

Footprints

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord.

Across the sky flashed scenes from his life.

For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand: one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it:
“Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you’d walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don’t understand why when I needed you most you would leave me.”

The Lord replied: “My son, my precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you.”



Ph. (605) 964-3614
Gettysburg, South Dakota
www.familyfuneralhome.net

In Loving Memory

Gillis James Bear Stops Jr.

“Akičhita Ithanchan Thokaheya Khinazin”
(Point Man, Positions himself, First in Command)

June 5, 1976
South Dakota

May 14, 2025
Denver, Colorado

WAKE SERVICE:

7:00 p.m., Friday, June 6, 2025
Red Scaffold Gym
Red Scaffold, South Dakota

FUNERAL SERVICE:

11:00 a.m., Saturday, June 7, 2025
Red Scaffold Gym
Red Scaffold, South Dakota

OFFICIATING:

Vernell Sitting Crow and Fr. Francis Nwakile

CASKET BEARERS:

Brennon Iron Hawk, El’wyn Bear Stops, Wakinyan Hill,
Al’lyn Bear Stops, JayDee Bear Stops, Jace Bear Stops,
Jenaro Chávez-León Jr., Demetrio Chavez-Leon,
Noe Arath Cárdenas Ángulo, Rann’Dunn Bear Stops

MUSICIANS:

Dean Dupris, Ree Red Horse, Barry Oakie
All Musicians and Singers Welcome

INTERMENT:

Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery
Red Scaffold, South Dakota

Gillis J. Bear Stops Jr., 48, of Red Scaffold and Cherry Creek, passed away Wednesday, May 14, 2025, in Denver, CO.

Gillis James Bear Stops was born on June 15, 1976 to the late Aurelia Lucille (Swan) Cisneros and Gillis James Bear Stops Sr.

He was the middle child of seven children, which included: the late Alwin Earl Swan, late Aleta Estelle Tubbs (Bear Stops), Angeli Evon Chavez (Bear Stops), late Madonna Mae Morrison (Bear Stops), Lumanuel Joseph Two Two, and the late Lucy Josephine Two Two.

Gillis has eight children and six grandchildren; Son Matthew Brennon Iron Hawk with grandchildren Wakinyan Ob Hi' Iron Hawk, Wio Weste' Iron Hawk, Zayne Sakiya Iron Hawk, Emma Rose Iron Hawk, Redaya Iron Hawk; Daughter Brianna Marie Jewett (Iron Hawk) with granddaughter B Holly Belle Ducheneaux; Son El'Wyn Jae Bear Stops; Son Al'lyn James Bear Stops; Son Wakinyan Tokahe Hill; Son Ran'Dunn Coque Bear Stops; Son Emanuel Bear Stops; Son late Gillis James Bear Stops III.

Gillis liked to live his life to the fullest. He was well known in the Lakota community due to being very active. He was pipe carrier, singer and sundancer; receiving his Lakota name, Point Man, from Mona Red Horse.

Gillis lived across the United States with his parents and on his own. He attended various schools in Idaho Montana, Chicago and Utah, finally graduating from Takini School.

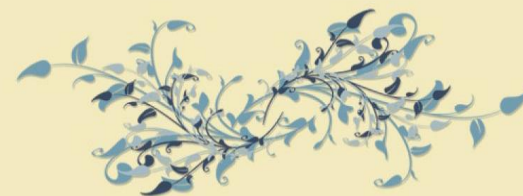
He was also very active in sports activities which included the boys' basketball team going to state, team roping, riding saddle bronc, and simply riding horses.

Gillis comes from two strong families; his maternal White Swan and paternal Bear Stops.

Gillis is preceded in death by his parents: Gillis James Bear Stops Sr. and Aurelia Lucille (Swan) Cisneros; brother, Alwin Earl Swan; sisters: Aleta Estelle Tubbs (Bear Stops), Madonna Mae Morrison (Bear Stops) Lucy Josephine Two Two; maternal grandparents: Angeline Ruth Swan (Condon) and Manuel James Swan; paternal grandparents: Margaret Bear Stops (Lone Eagle) and Peter Bear Stops.

Please accept my sincere apologies for misplacing my original copy of the obituary. It is not my intention to forget anyone.

In Loving Memory



Gillis Bear Stops Jr.