

Joseph S. Bonnett III, 54, of Waterford, died suddenly Sunday, Jan. 9, 2011, while in Salina, Kan.

He was born Aug. 21, 1956, in St. Johnsbury, the son of Joseph Jr. and Carol (Fuller) Bonnett.

In 1974 he graduated from St. Johnsbury Academy. Following high school he entered and served in the U.S. Navy. He then worked at Columbine Tractor Co. in Illinois for a few years before returning to Vermont. He had worked at Hitchiner Manufacturing in Littleton for nine years and then worked for Dolgan Realty as a maintenance man as well as janitor and well-respected bus driver at the Waterford School. Since then, he has been a long haul truck driver for Cargo Transport of North Carolina.

His favorite pastimes included hunting, fishing, cooking for family and friends, and attending family gatherings.

Survivors include his children, Samantha Bonnett and companion Scott Tobyne of St. Johnsbury, Joseph Bonnett IV of St. Johnsbury, Branden Bonnett of Bethlehem, N.H., and Maria-Rayne Bonnett of St. Johnsbury; one granddaughter, Victoria Bonnett; his mother Carol Bonnett of Waterford; three sisters, Christine Morey and husband Robert of Lunenburg, Sheila Richardson and husband Stephen of Danville, Va., and Marie Winkler and husband Scott of Panama City, Fla.; a brother, Gordon Bonnett and wife Dhina of Long Beach, Calif.; the mother of his three oldest children, Laurie Bonnett of Groveton, N.H.; nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his father, Joseph Bonnett Jr., in 1997.

Friends may call on the family this Thursday evening, Jan. 13 from 6 to 8 at Sayles Funeral Home.

Graveside services will be held Friday, May 27 at 2 p.m. at Lower Waterford Cemetery.

Donations made in his memory may be directed to, Vermont Kin As Parents, P.O. Box 382, Winooski, VT 05404.