



Phillip "Phil" Creese, Sr.

September 4, 1954 - January 9, 2013

A service for Phillip Moin Creese Sr. was held 2:00 p.m. Sunday, January 13, 2013 at the Woodward Granger High School. Visitation was Saturday from 1:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. with family present 4-8 p.m. at the high school. Hastings Funeral Home in Perry was in charge of making arrangements. Pastor Joe Haynes of the First Baptist Church in Spring Valley, Minnesota provided words of comfort. Honorary bearers were Joel and Brandon Robinson. Casket bearers were: Kevin Creese, Brett Wuebker, Jeremy Wuebker, Justin Wuebker, Monte Grossnickle and Steve Gunderson. The Dance was sung by Phil Creese Jr. accompanied by Monte Grossnickle on the guitar. Danielle Bice did a reading and Debbie Wuebker gave a special message of thanks to everyone. Interment took place at the Woodward Cemetery. Following the service at the cemetery was a luncheon at the high school provided by Smoky D's. Phillip Moin Creese, son of Herbert Charles Creese and Evelyn Carol Wolf Creese, was born September 4, 1954 in Guthrie Center, Iowa and died January 9, 2013 at age of 58 years at his home in Woodward, Iowa. As his father's occupation took the family to different locations, Phil attended school in several midwest towns. After his schooling, Phil joined the U.S. Marines where he served three years in active duty and one year in the reserves. Phil was married to Kathy Norgart in 1979 and they were parents of four children; Cris, Evan Kelly, Stephanie, and Phillip. They lived in Woodward and Phil purchased their new home in the 1980's and interestingly, it was next to the softball field! Phil worked for Firestone for 32 years, retiring in 2010. Phil was a very generous neighbor and friend and what started as being a helper, turned into his lawn and snow business known as Creese Lawn Care. He started his career in softball coaching in the 1980's, which continued to the present. Phil coached 10 and under, 12 and under and 14 and under...becoming High School coach in 2000. Phil was a very successful coach, taking teams to District play and to State in 2004 and 2010. He was honored as Iowa High School Athletic Association Coach of the Year in 2010 and April 20, 2012, the softball complex was named for him. Phil met Michelle Austin while they worked in the bulk mail center and they married in 1996. She supported him in his love of his family and the Woodward-Granger school, softball and community. Michelle was considerate of Phil's desire to be very supportive not only with time but of money. He could be found walking the ditches of Hwy 141 for pop cans which would be redeemed to support the team's

equipment needs and he purchased many bats and balls personally. It almost goes without saying how much he loved his family, especially his grandchildren, but also the many, many softball players and other children and adults he touched throughout his life. Phil is survived by his wife Michelle; his father Herb Creese of Panora; son, Phil Jr. (Colleen) of Woodward; daughters Cris McAfee (Clint) of Osceola and Stephanie Sloss (Rick) of Perry; grandchildren: Kelli and Shawn McAfee, Samantha and Quintin Smith, and Kayli Sloss; brother Kevin Creese of Jamaica; sisters Debbie Wuebker (Jerome) of Perry; Kathy Robinson (Dan) of Altoona; and Sherry Kincaid of Texas; aunts Pat Quessenberry (Bud) of Seymour, MO and Margaret Hammontree of Cape Fair, MO; in-laws Maurice & Jolene Austin; nieces, nephews, many other relatives; 832 softball daughters; and a host of friends. Phil was preceded in death by his mother Evelyn (Wolf) Creese in 1993, his brother Kelly in 1972, son Evan Kelly in 1979 and grandson Gabriel on February 16, 2012; and many loved ones who had touched his life through the years.

hastingsfh@qwestoffice.net <http://www.hastingsfh.com> Perry, Iowa 50220

Comments



“ What a GREAT man. So very PROUD to call you my friend. You and Michelle gave 100 percent to everything. I will miss you my dear but I promise we will meet again. I know you will be looking down on all of us and I also know I will have a SPECIAL ANGEL in heaven. Thank you Phil for just being you.

Josie Morin - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Cris and Family - My thoughts and prayers are with you. Jackie Bowlin

June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ It's great that you will always have great memories of Phil. Our prayers are with the entire family.

Randy & Bobbi Tarlton - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Barbara McAlpin - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ I will so miss seeing Phil around the halls of W-G. I would see him around town and stop to say hi and no matter what he was doing he would take time for a chat. I am so thankful that my daughter Ashley got to learn the game from Phil. He was always so respectful of the parents and players and always took time out to thank us for our support. He was a unique man with such a passion for helping others. I will greatly miss him! Pam Finestead

Pam Finestead - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Phil showed a gruff exterior of toughness, but, inside, beat a heart of gold - caring, giving, and generous. He will be missed on the softball field and in the community, but he will live on through his family, his many, many friends and the softball families whose lives he touched.

June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you. He was a very good coach and a good man. Although it wasn't often, it was always a pleasure to talk to him.

June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Prayers to all you!

MELANIE FISHER - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Michelle, I can't tell you how sad I am about Phil. God be with you and your family this awful time. We all some good times and some not so good times when the girls were playing softball.

June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family in this time of extreme sadness..phil was a great man and will be greatly missed by many including myself. He was a great coach and helped me alot in my few years in softball always had a smile on his face and would always say hi with a smile when would see him...but he is in a much better place reunited with many friends and family and no longer in pain.

lindsay gohn - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ I am beyond thankful for the role you played in my life - so much more than just a coach. I know you are enjoying yourself now.. maybe playing some ball and recalling great softball stories with Mom. Till we meet again - I will keep running my hardest through first base. See you at home.

Danielle (Bice) Schertz - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Our prayers and thoughts are with you at this very sad time.Larry & Mary Olsen

June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Phil touched the life of so many young people.His memory will live on in the hearts of many.

Jesse - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Our hearts and prayers are with the family in this time of loss. I have nothing but fond memories of Phil and will miss him dearly. Always a prankster like his dad, Herb. God Bless, I wish I could make it up there.

Doug Haeberlein

Doug and Kellie Haeberlein - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Thoughts and prayers to the Creese family,and all who knew him. May pride and honor, fill your hearts, for all the lives Phil touched and affected. God's speed COACH..... May your legacy live on...

Leanna Carpenter - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Although Phil had a tough exterior, he was quite the softy on the inside once you got to know him. He taught me the great game of softball and even more about lessons on life. I know I will see him again, that same smile on his face. May his family remember they have the support of the community if they need to lean on someone. I still remember his quote "If you're early, your on time. If you're on time, your late! And if you're late, start running!" Sorry to break it to you coach, I'm still not very punctual....

Lacey Battani - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Thoughts & Prayers to All the Family; Very Great Full, to have had such a Kind neighbor! God's Speed!!

Cynde Duree - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



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Cynde Duree - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ i got to know him and chris and phil while working at the old caseys in woodword my thought and prayers are with the family

Jen Privia - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Michelle, I just read this and my heart goes out to you!! It sounds like Phil made a big impact on many lives!! May your memories be good ones and help you through this very sad time!!

Jayne Jepsen - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Phil will be deeply missed. Girls didn't simply play softball for him, they became a part of his family. He turned the most shy, quiet, of girls into confident leaders. He was a man who strived to get to know every person that he came across in life. I often reference, what would Phil do or say when making tough decisions or talking to Alaina about hard choices in life. We have all been touched by him in ways that we might not ever realize but all we need to remember is to stick together and support each other. Team=Family

Cheree Harp - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Prayers for the family, including all the softball players he coached.

Mary & Paul Thompson - June 20, 2018 at 12:48 PM



“ Sorry to hear about your loss may god be with you and help you get through this. I enjoyed working at herbs lounge when it was in business. Take care. Sherry I Lynch

Sherry I Grimsley-- Lynch - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ I had the pleasure of knowing Phil, by hearing the mower run down the street on the early summer mornings as he headed to the ball field, and then off to work he went!! also know he was a generous soul, that raised amazing children!Stephanie, Phil and Cris you have a marvelous Angel coaching you the rest of your days! May you find comfort in his peace!God Bless you all....

Shawnda & Thomas Atkinson - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



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Atkinson Family - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ Loving thoughts to Michelle and all the Family. May the fond memories and experiences with Phil dull the heartache of his going away. Remember that through memory, he will remain with us always. Love and Bright Blessings from the Purvis Family.

Valerie Purvis - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ Very sad to hear of the passing of Phil. I always enjoyed talking softball and watching him coach. He will be greatly missed by the softball community.

Jack Davis - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ Michelle our prayers and thoughts are with you in this time of sadness. If you need anything we are here for you. Love YouThe Becker Family

Rhonda Becker - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ We have memories of Phil Jr. visiting us and going to church with us. We are thankful that the family can rest assured that Phil Sr. is in heaven and enjoying the absence of pain and discomfort. We will be praying for you in the coming days as you continue to mourn his loss. God bless you all and keep you in His care.

Pat Verrips - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ Sorry for your loss Michelle, it's been years since we have talked but I just wanted to let you know I am thinking about you. God bless.

Dave Dobyys - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ Our thoughts and our prayers are with you and your family. He will live on forever in the hearts and memories of those who knew and loved him.

Connie McClure - April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ Michele, I just learned today of Phil's passing. I am so very sorry I did not see this sooner. You have so been in my thoughts and prayers. George lost his battle as well in Sept. I remember you and Phil and our wonderful talks in Mayo. There are two wonderful guys now coaching in heaven. Hang on to family and friends but most of all faith. It is what is getting me through. Please call me when you can. God bless or if you want. I would love to talk to you, a Mayo family member. Barb Wosmanky 210-4115.

April 28, 2018 at 05:45 AM



“ I've known Phil since I was a kid. He gave be better softball advice and coaching than I could ever expect, and he wasnt even my coach--just a good friend. He helped shape me into the ball player I was, and the person I am today. He will forever be with me on and off the field. Every time I look at my home-run ball, I will think of him and how joyous he was when I told him about it. He will be missed greatly.

Emily Hutchison - March 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM