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Kevin Van Der Molen Obituary

Formerly of Middletown, N.Y.

Kevin Darrin Van Der Molen, of Sacramento, Calif., a zookeeper in charge of the carnivore section of the Sacrament Zoo, died suddenly on Friday, Dec. 23, 2005. He was 43.

The son of Garry and Geor gene Van Der Molen, he was born on April 2, 1962 in Middletown, N.Y.

Kevin was a graduate of both Minisink Valley High School and the Culinary Institute of America.

A family statement read, "Kevin was a fun-loving gentleman. He was someone who loved life and attempted to make the most of each day of his life. He was an especially caring and helpful person to his loving daughter, who was the apple of his eye, his family, friends and those around him. He was a true lover of nature and animals. He was able to fill one of his dreams in working as a zookeeper. He had a desire to see as much of the world as he could and traveled as much as he could. He always tried to truly live life to the fullest. He will be terribly missed by his family and those who knew him."

Survivors include his parents Garry and Georgene Van Der Molen of Middletown; his daughter, Molly Van Der Molen of Sacramento, Calif.; his brothers, Garry Van Der Molen Jr. and wife Suzy of Hanford, Calif. and Keith B. Van Der Molen of Milford, Pa.; sister, Donna Marie Mott and companion Glenn Finke of Middletown; nephews, George Van Der Molen of Laurel, Md., Marlon, Lucas, Matthew, Dante and Monti Motta of Otisville and Glenn Finke Jr. of Middletown; and nieces, Elizabeth Popielarcheck and husband Joseph of Rice Landing, Pa. and Melissa Ghimenti and husband Anthony of Hanford, Calif.

He was predeceased by his brother, Brian M. Van Der Molen; maternal grandparents George and Bernice Morris; and paternal grandparents, Minert and Anna Van Der Molen.

Burial will be held in the family plot at Howells Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements by Ralston-Lippincott- Hasbrouck-Ingrassia Funeral Home, Middletown.

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