



JOEL ALAN SMITH

Age: 57

Jacksonville, Florida

Formerly of Paw Paw

Joel Alan Smith, 57, formerly of Paw Paw, passed away peacefully on November 30, 2015 at the Orange Park Medical Center, Orange Park, Florida with his brothers Dan, Sam and Mark by his side. Joel was born January 15, 1958 in Paw Paw, Michigan, the youngest son of the late Robert William and Jean Flora (Bramwell) Smith. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Scott Smith, Michael Smith and half-brother, David Smith.

Joel is survived by former wife and friend Shelly Brindley and stepson Kevin (Lindsey) Hawley, both of Gobles, Stepdaughter Daron (Joe) Taylor, of Otsego, and special friend Laurie Ragsdale of Sanford, North Carolina; three brothers, Danny and Yumiko (Ikeda) Smith, Sam and Yoshiko (Taya) Smith, Mark and Lynn (Reiter) Smith all of Jacksonville; half-sister, Trudy (John) McKinnon of Jenison, Michigan, half-sister-in-law Glenda (David Smith) Jenkins of Danville, Virginia, twelve nieces and nephews, Lindsay (Wade) Thomas of Lawton, and Danial Smith of Kalamazoo, Robert Smith, Neil Smith, Devin Smith, Nessa Price, and Christian Price of Jacksonville, Florida, Mike Smith and Deborah Lynn Guill of Danville, Virginia, Kelly Bryant of Atlanta, Georgia, Matthew McKinnon and Mark McKinnon of Jenison, Michigan.

During his lifetime, Joel was very active. He was a member of Paw Paw High School, Class of 1976. He received his GED while serving in the United States Navy, and Associate in Applied Science degree from Kalamazoo Valley. He was a software designer/programmer by profession. He was also a long-time member of the Paw Paw Conservation Club. Joel moved to Jacksonville, Florida in 2004, along with his mother and older brother, Mike. Joel loved motorcycles, and was a member of the Vietnam Vets/Legacy Vets Motorcycle Club in Jacksonville, Florida. When his declining health forced him to give up motorcycles, Joel became a devout, born again, Christian and spent the last few years of his life doing the Lord's work, evangelizing and witnessing at campgrounds and towns throughout the Midwest and East Coast. Memorials, if desired, may be made to any Christian church or local Hospice.