to work on the family dairy farm. Jonathan was a member of the Presbyterian Church of Barnet at West Barnet. He was a life member of the NRA, a member of the DHIA, the Northeast Organic Farmers Association, and GENEX. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and riding his Harley. He was a former member of the Cabot Coop and was among the first in Caledonia County to become a certified organic farmer. He was predeceased by his father, Charles A. Choate Sr., on Feb. 16, 1992, and by his mother Mary Jane Choate on Nov. 11, 2001. He is survived by his two sons, Matthew A. Choate of St. Johnsbury and Alex I. Choate and wife Marisa of Barnet; two granddaughters, Kara and Alicia Choate; his long-time companion, Celeste Marie Girrell of Sutton, Vt., and her two daughters, Rebecca Clark and Sarah Paquette; two brothers, Charles A. Choate Jr. and wife Lyndelle of Underhill, Vt., and James H. Choate and wife Linda of Barnet; and a niece Kelly Donaghy and nephew Jeremy Noyes. Calling hours will be on Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2008, from 6-8 p.m. at Ricker Funeral Home, 1 Birch St., Woodsville, N.H. A memorial service will be held at the Presbyterian Church of Barnet at West Barnet on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009, at 1 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the NVRH Renal Dialysis Unit, Hospital Drive, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.