

Brett "Maverick" Van Gorp, 54, of rural Blakesburg, passed away peacefully on October 16, 2016 at his home.

He was born June 20, 1962 in Ottumwa to John Dennis and Janice Diane Swaim Van Gorp. He married Kathleen Hunt and they later divorced.

A 1981 graduate of Blakesburg High School, Brett was a simple man. If you couldn't find him on the farm, he could be found in Blakesburg volunteering on the Corn Carnival committee or the alumni committee.

He enjoyed going to auctions, the Old Threshers, and spending time watching sci-fi movies with his son, Jonathan and watching the Big Bang Theory with his daughter, Neisha.

Surviving are his children, Neisha Dawn Van Gorp of Oskaloosa and Jonathan Cole Van Gorp of Blakesburg; his parents, Dennis and Janice Van Gorp of Ottumwa; and his brother, Brian (Carolyn) Van Gorp of Ottumwa. He was preceded in death by grandparents, Harold and Polly Swaim, John and Maxine Van Gorp. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Thursday at Reece Funeral Home with Pastor Tim Dobson officiating. Burial will be in Brooks Cemetery west of Ottumwa. Visitation begins at 10 a.m. Wednesday with the family present from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday.

Memorials may be made to the Blakesburg Corn Carnival.