



## Bernard "Bernie" Joseph Tholen

August 14, 1957 - June 15, 2016

Bernard "Bernie" Tholen was born August 14, 1957 in Leadville, Colorado, the son of Harold and Bernadette Tholen. He was raised in Telluride, Colorado and was a graduate of the high school class of 1975.

An accomplished hiker, Bernie was a natural athlete, excelling in skiing. His appreciation of the Colorado outdoors was unmatched. Most recently he played chess as a hobby. Bernie will be remembered fondly as a gregarious and charming individual who was an animal lover, and a friend to all he met. He shared his gifts of generosity and kindness.

He held a variety of positions in the computer world in his early life and made his residence in Fort Collins, Colorado for a number of years. Bernie especially enjoyed researching his Scandinavian heritage and reading about pioneers in the sciences and math.

His brother, Harold James Tholen lives in Houston, Texas, and his sister, Sarah Marie Tholen, lives in Littleton, Colorado. A dear lifetime friend, Melanie Mitchell, survives him.

There will be a Celebration of Life in Bernie's beloved Telluride on August 14, 2016.



# Tribute Wall



“ *Bernard "Bernie" Joseph Tholen*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Bernie was a good friend to me throughout my childhood and High School years in Telluride. We were also neighbors in our little town. He was perhaps one of the most brilliant creative minds I knew ~ also mischievous and fun!  
I send my sincere condolences to Jim and Sarah and others whom lives he touched. May he Rest Peacefully.  
Shari Schuler Hirsch*

Shari Schuler Hirsch - July 25, 2016 at 09:27 AM



*Shari, thanks so much for the lovely tribute. I would love to send you a copy of his memorial booklet--can you send me your email? Mine is sarahtholen@gmail.com*

Sarah Tholen - August 05, 2016 at 08:52 PM



“ *Dear Sarah and family,*

*I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know that all of you are in my thoughts and in my prayers.*

*Sincerely,*

*Kim Smolka*

Kim Smolka - June 27, 2016 at 09:00 AM

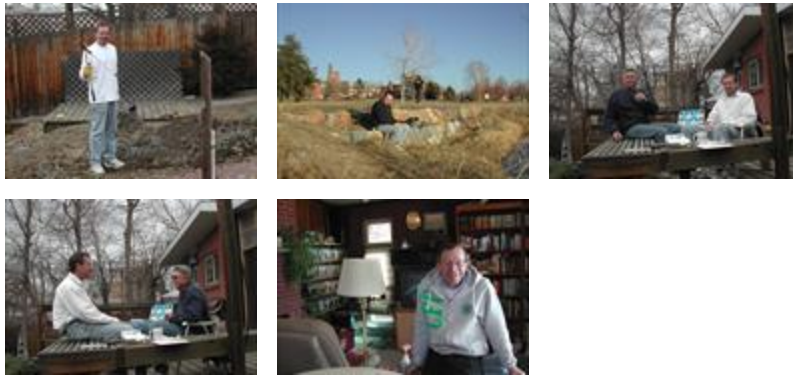
SH

*Dearest Tholen family,  
It is with great sadness I express my sincere condolences to you.  
Bernie will always be fondly remembered in my heart. He was a  
unique, kind and compassionate with a sense of mystery. I enjoyed his  
friendship throughout our school years as neighbors and friends. May  
he Rest Peacefully and live forever within our hearts.*

Shari Schuler Hirsch - July 24, 2016 at 10:03 PM

BR

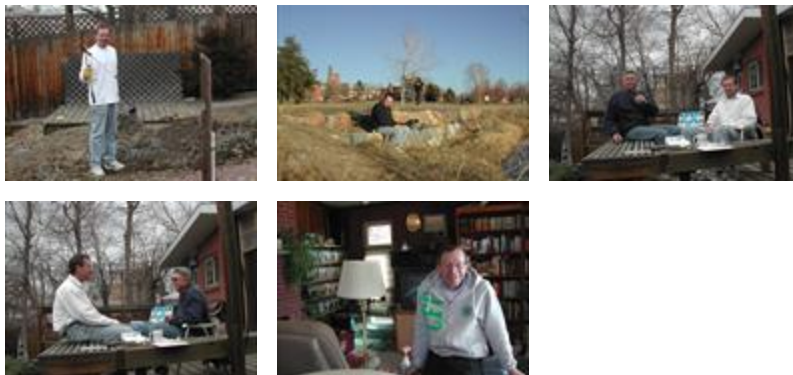
“ 7 files added to the album Miscellaneous from Brad



Brad - June 19, 2016 at 08:02 AM

BR

“ 7 files added to the album Miscellaneous from Brad



Brad - June 19, 2016 at 08:01 AM

BR

“ 7 files added to the album *Miscellaneous from Brad*



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**Brad** - June 19, 2016 at 07:59 AM

BR

“ 7 files added to the album *Misc from Brad*



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**Brad** - June 19, 2016 at 07:49 AM

BG

“*Bernie befriended me when I first arrived to Telluride and our imagination and love of science fiction propelled us in many adventures. Something about the combination of magical thinking and science..... After graduating from Colorado Mtn College our paths did not cross much but I have many fond memories of him and the adventures we shared. He could be a very bright light and had a passion for life. Let me know if I can help at all with arrangements here in Telluride. My best wishes to you all. Below is a poem I find comforting at times like this.*

### *BIRDSONG*

*He doesn't know the world at all  
Who stays in his nest and doesn't go out.  
He doesn't know what birds know best  
Nor what I want to sing about,  
That the world is full of loveliness.*

*When dewdrops sparkle in the grass  
And earth's aflood with morning light,  
A blackbird sings upon a bush  
To greet the dawning after night.  
Then I know how fine it is to live.*

*Hey, try to open up your heart  
To beauty; go to the woods someday  
And weave a wreath of memory there.  
Then if the tears obscure your way  
You'll know how wonderful it is  
To be alive.*

*--Anonymous 1941*

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**Brandt Garber** - June 18, 2016 at 05:27 PM

ST

*Brandt, we are having a Celebration of Bernard's life in Telluride August 14, 2016. How can I reach you with the invitation? Thank you so much for the lovely tribute. My email is sarahtholen@gmail.com, and phone is 720-775-5155. We would love to share his information with you.*

Sarah Tholen - August 05, 2016 at 08:54 PM

KS

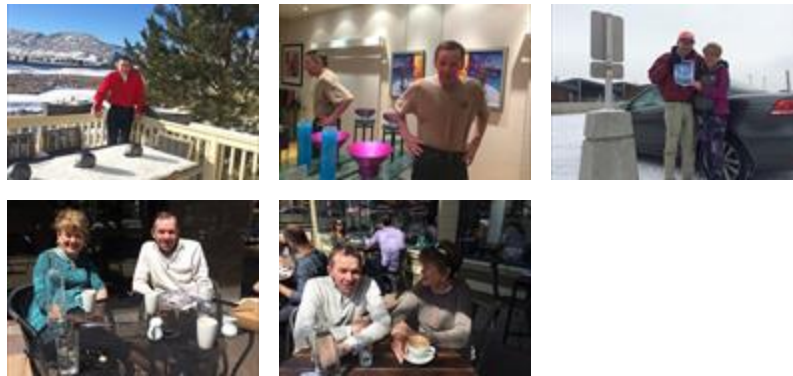
“ Karen S lit a candle in memory of Bernard "Bernie" Joseph Tholen



Karen S - June 17, 2016 at 07:38 PM

SA

“ 22 files added to the album New Album Name



Sarah - June 17, 2016 at 01:51 PM

BR

*My sympathies to Jim and Sarah. Bernie was a fun loving guy. A lot of fun times and memories in Telluride.*

Bessie (Goldsworthy) Rosenberg - June 17, 2016 at 05:26 PM

JF

*Our thoughts & prayers are with Bernie's family.  
John & Leslie*

John Forbes - June 17, 2016 at 09:33 PM

TE

*Sympathy to Jim and Sarah. May memories provide you some comfort  
at this time. My thoughts are with you -*

Terry - June 20, 2016 at 01:49 PM

PS

*Bucky and I send our deepest sympathy to Jim and Sarah. We  
remember Bernie with fondness when he was growing up in Telluride  
with our children.*

Pat Schuler - June 21, 2016 at 11:37 AM

CR

“ *Cori Rosengren lit a candle in memory of  
Bernard "Bernie" Joseph Tholen*



Cori Rosengren - June 17, 2016 at 07:46 AM

CH

“ *Chrissy lit a candle in memory of Bernard  
"Bernie" Joseph Tholen*



Chrissy - June 16, 2016 at 09:31 AM