

# Einar Dale "Dink" Franzen

September 21, 1953 – November 30, 2021

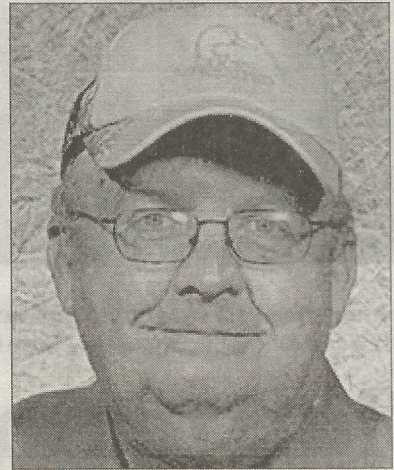
**WHEATLAND** – Einar Dale "Dink" Franzen, age 68, of Wheatland, passed away on Tuesday, November 30, 2021 after a prolonged battle with Wegner's Disease.

Dink was born September 21, 1953 in the old Wheatland General Hospital to Alma Mae and Einar Lewis Franzen. He spent the majority of his life in Wheatland and never furthered his education after high school. Instead he considered himself to be a student of life and never stopped learning.

He married Ruth Ann Runyan in 1975 and had two children.

The couple divorced several years later. In 1993, he found his life partner in Janette "Jet" Horsley, who he stayed very happily unmarried to for 28 years.

He was an avid photographer, elk hunter, fisherman, and generally preferred to be outdoors. He loved history and was particularly knowledgeable in all things WWII. Anyone who knew him will remember him as an aloha or tie-dye shirt-wearing hippy who loved classic rock, particularly Led Zeppelin, with a endless sense of humor and facial expressions to match. His life motto was "why be normal?"



He was preceded in death by his parents and his eldest brother, Jack Miller. He is survived

by his life partner, Jet Horsley of Wheatland, his two children, Heather and her husband Monte Taormina of Arvada, Colorado and James Franzen of Kingman, Arizona as well as two adopted children, Janice Horsley-Miller of Newton, Kansas and Jess Horsley and his wife Mariah of Omaha, Nebraska. He also leaves behind 10 grandchildren (Troy and Kira Taormina, Evan Franzen, Bekka, Shaya, and Jared Miller, Gage, Addison, Kaelen, and Silas Horsley) along with his brother and his wife, Lewis and Terry Franzen of Guernsey, his sister and her hus-

band, Linda and Buck Evans of Wheatland and many nieces and nephews. In his final days he expressed that he loved every one of them very much and considered himself lucky to have them as a part of his family.

An informal celebration of life will be held in Wheatland in the spring of 2022 and will be announced in the Platte County Record-Times.

"So I've decided what I'm going to do now. So I'm packing my bags for the Misty Mountains. Where the spirits go now. Over the hills where the spirits fly..." –Led Zeppelin