

Rex Handsaker, age 57, of Colo, died unexpectedly on Saturday, January 27, 2018, at Story County Medical Center in Nevada.

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2018, at the United Methodist Church in Colo, with Pastors Douglas Harding and David Burling officiating. Burial will follow in the Colo Cemetery. Visitation will be held at the church on Thursday from 5-8 p.m. The family invites family and friends to dress casually, as Rex would have preferred.

Born July 5, 1960, in Ames, Iowa, Rex Alan Handsaker was the son of Joseph Wayne and Ester May (Winborn) Handsaker. He grew up in Colo and graduated from Colo High School in 1978.

On June 11, 1988, Rex was united in marriage to Bonita Shook at the family farm in Colo. The couple was blessed with two children, Brandon and Brooke.

Rex owned and operated Handsaker Automotive in Colo for 25 years before moving to Sanford, North Carolina, to sell concessions on the NASCAR circuit for seven years. He and Bonita returned to Colo after his father's death to assume the family farming operation.

Rex possessed an innate mechanical ability that served him well. His inventive, analytical mind enabled him to make, build, or do anything to which he aspired and earned him the nickname "Mr. Perfect." Rex had a welcoming, open-door policy at his shop, was never in a hurry, and was a big kid at heart. He was a member of Midwest Pullers, served as president of the Colo Truck Pull Association, and was a former volunteer on the Colo Fire Department. He enjoyed truck pulling, drag racing, pedal tractor pulls, and music. Rex loved his two grandchildren as well as his faithful canine companion, Abby.

Survivors include his wife, Bonita; two children, Brandon (Allison) Handsaker, and Brooke (Jason Sellers) Handsaker, all of Colo; two grandchildren, Riley and Brady; his mother, Ester Handsaker of Nevada; two sisters, Anna Handsaker of Davenport, and Marla Handsaker-Turk and son Jack of South Lake Tahoe, CA; as well as many nieces, nephews, other extended family members and a host of friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Wayne; his in-laws, LeeRoy and Jenna Faye Shook; and his beloved sidekick, Abby.

Ryan Funeral Home of Nevada has been entrusted with the care of Rex and his family.

CASKET BEARERS

Jim Handsaker
Randy Herink
Keith Wilson
Branden Schnur
Rob Tjelmeland

Rod Geisinger
Josh Shook
Joel Reed

Honorary Bearers:
Grandchildren:
Riley Handsaker
Brady Handsaker
Jack Turk - Nephew