

John Patrick Burton "Big John" 1940 ~ 2005 John Patrick Burton, age 65, returned to his Heavenly Father on September 19, 2005, unexpectedly of a massive heart attack. He was born Feb. 28, 1940 to Ambrose and Ruth Burton in Kankakee, Illinois. At age 18 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served our country honorably for over 20 years. He married Rose-Marie Jost in 1961. They were blessed with six beautiful daughters, who were their pride and joy, one born in every port. Later divorced. From a very young age there wasn't a sport he did not love and excel in (just ask him). Of all the sports he loved, basketball was his favorite. He ruled the court with "iron-elbows". He especially loved his time with his early morning basketball crew. We are grateful that he was able to enjoy one last game before he left us. Our special thanks to Paul Burningham for being with him in his final hour. After retiring from his Naval career he moved his family to Salt Lake City. He started his second career working for the Tooele Army Depot. In 1998 he married Peggy Strickland, later divorced but still continued a special companionship with her and her four sons. He was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, having served in many positions. He was a member of the Fort Union 7th Ward. He treasured the gospel as a very important part of his life. He is survived by Rose-Marie (Lynn) Utley; daughters, Sherry (Roberto) McFarlane, Robin Burton, Cassandra (Chris) Reed, April Gurney, Mitzi (Matt) Gibbons, Rachel Burton; nine adorable grandchildren, Ashley, Autumn, Amber, Courtney, Jazmin, Connor, Logan, Gabriela, Mia; one brother Jimmy Burton and two sisters Sharon Pement and Kathy (Bob) Buckman along with many nieces and nephews and special companion Peggy Strickland and her sons, Jason, Joshua, Justin and Jacob. Preceded in death by his father, mother and three brothers, Howard, Harold and Chuck Burton. Funeral Services will be Sat., Sept. 24, 2005 at 11:00 at the Fort Union 7th Ward, 6770 So. 500 E., Midvale. Friends and family may visit on Fri., Sept. 23, from 7-9 p.m. at Mountain View Memorial, 3115 E. 7800 So. and from 9:45-10:45 at the church on Sat. Interment at Mountain View Memorial Cemetery, with military honors.

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