



Reed Jackson

September 14, 1954 - August 15, 2009

Reed Jackson, age 54 of Fort Collins, Colorado died August 15, 2009 at Poudre Valley Hospital due to complications from surgery. Reed Francis Jackson was born September 14, 1954 in Denver Colorado to Robert and Mary Lou Jackson. He graduated from North High School in 1972 and began working for the Union Pacific Railroad when he was 18. He met, and eventually married Martha Bailey while “borrowed out” in San Antonio, Texas. They were married in a beautiful outdoor ceremony on July 10, 1993. Though he worked out of the UP Rail yard in Cheyenne, Wyoming, Fort Collins was his and Martha’s home for the past 16 years. Reed loved traveling the country with Union Pacific’s historical fleet of steam locomotives and executive passenger cars, and meeting people all over the Union Pacific System. Reed had a passion for his job, and a better, more professional Conductor you’d never find, however, he went out of his way to show his friends that they meant the world to him. Reed had many passions and interests in his life. He had a 1970 convertible Volkswagon Bug he dubbed “The General”. In addition to his love of family, friends and the railroad, he was an avid Black Diamond snowskier. Reed was known to friends and family as a lover of life. Kindness, acceptance of others and sense of humor were his tickets to friendships all over the world. He had a great love of people and never met a stranger. Reed is survived by his loving wife, Martha, three daughters, Celeste Parker, Erin Jackson and Danielle Jackson, three grandchildren, Raquel Jackson, Preston Dempski and Jackson Parker, his parents, Bob and Mary

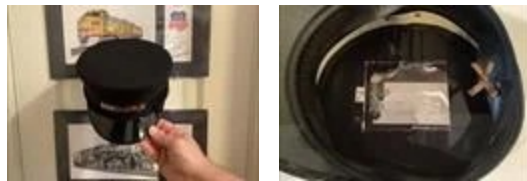
Lou Jackson, and five siblings, Linda Jackson, Kent Jackson, Chris Taylor, Shawn Engelbert and Stacey Birkeness. Visitation will be held Thursday, August 20th from 5-7:00PM at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Recitation of the Rosary will begin at 7:00PM Thurs. Mass of the Resurrection will be held at 10:30 AM Friday at St. Joseph Church with interment at Grandview Cemetery following the mass. His memorial luncheon will be at the Rio Grande Restaurant at 12:30. More can be seen through the Western Pacific website: www.wplives.org. His family requests that any memorial donations please be made to the Reed Jackson Memorial Fund at United People's Federal Credit Union in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

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Tribute Wall

SD

“ I met Reed on a UP steam excursion and was taken by his kind and caring ways and great sense of humor. Being the train nut that I was/am, we started talking about his Conductor’s uniform and how impressive and classic it was.....before I knew it, out of my mouth I blurted jokingly if he would sell me his hat, not really thinking that it was a remote possibility.... After some consideration, he asked if I was serious.....Dumbfounded that he would actually consider selling it to me, I replied, well, yes.....He promptly took it off, placed his business card inside and handed it to me with a smile. I graciously accepted it knowing how truly special this event was and placed some folded bills in his hand.....Today it is one of my greatest memorabilia train treasures I have. Reed, you are a true gentleman and a very kind and caring person.....
Rest easy Reed....you are loved by many
Stuart D
Portland, Oregon



Stuart D - November 04, 2024 at 02:10 PM



“ *Reed Jackson*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM

TC

“ Dear Martha:

Words cannot express the feeling of loss that we feel for you. Reed was so wonderful and loving and he definitely will be missed by us all. We are honored to have known and loved him as part of our family. We love you, Martha, and we continue to pray for you. We are here for you now and in the future. Keep the faith, little sister!

*Love you -
Tom, Jennifer & Caitlin*

Tom, Jennifer & Caitlin - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KG

“ *Reed was a good friend, Reed was in love with life. He enjoyed every moment, knowing every day was a new adventure, his life was filled with skiing, locomotive trains, music, he was passionate in his devotion to friends and family, his family was a true source of pride, joy and love. His untimely death will be a great loss to many, but his memory will serve as a catalyst for great new adventures and endeavors, as his life work with steam trains and undying passion live on in all those who knew him.*

Kenneth & Cleo Grimshaw - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Dear Martha,

Our prayers and hearts are with you. We could see Reed's love for you from the first time we saw you two together. His love for life was contagious! We have been greatly blessed to be able to call him brother, friend and uncle.

We are praying that the Lord will continue to hold you close to Him and that you will know that He is your shield and strength.

*With great love,
Bill, Mary Jo and family*

Bill, Mary Jo and Family - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SI

“ REED WAS ONE OF THE SWEETIST GUYS AROUND HE WAS LOVED BY SO MANY AND WILL BE GREATLY MISSED BY ALL HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS BUT I KNOW THAT WE WILL BE TOGETHER AGAIN AND GET TO GO FOR A RIDE ON THE HEAVEN BOUND TRAIN. WE LOVE YOU MARTHA AND ARE HERE FOR YOU LOVE JO

STEVE AND JO INMAN - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ *Dear Martha:
My thoughts, my prayers, and my love are with you today and always.*

Love - Mom

Rita Eichler - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very difficult time for you. I enjoyed my time with Reed and will miss him.*

Bob & Tara Lockman - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *What a caring and wonderful man Reed was, he always had a moment to talk when his phone was away from his ear. I lost my husband in November of '08, when I seen Reed for the first time, after Dan passed away, he had just arrived at work and he put down his laptop and without a word said he came over and gave me a big hug, and whenever he saw my kids he always had a toy or some little thing for them...he always had time to talk to them...Reed made sure that they had a spot on the mini-train for the Frontier Days parade and talked to my son about his dad while we waited to join the parade.*

My heart goes out to Reed's wife and family, there are no words that can take away the pain and heartache, only know that there are ones who care about you sincerely, that feel that pain too. Know that he will be remembered in our hearts because of the very special person he proved himself to be. With extreme heartfelt sympathy, Trish and Family

Trish Moyer - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *so very sorry to hear about my friend Reeds' untimely passing i know he will be missed by many people.
my deepest sympathy goes out to his family and loved ones.*

jimmy stephens

Jack Cook - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Reed give em' hell up there in heaven and say hello to my Brother Bobby. Rest in Peace.

Steve Coble - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Reed was a great friend and a great ambassador for the Union Pacific Railroad. Those of us who were close to him will never forget all the great times we had over the years while in freight service, on steam trips, and away from the railroad as well, and for all the kindness he showed to those around him. Few are as lucky as Reed was to be able to combine his vocation with his avocation. He was a true railroaders' railroader and we will miss him immensely. My deepest sympathies to his entire family. All aboard, old friend.

Cameron MacArthur - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Martha and family. I am proud to call Reed my friend! I was introduced to Reed over 10 years ago but got to appreciate who he really was in the last year and a half due to working side by side with him on the mini train. Reed had a big heart-a big heart for life, for his job and most of all for his family and friends. His appetite for life knew no bounds. I will miss my friend everyday!

Rod Qualls Tasha Landrigan - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ Aunt Martha, I'm so sorry for your loss! Reed was such a fun man to be around. I believe he could talk to anyone! We only had the opportunity to be around him a few times, but each time was unique... snow skiing and sight seeing, as well as getting a private tour of the big train with our excited kids. Thanks for sharing him with us. I love you, Aunt Martha, and I'm praying constantly grace, comfort, peace, and rest for you! Love, Angel

Angel Haynes - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

WZ

“ Although I barely knew Reed and even though we only spoke on a few occasions I was always welcomed by his grace and positive outlook that always left me in a better mood. I felt like a minor player in his presence. He loved his job always having the best attitude when anyone spoke to him about the what he did. His was a love of the job and it showed with every smile and hand shake. He was a true ambassador of the Steam program and the Union Pacific Railroad.

William Zaczek - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RI

“ Reed and I go back 30 years as friends. He was close to me and my family. I will miss Reed Jackson dearly! My condolences to Reed's family. My few regrets was I never met Martha.

Randy Irwin - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Martha and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time of Reed's passing.

Jim Burrill - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

VS

“*Reed was one of a kind. We have know him for several years and have enjoyed traveling with him on many train excursions. There will never be anyone like Reed. Nothing will ever be the same again. He will be missed more than you know.*

Virgil & Pam Simoens - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RP

“*Reed will be missed by all of us at the railroad. His playful charm was always apparent, especially when he found his calling to work with the public as a passenger conductor on the historic trains. My sympathy to his family.*

Ralph Parker - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ES

“*Reed will be truly missed by all of those that knew him. He always had a smile and a hug. His smile was infectious.*

We wish Martha all the best. Remember the love you shared and the friends and family that are all willing to help you with whatever you need. We will be there for you, Martha.

Ed and Shauna Smith - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ML

“*My thoughts and prayers are with Reed and his entire family. Having been friends with Bob Jackson for many years, I know how much Reed meant to him, to all of the family.*

Mark

Mark Layman - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I was blessed with the opportunity to be able to spend countless numbers of hours with Reed in our work and away. I am extremely proud to have been your good friend. I am glad we got the chance to love and look out for each other. I will always remember you and miss you greatly. Martha the whole family loves you too and look forward to many future visits.

Jack and Mary Holland and family - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ A life cut short too soon...we will miss his smile, his humor, and hearing him call ALL ABOARD! Rest in peace.

Karen & Steve Lee - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ We had a blast at Reed's birthday party last year, which was the first time we met him. We felt so welcome and stayed up a little too late. LOL Our only regret is we didn't get to know him longer. Martha, words cannot express how sorry we are. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
I feel honored to have worked for him/with him over the past year helping out on the mini-train.

Ronald and Heide McOmber - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ To a longtime friend in which we had many of good times with, and who always humored us and put a smile on our faces. Love you Reed, we'll miss you.
Keep on rollin, Reed.

High ball Action!!

We'll keep in touch with you Martha

Chris and Petie

Chris & Petie Chocas - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Reed was a special guy, a good friend, and we will miss him.

Jerry & Connie Calkins - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ My condolences to you all. It was obvious he loved working with the steam engines. He always stopped and spoke with anyone and was kind and generous with his time. I will miss seeing him around.

Sincerely,

Sheila Lutz

Cheyenne Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Sheila Lutz - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SV

“ My deepest sympathies go out to the Jackson family. I meet Reed several years ago thru my father in law who has work with Reed on the railroad for many years.

Here is a little story about Reed that neither I nor my son will ever forget. One day my son and I went down to see the steam engine in Cheyenne outside the depot. We seen Reed up in the engine and my son said to me “hey look there”s Reed dad. So we walk over to visit, it had been a while since we had seen him. We talk for a while about the train and other things. At the end of our conversation Reed told my son that his grandpa should bring him down to the yard to get a better look at the steam engine. A few weeks later my son and his grandpa made it down to see Reed, he took my son all around that train and showed him so many things and my son was so excited to be so up close and personal with Reed and the Steam engine. That night when my son got home he had such a big grin on his face from his visit to the train yard and inside the roundhouse. He had to tell me how he got to sit up in the engineers seat and how everything work and all about Reed getting to drive that steam engine all over the country. It has been several years since that special day in my son’s life but he still talk about Reed and has the poster that Reed gave him of that steam engine hanging on his wall.

Reed was a great guy and he will be deeply missed.

Steve and Dallas Vossler

Steve Vossler - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ Reed was such a wonderful man and he will be missed by all who knew him. I loved the time we all spent in Las Vegas, he was so funny and had everyone laughing. Martha I wish you the very best and I am here for you now and in the future. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Love you - Garnet

Garnet Francesca - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Reed and I were coworkers on the Union Pacific. I had the opportunity to work with Reed on freight trains when I was the conductor and he was the brakeman.

When we worked together I always knew that Reed would do the necessary work and I could always depend on him. It was a pleasure to work with Reed and I enjoyed his company.

I will greatly miss him.

My condolences to his family.

*May God Bless,
Winston Brickey*

Catherine Crosby - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Some of the best times I spent was with your family on Lake Powell. Those memories will never fade. Reed showed us light through our dark times. A very special friend whos soul will travel with us always. I will see you again Bull Frog Marina...

Kyle Kirkpatrick - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Reed and i have been friends sent he went to work on the U.P. and we both went to wyo. to work i will miss he. He was a very good friend.

JAMES SWAN(swanny) - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ We had an opportunity to meet Reed in July, as he gave our grandchildren a tour of the mini train. The adults enjoyed just as much as the children. Sorry for your loss. Our nephew Rod Qualls is very sad also. I am so glad we took pictures. I will share with Rod. May God be with you and your family

Barb Frels - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ I met Reed Jackson in Cheyenne in 1975 right after I graduated from high school. Reed had just started working for the railroad and was working from Cheyenne. I remember many great times, ski trips, parties and friends. He was a very gentle man and so very handsome! All mouths would drop when he entered the room especially after a long day of skiing in Winter Park dressed in a bright red ski outfit - it was a favorite spot.

I'm so sorry that he was taken from his family so early. There is nothing harder than losing your beloved husband, father, son, friend. My prayer for the family will be that you will find peace and solace in the days ahead. May God bless you and keep you.

Ellen Leff Lewis - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ It saddens my heart to hear of Reed passing. He was in our lives for a short time, years ago, and is remembered so often. I remember him accompanying me on a trip home, rather than me having to go by myself. It was a gathering of family, family-friends, music, laughter, and homemade moonshine. No one thought they enjoyed the day more than Reed. His company was enjoyed by all. And remembered to this day. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of his family.

Cindi Doran Regalado - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ We met Reed in May 2006 when they came through the Oklahoma Panhandle and stopped in Guymon for several days. He told us about the yearly train trip they do for Cheyenne Frontier Days. We managed to get tickets that year and have made the trip every year since then. We always looked forward to seeing and visiting with Reed on the trips. He will be greatly missed by us. God Bless you all as you mourn your loss of a very special man.

Milton Brune - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Reed a number of years ago during his first visit to Saint Paul with #3985. I was attempting to get a great photo and Reed was concerned with safety as he always was, and he asked me to move back from the tracks. From that chance meeting grew a friendship (helped initially by my sharing my wife's maiden name (Jackson) and her home town (Jackson, MN), that continued over the years with visits to Cheyenne and Saint Paul by both of us. We shared a love of trains big and small and our club chartered an excursion from Denver to Cheyenne in 2006 and Reed provided training and direction for all of our car hosts. Reed's last visit to the Twin Cities was just about one year ago and we spent time in Como Park between rides for kids provided by Reed and his Steam Crew pals with the UP Parade Train.

Reed had an immediate and lasting impact on all those fortunate enough to meet him and all of us in LCCA share the loss of his family and beloved UP Steam Crew. I find myself smiling just now as I think of Reed with his infectious smile and quick wit. He will be missed and fondly remembered.

*John Fisher
Lionel Collectors Club of America (LCCA)*

John A. Fisher - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ We are very sorry we missed the funeral but I had surgery that day. I am going to miss his wonderful smile and happy face at work. He used to come into my office every month or so. Our Deepest Sympathy to you and your family.
Cheryl and Steve

Cheryl Rauert and Steve Schwartz - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KO

“ Sincere sympathy to Reeds family,my heart goes out to you at this tender time. I too have a hole in my heart.. This man was a gift to the world, although I only met him once, it had lasting impact and I am grateful for that. I will look for his star in the sky...oxoxo Kathy S

Kathy Soenderby OHN - August 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM