

It is with heavy hearts we announce that Edward Simpson went home to Jesus on April 9, 2026 due to complications from lung disease.

Ed was born in Rapid City in 1954 to Harold and Ann Simpson (Zacher). He served in the United States Navy from 1972-1978 and again from 1986-2001.

After his initial service, he returned to Rapid City where he met and married the love of his life, Deborah Simpson (Moore).

Ed is survived by his loving wife, Debbie; his son, Michael and his fiancé, Misty; daughter, Kristina and her husband Derek; grandchildren, Isabella, Alexander, Isaac and Eddie.

Ed is also survived by his three sisters, Sue Bechard, Sharon Simpson, and Sandy Axdahl.

When returning to South Dakota in 2001 he was glad to be close to and able to care for his family here. He also began looking for ways to give back to his community, including by volunteering with Meals on Wheels in Spearfish.

In 2009 he became involved with the Northern Hills Chapter of DAV. After retirement Ed dedicated more of his time to helping the DAV to raise and distribute funds. He found immense fulfillment helping other disabled vets access as much of their benefits as possible to transform their lives for the better.

In 2021 Ed was baptized and he found a second home at Connection Church in Spearfish. He would often be found manning the doors as a greeter and offering his time and talents in any other capacity he could.

He loved being outside, whether on his motorcycle, paddleboard or boat or relaxing around a campfire.

Ed had the incredible gift of making everyone around him feel welcomed and cared for. He had a sharp wit and dry sense of humor that could bring a laugh to anyone. Ed had a quiet but compelling presence and personality that will be greatly missed by everyone who met him and especially those of us who loved him.

Thank you for your presence and condolences



In Loving Memory
Edward A. Simpson
June 14, 1954 ~ April 9, 2026



Ed loved to look for both beauty and humor in life.

He loved to make anyone smile, he was always the first person to get on the floor and play with babies or kids. He exuded both silliness and warmth.

He will be greatly missed by his family, he lived his life to the fullest and even though we wish there was more time with him our memories will be forever cherished.



The Watch

*For twenty years
This sailor has stood the watch*

*While some of us were in our bunks at night
This sailor stood the watch*

*While some of us were in school learning our trade
This shipmate stood the watch*

*Yes.. even before some of us were born into this world
This shipmate stood the watch*

*In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing on the horizon of history
This shipmate stood the watch*

*Many times he would cast an eye ashore and see his family standing there
Needing his guidance and help
Needing that hand to hold during those hard times
But he still stood the watch*

*He stood the watch for twenty years
He stood the watch so that we, our families and
Our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety, Each and every night
Knowing that a sailor stood the watch*

*Today we are here to say
'Shipmate... the watch stands relieved
relieved by those you have trained, guided, and led.
Shipmate you stand relieved.. we have the watch...'*

