

## Damian Lee Grote, 4

*Oct. 10, 1997 - Dec. 2, 2001*

**HARLAN** – Damian Lee Grote, son of Adam Grote and Carrie Brant Grote, was born Oct. 10, 1997, at Myrtue Memorial Hospital. Damian's lungs were not providing enough oxygen so he was rushed to Children's Hospital in Omaha, NE, shortly after his birth. After an extended weekend stay, Damian came home. A neurological disorder was discovered at six months that made it difficult for Damian to use certain muscles. He soon found a way to feed himself his bottle with his feet. Nothing slowed him down. Damian's next adventure was to Illinois. The long living room in his new house didn't deter him in the slightest. He did whatever it took to reach the double doors at the opposite end of the room that led to freedom to play outside. He taught himself how to walk using an activity center that had wheels on it. It was great therapy for his arms and legs.

Damian then moved back to Harlan. He liked to run errands with his dad in the car. He lived right next to the Dream Playground where he and his brother would play for hours with Dad.

Damian was also very active in school at an early age. He was in the Area 13 Toddler Group and at age three started at Bridges Preschool.

He was a boy. As long as he could play outside and ride his bike - Damian was happy. He died Dec. 2, 2001, at Children's Hospital in Omaha, NE, at age four years, one month and 22 days.

He is survived by his mother, Carrie Grote of Harlan; his father, Adam Grote of Council Bluffs; his brother, Dakota Grote of Harlan; his maternal grandmother, Nancy (Dennis) Trobaugh of Sterling, IL; his maternal grandfather, Dale (Rose) Brant of North Bend, NE; his paternal grandparents, Michael and Mary Grote of Council Bluffs; and his paternal great grandmother, Ethel Miles of Harlan; aunts and uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held Dec. 6, 2001, at St. Mary's Our Lady of Fatima Church in Portsmouth, with Rev. Paul Bianchi officiating. Burial was in the Harlan Cemetery with Rick Payeur, Bill Payeur and Dan Fallon honorary casket bearers and William Schumacher, Byron Bentzen, Scott Brant and Todd Grote casket bearers. Pauley Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

