

USACE Omaha employee dies at 57



Gregory Marc Jizba of Omaha passed away June 16 at the age of 57. Jizba was born May 27, 1960, in Omaha to Lois Barber Jizba and Jaro Z. Jizba who preceded him in death.

He was a loving and beloved father, husband, brother, uncle and friend. An excellent musician, Jizba played recorders and several brass instruments. He was an avid juggler and co-president of the Omaha Juggling Club. He enjoyed gardening, unicycling, ballroom dancing and cross-country bicycling tours.

Jizba was a 1978 Burke High School graduate, where he served as a drum major. He graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1982 with a B.S. in civil engineering (with distinction) and earned an M.S. in

structural engineering from Colorado State University in Ft. Collins in 1983.

“Greg's service to our Nation and our District was exemplary,” said Col. John Henderson, former commander, USACE Omaha.

Jizba was a structural engineer and was employed for more than 25 years by the Corps. He started with the Protective Design Center (PDC) in 1989 working on classified weapons systems support projects. Jizba then transferred to the Design Branch where his most significant work was the primary structural expert for the Hydrant Fuels program.

After doing that for eight to 10 years Jizba returned to the PDC shortly after 9/11. He worked on a lot of different blast resistant design projects around the world. He also helped in developing Unified Facilities Design Criteria documents and manuals for how to do protective design.

Jizba also worked on vulnerability assessments and mitigation strategies for terrorist attacks on bridges and tunnels for the Transportation Security Agency. He was selected as the Chief of the Security Engineering Section and he was trying to settle in to that different kind of job.

“Greg will be dearly missed in the PDC and the protective design community,” said Curt Betts, USACE Omaha, chief, Protective Design Center.

Jizba is survived by his wife, Renee Crosby Jizba and three sons: Alex D. Jizba of Commerce City, Colorado; Samuel P. Jizba, Omaha; and Eric M. Jizba of Seattle. Also surviving him are sisters Laurel Jizba Kesler (Thomas) of West Lafayette, Indiana; Elaine Henzler (Richard) of Adirondack, New York; brothers Thomas D. Jizba (Teri) of Bennington and Richard J. Jizba (Janet) of Omaha; sister-in-law, Rebecca Crosby of Elgin, Illinois; mother-in-law, Vida Crosby of Omaha; his former wife and mother of his sons, Barb Heeney Jizba of Omaha, and many nieces and nephews.