

Larry E. Swenson

Lifelong resident of North Pole and Fairbanks, Larry Edward Swenson, 52, passed away Saturday, October 27, 2001 in Denali Center in Fairbanks.

Larry was born May 14, 1949 in Grantsburg WI. His father, Fred M and mother, Genevieve Swenson, brought him to Fairbanks in 1952.

He attended Old Main School and graduated from Lathrop High School in 1968. He then attended college in Spokane, WA when he was picked to play for the Baltimore Colts. His career lasted a full 1 minute and 47 seconds.

Larry had owned and operated MJ Rentals, Swenson Trucking and Excavating since 1976, and had been in partnership with his father in 9-Mile Mini Storage since 1981. Even while still in high school, Larry started his own janitorial and courier business. Before that, he would babysit. If you ever asked him what he did for a living he would say, "Anything to make a buck" or ask how is business, he would say "I had a customer today. That was exciting."

Larry was respected in the communities of Fairbanks and North Pole. Some of the most recent awards Larry received are Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year in 1991. Larry and Syd have been North Pole King and Queen Regents since 1998, and Rotary District Volunteer of the year in 2000. He had also received two proclamations from the Office of the Mayor, city of North Pole, for Outstanding Community Volunteer in 2000, and Outstanding Accomplishments and Service to North Pole in 2001.

Larry had been past president of North Pole Chamber of Commerce and North Pole Rotary; he was also a member of Artic Masonic Lodge 7.

His untiring interest and support also included being instrumental in starting a North Pole Girls and Boys Club, and the Little League. He served on the board of the North Pole Housing Association, North Pole Youth Sports Council, and the North Pole Nicks. Larry helped develop Morning Star Park, the Jack Wright Field, and the Terry Miller Memorial Park by donating his time and equipment in the construction. He sponsored various sports teams, like basketball, T-ball and soccer.

Larry is survived by his wife of 20 lovely years, Sydni G Swenson, of North Pole; father, Floyd M Swenson of North Pole, and son Shad T Swenson of North Pole; stepdaughters, Michelle L. Dickson of Anchorage, and Nichole L. and her husband Nick Nickols of Kent WA; grandsons Andrew R. Dickson of Anchorage, and William A. Nickols of Kent, WA; brother James, and his wife Linda Swenson of Priest River, ID, and nieces, Carrie and Christie.