

Thomas (Buck) Colbeth, 36

Thomas Edward (Buck) Colbeth, 36, of River Falls and formerly of the Hudson-Roberts area, was found dead in his apartment late Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 17.

He was born Aug. 16, 1959, in River Falls, the son of Floyd and Myrtle (Hagen) Colbeth, and graduated from St. Croix Central High School in Hammond in 1978.

After finishing high school he was employed as an orderly at the American Heritage Center in Hammond and later at the River Falls Care Center. Since the mid-1980s and until last summer he was a cook at the Twin City East truckstop near Hudson.

He was a member of the Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ. Each October he and his late mother eagerly anticipated volunteering and helping at the annual New England Dinner sponsored by the church. Every year he enjoyed taking part in the Roberts Good Neighbor Days when he assisted his older brother, Richard, then chief of police, in directing traffic for the celebration.

For several years, after leaving high school, he did the play-by-play reporting on the local radio station for the St. Croix Central basketball games. Playing cards, especially euchre, was another of his enjoyments, and he took part in a weekly euchre league. He enjoyed all sports and was an avid fan of North Star hockey.

He will be remembered as a friendly, outgoing person, who laughed easily and had a cheerful hello for everyone.

Preceding him in death were his mother, Myrtle, in 1993, his father, Floyd, in 1995 and a brother, Seth, in 1979.



Surviving are four brothers, Donald (Marijean) of Hudson, Richard (Pat) of Roberts, Bernard (Carol) of New Richmond and Ronald (Betsy) of Loveland, Colo., and a special friend Tammy Hinchman.

Visitation was from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, at the Murphy Funeral Home in Hudson.

Services were at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, at the Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ, with the Rev. James Burd officiating. Mary Fern was the organist. During the service there was congregational singing, and his nieces and nephews sang "Jesus Loves Me," a hymn which Tom loved to sing.

Burial was in Warren Cemetery in Roberts, where pallbearers were Paul Colbeth, Chris Colbeth, Rick Colbeth, Mark Colbeth, Troy French, Jay Franklin, Scott Lamson, Walter (Buddy) Longen and Randy Waughtal.