James P. “Wags” Wagner, loyal son, brother, uncle and friend, Army veteran, railroad worker, guitarist, lover of the beach, baseball caps, shorts, and no shoes, died much too soon on Monday, July 3, 2017.

Jimmy’s big tough biker exterior was filled with the kindest, most thoughtful man you’d ever want to know. He loved playing volleyball (especially on a beach), he loved his hobbies, but mostly he loved his family and friends. He loved being the jack-of-all-trades and being the guy everyone called for a project. Whenever something was broken, or needed to be built, or a problem needed to be solved, “Wags” was there to help.

Jim was preceded in death by his loving mother, Verna Mae (1999), whom he loved and respected more than anyone; his father, Raphael (1962), whom he barely got to know; and his brother, Russell (1983), his big brother and volleyball partner. He is survived by his sweetheart, Joan Gremmel; his brother, Steve (Sue) Wagner; and sisters Shirley (Jon) Wagner-Sevy, Janice Nesteby, Marcia (Kirk) LuGrain, Julie (Dave) Turner; and sister-in-law, Holly Wagner. Also surviving are many nieces, nephews, friends and family spread all over the country that will miss that big loving smile, great sense of humor, and caring personality. We all lost a truly great guy, and our lives will be less full without Jimmy. Until we meet again, “Wags,” we will miss you more than words can convey.

Because of his wish not to have a formal service, his family will hold a celebration of life at a later date (details to be provided). In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a donation to the charity of your choice.

*The family would also like to thank the first responders and many others who helped find Jim; your extraordinary efforts helped us to put him to rest.*