On Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016, Nathan Ray Granger, 71, of Sulphur, La., took his final breath at West Cal-Cam Hospital surrounded by love and joined his beloved parents, Curley and Rose, and brothers Jim, Percy and Bobby Granger whom his heart so ardently loved, grieved and longed to see. Nathan was born on Sept. 22, 1945, in Mamou, La. Though his family moved often, they called Lake Charles home and LaGrange Senior High became Nathan’s final alma mater.

On March 30, 1968, Nathan married the great love of his life, Martha Rose Chapman, who stayed by his side until his very last breath. They had three daughters, and the family enjoyed many long road trips where rock hounds Nathan and Martha would hunt for diamonds, sapphires, opal, gold and fossils, his most prized discovery being a 65 million-year-old crocodile near Kemmerer, Wyo.

Nathan proudly served in the Army National Guard and supported his loved ones as a process operator at the Citgo Refinery in Sulphur. His coworkers whom he also called friends could attest to his prowess and proficiency, yet art was his passion. A prolific artist of nearly every medium, Nathan’s self-taught works included beautiful paintings, copper beatings, jewelry, leatherwork, alabaster jars, and woodworking. If Nathan saw it, he could make it. He loved the enjoyment his works brought others, and as the years took their toll and his hands no longer served him, Nathan took to nurturing his pets as a means to express his beautiful soul. He will be interred with the ashes of his beloved cat, Buckwheat.

Nathan is survived by his wife, Martha Granger; his children, Cindy (Joe) Walker and Jennifer Granger, all of Sulphur, La., and Miranda Granger of Los Angeles, Calif.; his granddaughters, Ginger “Nikki” (Chris) Champeau of Westlake, La., and Haddie and Brooklyn Walker of Sulphur, La.; and his siblings, Lee Ann Virgadamo of Sulphur, La., Ferna Mae (Ricky) Cormier of Topsy, La., Louella (Lane) Levan of Greensboro, N.C., and Curley (Darlene) Granger Jr. of Middleburg, Fla.; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. All will miss him immensely.

Visitation and funeral services will be held at Johnson and Robinson Funeral Home in Sulphur, La., and will be officiated by Rev. Ronnie Bishop. Visitation will be from 2-7 p.m.
on Sunday, Oct. 9 and from 9 a.m. until the funeral begins at 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 10, 2016. Graveside services will begin at 3 p.m. at Indian Village Cemetery in Indian Village, La. In lieu of flowers, please consider the needs of the family.