



## Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy

December 13, 1950 - May 21, 2016

Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy, age 65, of Glendive, Montana passed away on Saturday, May 21, 2016 at the Glendive Medical Center in Glendive. A memorial service with military honors will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 26, 2016 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Glendive with Deacon Bob Ackerman officiating. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Dan was born on December 13, 1950 in Glendive to Clifford and Cecelia (Brunelle) Ruddy. He was raised and educated in Glendive, attending Sacred Heart School through the eighth grade and completing his education at Dawson County High School where he graduated with the class of 1969. After high school Dan went to work for the Northern Pacific railroad until he was drafted into the United States Army. Dan served as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne during the Vietnam War era. Upon his honorable discharge, Dan returned to Glendive and the Burlington Northern railroad. Dan was united in marriage on January 29, 1977 to Kris Thompson and to this union three children were born. Later that same year Dan was transferred to Miles City, Montana for seven years and then to Greybull, Wyoming for seven more years before returning to Glendive to finish out his career. Dan retired from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad in 2007 when his health wouldn't allow him to continue his work. He enjoyed his work on the railroad. Dan was one of only a few specialists who could wire explosives in order to clear the track. He worked well under pressure and was always called upon after a train

derailment. Dan is the only Roadmaster to pick up the Barnum & Baileys Circus Train.

Dan enjoyed spending money, especially on cars, particularly Dodge. He was always buying, trading or leasing cars. During thirty-nine years of marriage, he and Kris had owned forty-three vehicles. He enjoyed riding his Harley-Davidson and woodworking. Dan especially loved spending time with his family and friends. He liked to socialize and never turned anyone away from his backyard pool or anyone who needed a hand, you could always count on Dan to help anyone in need. Dan's favorite holidays were Christmas and the 4th of July, he enjoyed the decorating and all of the explosions.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents, father-in-law, Clyde Thompson and brother-in-law, Steve Thompson.

Dan is survived by his wife Kris Ruddy of Glendive; three children, Rebecca "Becky" (Glenn) Quinnell, Rachel (Greg) Anderson and Ryan Ruddy all of Glendive; three grandchildren, Annie Ruddy, Julianna Ruddy and Levi Anderson; one great-grandchild on the way; brother, Mike Ruddy of Glendive; two sisters, Mary Ann Ruddy of Portland, Oregon and Susie (Les) Frank of Glendive; mother-in-law, Lorraine Thompson of Glendive; brother-in-law, Ken (Maggie) Thompson of Kalispell, Montana and numerous nieces and nephews.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAY **26**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
316 West Benham Street  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Tribute Wall



“ Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ I am so very sorry for your loss. The Bible makes this comforting promise: "Jehovah is close to the brokenhearted, he saves those who are crushed in spirit." (Psalm 34:18) It also assures us: "Throw your burden on Jehovah, and he will sustain you." ( Psalm 55:22) May these thoughts bring you a measure of comfort at this difficult time.

K - May 29, 2016 at 11:27 AM



“ Dan will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with your entire family. Hugs to all.  
Sincerely, Jolene J. Barth



Jolene Barth - May 26, 2016 at 10:28 PM

J(

“ To: Kris and all of Dan's family,  
I am Dan's cousin, Jeanne (Brunelle) Boespflug, living in Dickinson.  
I am nine years older  
than Dan, and have many many memories of him; primarily, when  
he was between the ages of four and ten. I can still see Dan in the  
backyard - fair skin, blonde hair and little boy shorts. It was my good  
fortune to visit in Glendive, usually once a summer, at my Aunt  
Cecilia's home. Our mutual grandmother lived with Dan and his  
family for many years. Dan was a serious little guy, with the most  
delightful laugh. Hearing him laugh caused the rest of us to laugh  
also. I am so sorry he has passed at such a young age. I know you  
will miss him very much. I can not be at the funeral, but will be  
contacting you in the future,  
Kris.you and your family are in my prayers.

Hugs to you all,  
Jeanne (Brunelle) Boespflug

---

**Jean (Brunelle) Boespflug (cousin)** - May 26, 2016 at 12:07 AM

FL

“ Frank & Janette Legato lit a candle in memory  
of Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy



---

**Frank & Janette Legato** - May 25, 2016 at 07:58 PM

FJ

*Our condolences to Dan's family. We are thinking of you.*

---

**Frank & Janette** - May 25, 2016 at 07:59 PM

TK

“ *Tim & Christy Knapp purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy.*



---

**Tim & Christy Knapp** - May 24, 2016 at 10:11 AM

LO

“ *So sorry to hear about Dan. Dan and my dad (Bob) were very close cousins and I have many nice childhood memories of spending time with the Ruddy family. He always had a welcoming smile and was so friendly and nice. My thoughts and prayers to your family during this difficult time! Laura (Brunelle) Owens and family*

---

**Laura Owens** - May 24, 2016 at 08:53 AM

SK

“ *Kris, we are saddened to hear of Dans passing. Prayers for you and your family. Cory and Sheila Knutson*



---

**Sheila knutson** - May 23, 2016 at 10:24 PM

GV

“ *To the Ruddy Family, Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. I am proud to say I worked for Dan when he was the Glendive Roadmaster. I enjoyed working for Dan a lot, he will always be on my list of favorite bosses. Greg and Nikki Vallard*

---

**Greg and Nikki Vallard** - May 23, 2016 at 01:06 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy.



---

May 23, 2016 at 11:28 AM



“ Sorry to hear about Dan. He will definately be missed. Hugs to all at this difficult time:(  
Rob & Netty Bergerson (Nanette Barth)



---

Nanette Bergerson - May 23, 2016 at 11:26 AM



“ Our thoughts are with your family . A highlight for my grandsons was going to your house and waiting for someone to bring the dogs out to play. Dan loved children and his pets. His kindness will always be remembered.

---

sue howe - May 23, 2016 at 06:40 AM

PT

“ To Kris ,Becky,Racheal and Ryan  
I had the pleasure of meeting Dan at a very young age, around the age about 19. We started working on the Burlington Northern Railroad and didn't know he was going to be my surfacing crew foreman in the future. I found that he was a real caring person and intelligent. He went on to bigger and better things after working together for about 15 years and we became real good friends. Even when he was a road master he helped me and others and he always cared about people. When we both retired from the railroad we still communicated and helped each other out. Dan will be deeply missed by me and my family. God bless and comfort you during this time. We will keep you in our prayers. Paul R. Torres and family

---

**Paul R. Torres** - May 22, 2016 at 09:34 PM

DS

“ Denise Stoddart lit a candle in memory of Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy



---

**Denise Stoddart** - May 22, 2016 at 05:48 PM

GM

“ Gene & Leslie Micheletto purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy.



---

**Gene & Leslie Micheletto** - May 22, 2016 at 05:01 PM

JS

“ Jim And Donna (Latka) Stanfill lit a candle in memory of Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy



Jim and Donna (Latka) Stanfill - May 22, 2016 at 04:51 PM

MS

Criss and Family, we are so sorry to hear of Dans passing. He truly was a great man. I enjoyed our visits about Mopar's, and his love for his family! May you all find great strength in memories and your Faith. Hugs to you!!

Mike and Jacky Saur - May 24, 2016 at 12:07 AM

CS

“ To Kris and the family of Dan Ruddy: Jim and I send our heart-felt condolences to you and your entire family...Dan will be remembered as a wonderful family man! Railroad ing was a passion for the Ruddy men, too....The +++++BN never had such dedicated people, we're sure!  
+Dan is now free from the pain he endured for so long....Rest In Peace...and God Speed....Jim and Carol Swanson

Carol Swanson - May 22, 2016 at 04:49 PM

JC

“ Jack & Diane Crockett lit a candle in memory of Daniel "Dan" Francis Ruddy



Jack & Diane Crockett - May 22, 2016 at 03:12 PM

AA

“ Dear Kris and family, My deep sympathies at the loss of your husband, father, grandfather and all the other many roles Dan played in his lifetime. You will miss him. God bless and keep you.  
Avis Anderson

---

**Avis Anderson** - May 22, 2016 at 02:05 PM

SG

“ Kris, Becky, Rachel and Ryan and family,

We were so sorry to hear about Dan. He was a great man and friend. I think what we respected so much about Dan was that he came from a working class background and was very proud of it. He never forgot where he came from. I think that made him a hero. He was a very loyal friend that had a great sense of humor. I remember the times when we were young and spending the weekends together and Dan would make us laugh so hard. Those were really great times that we will never forget. Please know that you are in our thought and prayers. Your friends, Shelley and Pat Geiger.

---

**Shelley Geiger** - May 22, 2016 at 12:50 PM

MM

Dan was a super guy kind and always , always willing to help! if knew Dan you were blessed!!

---

**Marsha & Gerald Mickelson** - May 22, 2016 at 05:15 PM

MK

Kris, Ryan, Becky, Rachel, and Mike,

My deepest sympathy to you all! It is hard to watch a loved one struggle with pain, and I hope that knowing that he is free at last will give you comfort.

---

**myrna kintz** - May 23, 2016 at 03:39 PM

LG

*Dan's smile was contagious, just like the one in the picture. Always had a kind word to Our Daughter, Dennise. We lived next store to you and always a pleasure to see you at your Mom's.*

*You loved what you did , you worked hard and played hard. God has another Angel to run the Railroad in the Sky, The Angel Express.*

*Say Hello to Dennise when you see her. She will have no problem recognizing You with the Smile.*

*In God's Peace, Dennis and Libby Geiger Barstow, CA*

---

**Libby And Dennis Geiger** - May 24, 2016 at 10:35 AM

CB

*Rip Dan. To all his family ,May God comfort you in your sorrow*

---

**Cind Byron** - May 24, 2016 at 11:10 AM