

Leslie Vernon Tarvestad was born February 27, 1948 in Minot, ND, the son of Harold and Dora Mae (Adams) Tarvestad. He was raised and educated in Lansford and graduated from Lansford High School. While in high school Leslie played basketball and baseball and was pitcher for the Lansford Cubs. He also played for two other teams at the State American Legion Tournament. He attended one year at Minot State College.

In 1969 he enlisted in the United States Navy. He served two tours in Vietnam with the Special Forces, the Black Beret as a dog handler on Marble Mountain and DaNang. He graduated with Honors from the Special Forces. He was honorably discharged December 28, 1973, and he returned to North Dakota. He was once married to Nordis Decker.

Leslie was employed at Midland Diesel in Minot and later Schatz Truck Stop as a mechanic. He later moved to Phoenix, AZ, where he worked for Williams Detroit Diesel for 13 years as a diesel mechanic. Les did service work for the Cypress, Miami and Asarco mines. He worked for Rushing and Sons in Tucson as a mechanic.

He enjoyed working on cars and trucks, but his passion was for diesels. On the weekends he would cook at Nevada Smiths Bar and Grill. He was also great at doing wood work and carpentry and did many side jobs as a carpenter. He also helped his friends with farm work. Les loved to cook, hunt, rope and fish. He took great pride in his cooking skills, work, family and taking care of others.

Les Tarvestad was loved by everyone he met. He was a great dad, grandpa, son and brother. He was also great at telling amazing stories and was known for his hard work and determination. He is greatly missed.

Les was a third generation Tarvestad who was member of the Lansford American Legion, Kenneth L. Renz Post #279 and a former member of the Minot American Legion. He was also a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

Memorials are preferred to the Lansford Cemetery Association, or to the Lansford American Legion, Kenneth L. Renz Post #279.

Thompson-Larson Funeral Home, Minot



In Loving Memory
Of
Leslie V. "Les" Tarvestad
1948 ~2008