John Robin (J.R.) Horton was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on January 23, 1947 and he died accidently at the home that he loved on July 18th, 2010.

J.R. grew up on the west side of that Midwest City. After being sent home from his first day of kindergarten, and some other minor mishaps along the way, he graduated from West Allis Central High School in 1965 and from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point a mere nine years later in 1974 with a degree in psychology. Immediately after that he came to visit Wyoming and found his true home; he never looked back.

The following year he met his darling Goldilocks, Shannon Horton (Fluckiger), in Evanston, Wyoming; they have been together ever since, and will be forevermore. During the past 35 years they raised three children of their own, Joleen, Michael, and Johnny; as well as numerous others. They now have two granddaughters, Kylie and Amanda, who are growing up too fast. J.R. and Shannon traveled many, many miles together including thousands of miles with their children and with the Order of the Eastern Star, both domestic and abroad.

J.R. served the State of Wyoming as a Probation and Parole Agent for 32 years, finishing that career as the District Supervisor for Fremont County before he retired in July 2009. After a short retirement, he began counseling as a Licensed Addiction Therapist, for the Fremont County Adult Drug Court. In his early adult life J.R. benefited from being given second and third chances to find his way. He spent the rest of his life doing the same for others. Whether with family, friends, or clients, J.R.’s interactions were intensely personal. He had the rare ability of truly living in the moment, and when you were with him he was truly with you. J.R. served his local and global communities through many charities and organizations. He was raised to the degree of Master Mason in June of 1986 in Wyoming Lodge #2. He was initiated into Olivet Chapter #3 in Lander in February of 1990. He served the State of Wyoming as Worthy Grand Patron in 2008/2009. J.R. was also a member of the Scottish Rite, Lander Valley, 32 degree, KCCH; as well as being a Shriner.

J.R. was a master of most trades, cars and technology excepted. He found pleasure in the smallest of things and he was never bored. He was fascinated with history and read ravenously. He couldn’t remember which card game he was playing, but mostly enjoyed them. He was an exceptionally wise man, and had figured out that if he loved watching birds, no matter where he was, he was doing what he loved. A man of small physical stature, he was in all ways a strong man. J.R. was at home in nature, enjoying fishing, hunting, hiking, skiing, and canoeing to name a few; the whole time watching and recording birds (as a nice British lady informed him in Hyde Park, he was a twitcher). He loved beyond reason, and his family was the greatest recipient of this gift, although not the only.

He was preceded in death by his father, John Francis Horton; his baby sister, Janet Rae Horton; his step-father, Erwin J. Candek; and his mother-in-law, Donna Fluckiger. He is survived by his wife, Shannon of Lander; daughter, Joleen and husband John Martinez of Pleasant View, Utah; son, Michael of Hudson; son, Johnny and wife Maegen of Denver, Colorado; mother, Jean R. Candek of Greendale, Wisconsin; sister, Julee and husband Bryon Radtke of Madison, Wisconsin; father-in-law, Lester Fluckiger of Cora; brother-in-law, David and wife Rebekah Fluckiger of Morgan, Utah; nieces, Robin, Rachel, and Sarah; nephews, Sam and Dustin; and granddaughters, Kylie and Amanda.

Memorials may be made to: Wyoming Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, P.O. Box 20594, Cheyenne, WY 82003; World Wildlife Fund, P.O. Box 97180, Washington D.C. 20090; Habitat for Humanity International, 270 Peach St. NW, Suite 1300, Atlanta, GA 30303; or Fremont County Group Home, #11 Minter Lane, Riverton, WY 82501.