

Doug Spencer

John Douglas "Doug" Spencer, 53, passed away June 28, 2007, after a valiant 11 year battle with cancer. He was born Feb. 4, 1954, in San Jose. Doug was a lifelong California resident and a High Desert resident for 28 years. He graduated in 1976 from Cal-State University, Hayward. Doug was also known as Spencer, Spence and Coach Spencer. He taught junior high at Barstow and Silver Valley U.S.D. He began his varsity football career in 1982 when he was recruited to join Coach Cecil Nelson's staff at Barstow High School. In 1983, he joined Coach Vogt's staff at Silver Valley High School as defensive coordinator. Four years later, he became head coach, the third in the history of Silver Valley High School until his resignation in 1988. Not one to stay on the sidelines very long, he joined Coach Doug South's staff in 1993 as an assistant on the J.V. team. The J.V.'s went 10-0 that year and Coach Spencer took over as head J.V. coach in 1994, guiding that team to a 9-1 record. The following year he moved to varsity and assisted Coach South's team to a CIF playoff. Coach Spencer again took a hiatus from football that lasted until 1998, when he came out of retirement for the second time, to again head up the Silver Valley football program. His efforts paid off this time with a CIF playoff in his third year at the helm. Unfortunately, he was unable to complete his fourth year at Silver Valley as he was again sidelined by cancer. Just recently, one of his players from his second stint at the helm was drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers. Doug also was an avid golfer who proudly displayed his hole in one plaque from the Green Tree Golf Course. Doug was preceded in death by his father, Lewis Spencer. Doug is survived by his wife, Jane Spencer; step-sons, Casey and Kory Friedrichsen and his wife, Jessica; sister-in law, Kellie Chavez and her husband, Ralph of Victorville; his mother, Catherine Spencer of Grove, Okla. and mother-in-law, Carol Post of Yucca Valley. A viewing will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 3, at Kern Memorial Chapel, 14444 Seventh St. in Victorville. Services will follow at 7 p.m. at Kern Memorial Chapel.

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