October 21, 2015



Tim Wilson, 49 ~ 5/2/1960 - 1/30/2010 ~

Cargill Meat Solutions (Excel Specialty Products) in Nebraska

By Jana Wilson-Vahle, Widow

My name is Jana and on January 30, 2010 my world changed forever when my husband of 27.5 years, Tim was killed in a work incident at Cargill Meat Solutions in Nebraska City, Nebraska at the tender age of 49, leaving behind five children and three beautiful grandchildren in an instant. I lost my very best friend, my soul mate. After raising five children, we were just about to enter a new season of life as empty nesters and in fact, our two daughter's had signed a lease on a house the night he died. Tim was so excited for this new season and had lots of plans for "US" for that's the kind of relationship we had "TimandJana" were one word is how our relationship was described by a friend at his funeral.

My children lost a fantastic dad who was the strength of our family and I lost so much more. Learning to live as one instead of two has been challenging to say the least. Learning to parent without his wisdom, humor, going to all the milestones of college graduations, grandchildren being born, a parent's cancer, celebrating my children's birthdays, three of which are all on January 31, the day after his death anniversary,(try handling that unique situation! HOW do you go from the saddest day of your life to three of the happiest without each affecting one another? It's still a work in progress) to name a few have been so hard without him by my side.

I have remarried now but contrary to what people think, it's not a happily ever after, that life died on January 30, 2010. My new husband is wonderful, but my first and deepest love will always be Tim. Federal OSHA investigated the incident and proposed \$9,500.00 penalty. In an informal settlement the penalty was reduced to \$7,000.00. (Inspection: 314053406 - Cargill Meat Solutions.) The company was fined \$7,000.00 and moved on and are still growing each and every day. My family will never get over our loss as we lost such a great father, husband and grandpa, we as a family have grown and changed and will forever deal with our loss on a daily basis. No family should have to endure this pain, going to work should not be a grave mistake.