



Jack Nancolas

March 10, 1959 - May 23, 2017

Jack Nancolas was born March 10, 1959, in Salmon, Idaho, to Jack and Teddy Nancolas.

Little Jack's father made a living through hunting, fishing and predator control for the U.S. Government. His mother was a bartender and raised sheep. While most kids were learning their ABCs and playing ball, Jack learned to hunt, trap and fish. At the age of 3, Jack added several new tail feathers to the family chickens with his bow and arrows. By the time he was 7, he had his own trap line. Around the age of 5, he started smoking and chewing. We're sure at about that time he found his great fondness for alcohol. Also, at the time he began running away and staying out all night. This would give his mom great stress, but soon she became used to it because she knew he would come home when he was hungry. Jack went on to work on ranches, construction and logging in Alaska. But his great love was always guiding hunters in the Middle Fork of the Salmon River.

He was known for being larger than life, his contagious laugh, and sometimes, inappropriate comments. He took a wealth of knowledge with him that will be lost to this world forever – a way of life only a handful of people could understand. Animals always found a friend in Jack and there was never a dog that didn't love him. Jack never met anyone he didn't like and that he didn't leave a lasting memory with. There is a great hole in the hearts of many with his passing.

He is survived by his sister, Tami Nancolas, of Willcox; his children: Ashley

Barton (Charlie Burkhead), of Willcox; Danielle Biggam (Will) of Spokane, Wash.; Patrick (Becca) Gregory, of Rupert, Idaho; Jared Gregory, of San Francisco, Calif.; his niece, Dusti Nancolas (Chris Burkhead) and nephew, Dirk Nancolas, all of Willcox; seven grandbabies he loved very much: Thayne, Blake, Abby, Brekan, Kaydence, Tyler and Katelyn; and numerous brothers by other mothers and friends beyond belief.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Raymond (Jack) and Stella (Teddy) Nancolas; sister, Shelly Nancolas, and a brother from another mother, Shane Yakovac.

There will be an informal service and potluck to follow, at 5650 W. Airport Rd., Willcox, Ariz., on Sunday, June 4, at 2 p.m. Formal services are pending in Salmon. He will be laid to rest in a place he has chosen in the mountains of Idaho.

You may express condolences at www.westlawnchapelmortuary.com.

Arrangements are entrusted to Westlawn Chapel, Mortuary and Crematory, of Willcox, Ariz.

Previous Events

Informal Service and potluck

JUN 4. 2:00 PM (MT)

Family Home
5650 W. Airport Road
Willcox, AZ 85643

Tribute Wall



“ *Jack Nancolas*

January 30, 2023 at 12:50 AM

DC

My family owned cradle creek outfitters in the early 80's, jack came to work there when I was 16,he was a great friend to me I've wondered often where he was,rest well my friend

Dean crombie - January 01 at 08:52 PM

DC

Jack taught me so much in the short time I knew him ,most significant was snaring and harvesting a problem bear that eluded me for weeks,in my life I can count my true friends on 1 hand,he was included. That bear skin rug hangs on my wall,he'll never be forgotten everytime I look at it I see him smiling.

Dean crombie - February 19 at 03:32 AM

JP

“ *My condolences to you and your family. I did not know Jack very well I only met him 2 or 3 times in my life. I know you guys were close. He reminds me of a cross between Chet Prestwich and Uncle Dusty. I pray that peace comes to you and your family. Sincerely, Janne Prestwich-Gee*

Janne Prestwich-Gee - June 05, 2017 at 02:40 AM

JF

“ *John D Sanchez Family lit a candle in memory of Jack Nancolas*



John D Sanchez Family - May 25, 2017 at 11:37 AM