

Remembering the Life of...

Theophile “Theo” Donald Soft III, age 43, of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, passed away on Tuesday, May 12. He was born on December 29, 1982, in Fort Yates, North Dakota, to Theophile Donald Soft Jr. and Elizabeth Celeste Long Elk. Theo was a gentle, kind-hearted man whose smile and laughter could brighten any room. He worked as a construction laborer across the United States and took great pride in his work. Above all, he cherished his role as a brother, son, uncle, cousin, and friend. His greatest joy in life was spending time with his nieces and nephews. Theo loved being outdoors, fishing, and playing frisbee golf (“frolfing”). He treasured time with family and friends and carried a deep love for his community.

Theo is survived by his mother, Elizabeth Celeste Long Elk (ND); siblings, Angel Young & husband Mike Young (ND), Dwan Thompson (MN), Danya Cadreau & husband Vance Cadreau (AZ); one daughter: Keona Soft (ND); many half-brothers and half-sisters across Minnesota and South Dakota; best friends who became brothers, Darrel Bruce (ND) and Tyler Doctor (ND); close friend: Jacqueline Wilkie (ND); aunt, Marsha Long Elk & family from Minnesota and aunt, Michelle Flying Horse & family.

Theo is also survived by five nieces, Windyna Soft (Devin Mclean), Maliya Alfaro, Mariah Cadreau, Adonica Alfaro, Brooklynn Young; six nephews, Emilio Alfaro, Evaristo Alfaro, Kody Young, Sean Cadreau, Brayden Young, Jordan Young; one great-niece, Daleah Mclean, and one great-nephew, Daniel Mclean; a niece from Standing Rock, Dance White Bull who joined the family and was welcomed into his protected circle, along with numerous cousins throughout North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota.

Theo was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Theophile Donald Soft Sr.; maternal grandparents, Chauncey Long Elk and Ethel Long Elk; and many beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins from both sides of the family.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to the City of Grand Forks, Altru Hospital, and the Grand Forks Police Department for their care, compassion, and support during this difficult time.

In Loving Memory



Footprints

One night I had a dream. I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the skies flashed scenes from my life. In each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand. One was mine, and one was the Lord's.

When the last scene of my life appeared before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand, and to my surprise I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints.

And I noticed that it was at the lowest and saddest times in my life.

I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I notice that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why you left my side when I needed you most."

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, where you see only one set of footprints, I was carrying you."

The family wishes to express their appreciation for your thoughts and prayers. Please join them for lunch and time of memory sharing following the service.

Celebrating the Life of

Theophile Donald Soft III

"Theo"

Dec. 29, 1982



May 12, 2026



Date Et Time of Service

Friday ▪ May 22, 2026 ▪ 5:30pm

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Grand Forks, North Dakota

Officiating

Bishop Allred

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