

Daniel Mark Amspacher

Daniel Mark Amspacher, 56, of Norman, passed away on February 1, 2010. A memorial service will be held at McFarlin Methodist Church at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 5 in Norman.

Mark was born in Norman on May 19, 1953 to Robert Eugene Amspacher and Norma Jo (Givens) Amspacher. He is survived by his father; his wife, Claire Marie Amspacher; his three daughters, Shonda Peaches Amspacher of Norman, Sarah Claire Amspacher of Santa Barbara, and Bonnie Marie Amspacher of Norman. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Emma, Joseph, William, and Lily; as well as by his sister, Susan Kay Rutherford and husband Jim; his nieces, Shannon Dabney (Kalyn and Aidan) and Devyn Gardenhire (Damon, Ava and Blake). Mark was preceded in death by his mother; his brother, Robbie, and his first wife, Tema (Green) Amspacher.

Mark Amspacher is best known as the owner and proprietor of The Diner, a landmark for the community of Norman, OK. Even those who did not know Mark personally knew him through his food—his chili was award winning and heart-warming. Mark's other interests were shared with the community in other ways: since his childhood he fished, hunted, and enjoyed the great outdoors of Oklahoma. He traveled throughout the United States in pursuit of good fishing and even better fishing tales. He was an avid birdwatcher, he deeply loved animals, and enjoyed reading Jim Harrison novels. Like a good Oklahoman, he had a fondness for large red trucks. Most recently, his passion was gardening and keeping bees. For those who knew him well, which are many, his skill and joy in the art of telling of a good story or joke is legendary. He and his family took many trips to their cabin on Lake Texoma, a particularly special place to him, where he enjoyed fishing and the outdoors throughout his life.

Mark loved people. He had a generous heart and a loving, mischievous spirit that we will hold with love in our memories for the rest of our lives.

Because Mark expressed his love through food and cooking, please send memorials in his memory to Norman's Food & Shelter for Friends at 104 W. Comanche Street, Norman, OK 73069.

Send condolences online at <http://www.havenbrookfuneralhome.com/Obituaries.htm>