

David A. Bradford
July 20, 1960 - Aug. 29, 2016

David Allen Bradford, age 56, of Lakeland, Fla. passed away unexpectedly on Monday, Aug. 29, 2016, in Bend, Ors., where he was visiting brother, Michael Bradford.

Born July 20, 1960 in the Quonset Point Naval Hospital, Rhode Island, David Allen was the third son of Hope (Gipson) and Charles Buddy Bradford, then serving with the U.S. Navy. David was raised in Virginia Beach, Va., and graduated from Bayside High School, Class of 1978.

David, an active member of the International Union of Elevator Constructors (IUEC), worked within the industry until sidelined by declining health. He liked to josh about his days as a nightclub bouncer in the Norfolk area in his younger days. Like his dad before him, "Pickles" possessed a ken wit, with a ready quip, whatever the occasion. He was aware he was about to welcome his first grandchild, reportedly a boy, and was puffed and proud of the impending birth.

A fan of bluegrass and county music - he like posting his favorite artists' latest music videos on Facebook - and was still boasting about having seen singer Rhonda Vincent at Nashville's Ryman Auditorium several weeks back, and posing for a photo with her off stage. David was also an animal lover and avid sports enthusiast, rooting mainly for the Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots.

David was preceded in death by his father, Buddy Bradford of Harrisonburg, Va., on Sept. 27, 2005. He is survived by a loving family that includes his wife of 32 years, Kandy (Strange) Bradford of Lakeland; sons, Kenton Jon-David (Jennifer) Bradford of Virginia Beach and Christopher Bruce (Rachel) Bradford of Lakeland; mother, Hope P. Bradford of Auburndale; siblings, Charles Scott (Cheryl) Bradford of Auburndale; Steven Daniel (Debra) Bradford of Elizabethton, Tenn., and Michael Dennis Bradford of Bend, Ore., several nieces and nephews, and numerous kin in both Canada and the US.

A memorial service will be held 4 p.m. Friday Sept. 9, at Lena Vista Church, 213 Florida Drive, Auburndale. Pastor Leon Hurley will officiate. In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested making a donation to your favorite charity, in the name of the deceased.