

SACKETT: John H.

SACKETT: John H., 42, of Lyndon, died in a car accident in Minnesota, Thursday afternoon, Jan. 17, 2002. He was born Feb. 25, 1959, in Champaign-Urbana, Ill., the son of Howard J. and the late Joan L. (Sandstrom) Sackett. John was a graduate of Lyndon Institute, Class of 1977. A cross country skier and racer, John narrowly missed making the 1984 U.S. Olympic cross country ski team. He started the Nordic ski program at Burke Mountain Academy in East Burke during the 1980s and coached students at Lyndon Institute as well. He was an avid mountain biker and was known to be one of the area's greatest athletes. He was the manager of the Village Sport Shop in Lyndonville for many years. John loved his family, and people, and was thought of as an Olympic Gold Dad. He was a role model for many, many area youth and adults in Vermont as well as the entire country. He will be greatly missed by all. Survivors include his wife and best friend of 20 years, Corinne "Coco" (Berry) Sackett of Lyndon; two sons, Ben and Ian; his father, Howard Sackett of Durango, Colo.; two sisters, Jann Smith of Ignacio, Colo., and Judi Jones and her husband Clay of Farmington, N.M.; a brother, Jim Sackett and his fiancée Nora of Kokomo, Ind.; his father- and mother-in-law, Everett and Pat Berry of Lyndon; two sisters-in-law, Janine Silvey of Newbury, Fla., and Darlene Johnson and her husband Mark of Lyndonville; a brother-in-law, Eric Berry and his wife Meridith of Lyndon; and nieces and nephews. A memorial service will be held Thursday, Jan. 24 at 3 p.m. at the Lyndonville First Congregational Church with the Rev. Melvin A. Richardson officiating. There will be no visiting hours. In lieu of flowers, donations made in John's memory may be directed to Caledonia Home Health Inc., Hospice program, P.O. Box 383, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.