

Obituary for David Read Gilgen, 1967-2010

David Read Gilgen, age 42, suddenly left his mortal existence on February 25, 2010 in St George, UT. He was the son of Read and Susan Gilgen, husband of Sherri Limb Gilgen, and brother, cousin and friend to many. He was born on October 30, 1967 in Provo, UT and was raised in California, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. He attended school in those states, and also at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. David was a larger-than-life person who had an easy way with making friends and accomplishing amazing things. Although David had his own personal mountains to climb he had the ability to live his life with confidence. Shortly after moving to Utah in 2005 he met the love of his life, Sherri. David and Sherri were sealed for eternity in the Salt Lake LDS Temple in May 2008. Together, they moved mountains. They began their life together in St. George where Dave worked as the Executive Chef at the Beehive Cottages in St George. He was also passionate about music, especially his beloved barbershop singing, having sung in two award winning quartets and as having served as director of the Alpine Chorus in American Fork and assistant director of the Color County Chorus in St George. David created, and was very passionate about, "Youth in Harmony," a Scholarship program that provides mentors for youth through music.

He is survived by his grandmother, Mary Ellen Gilgen, his parents, Read and Susan Gilgen, and his wife, Sherri Limb, all of St George; his sisters, Brenda Siolo of Pleasant Grove, Cynthia (Oscar) Lacayo of Lindon, Rebecca Gilgen (Joanna Kohler) of Minneapolis, and Elizabeth (Hanks) Adams of Pleasant Grove; and by a granddaughter, Kira Kay Brownlee of Boscobel, WI. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Chester Gilgen, his maternal grandparents, Carl McBride and Myrl Jean Sandusky, and by his daughter Justine Reynolds Brownlee.

His funeral will be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cliffs 6th Ward LDS Chapel, 1155 N. 1400 W., St. George. A public viewing will be held Tuesday, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. prior to the funeral. Interment will take place in Tonaquint Cemetery.

David's mission statement in life is "by being a powerful, loving, committed child of God that I bring joy and harmony through service, enlightenment, leadership and forgiveness."

David will be dearly missed by the residents at the beehive cottages and most especially by his family who had been able to rejoice at having him "back" as a son, a brother, and a friend. We can only imagine that right now David is teaching heavenly choirs how to sing in four part harmony.