Robert Lee King was born on September 3, 1945, in Miller, SD, to parents Cecil and Darlene (Farnsworth) King. He spent his younger years in Miller, Lower Brule, and finally Kennebec, where his parents built Kings Motel in 1959. He attended Kennebec High School, where he distinguished himself in basketball. After graduating, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base in Rapid City. On January 19, 1966, he married his high school classmate, Vickie Smith.

Following his military service, Bob and Vickie relocated to Aberdeen, where Bob pursued higher education at Northern State University, earning a degree in Physical Education. In 1972 they moved to Pierre. In October of 1976, they returned to Kennebec, purchasing the motel from Bob's parents and expanding their business by opening a gas station next door, while Vickie operated the Village Hair Smith salon. Bob also built the Super 8 Motels in Winner, Chamberlain, and Kadoka.

In addition to their business ventures, Bob embarked on a fulfilling career in education and athletics. During his tenure, Bob coached both Lyman's boys and girls teams to SD state basketball tournaments including the first ever trip for Lyman's girls in 1983 which included his daughters Katrina and Cinnamon. Bob proudly called Lyman the basketball capital of South Dakota. While teaching Physical Education at Lyman Middle School, he coached Middle School girls and boys basketball, as well as track and field.

In 2005, Bob and Vickie began a new chapter in their lives, spending winters traveling in their RV and residing in Arizona. They sold Kings Motel in 2011, just before Vickie's passing, after which Bob relocated to Arizona full-time. There, he found companionship with Margaret Profazzi, and they shared a decade together until her passing in 2022.

While in Arizona, Bob embraced various interests, including playing pickleball, exploring the open road in his RV, and embarking on journeys across the country and the world.

Bob had a passion for outdoor activities, including snowmobiling in the Black Hills and Yellowstone, as well as goose and pheasant hunting. He also cherished his Harley Davidson motorcycle. Bob and Vickie's shared love for travel extended beyond their RV adventures, as they explored the USA on their motorcycle and embarked on memorable trips such as a Panama Canal cruise and driving to Alaska.

Bob passed away on September 12, 2023 at Brookhaven Assisted Living in Scottsdale, AZ.

Bob is survived by his four children: Katrina King and husband Rob Hullinger of Scottsdale, Arizona, along with their children Lexie Bowman, Brittan Hullinger, and Baron Hullinger; Cinnamon King and husband Steve Hansen of Dell Rapids, South Dakota, with their children Aspen and Hunter Hansen; Cody King and wife Julie (Rabern) of Rapid City, South Dakota, and their children Elle and Faith King; and Sky King and wife Regina Perrotta of Phoenix, Arizona, along with their child Asia King. He is also survived by his four siblings: Bonnie Schindler and husband Donnie of Oacoma, South Dakota; Larry King and wife Gwen of Cocoa, Florida; Lavonne Livingston of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico; and Kathy Callagy and husband Bob of Sun City West, Arizona.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Cecil and Darlene King, and his beloved wife, Vickie King (Smith).

In Loving Memory of

Robert Lee "Bob" King

1945 - 2023

And now the end is near
So I face the final curtain
My friend, I'll say it clear
I'll state my case of which I'm certain

I've lived a life that's full
I've traveled each and every highway
And more, much more than this
I did it my way

Regrets, I've had a few
But then again, too few to mention
I did what I had to do
And saw it through without exception

I planned each charted course
Each careful step along the byway
And more, much more than this
I did it my way

Yes, there were times, I'm sure you know
That I bit off more than I could chew
But through it all when there was doubt
I ate it up and spit it out
I faced it all and I stood tall
And did it my way

I've loved, I've laughed and cried
I've had my fill, my share of losing
And now as tears subside
I find it all so amusing
To think I did all that
And may I say, not in a shy way
Oh, no, no not me
I did it my way

For what is a man, what has he got
If not himself, then he has not
To say the words he truly feels
And not the words of one who kneels
The record shows I took the blows
And did it my way

In Loving Memory of

Robert Lee "Bob" King

September 3, 1945—September 12, 2023

Memorial Service
Kennebec Gymnasium, Kennebec, SD
1:00 p.m., Saturday, September 23, 2023

Officiating
Father John Heying

Eulogy
Sky King

Guestbook
Ronda Peterson

Speakers
Herb Sundall
Keith Moore

Music
Maddie Schindler - "Amazing Grace"
Kevin King - Original song
Elvis Presley - "Unchained Melody"

Heavenly Urn Bearers
Chris Anderson
Gary Lester
Paul Cooney
Rod Bowar
Eugene Mertens
Vickie King

Military Rites By
Johnson-Peterson Post No. 179, Reliance - Kennebec, SD

Interment At A Later Date
Kennebec Cemetery, Kennebec, SD

Fellowship and refreshments for friends and family will be held at the Kennebec Fire Hall immediately following the memorial service.