Ashok Patel, 54, of Loganville, Ga., and formerly of Boone, NC, passed away January 9, 2013.

He was born in Loughborough, England, on November 29, 1958, the son of Maganlal Patel of Dungri, Gujarat, India and the late Sudhaben Patel of Vankaner, Gujarat, India.

Ashok was a loving husband and wonderful father. He spent the past 30 years helping to improve the growth of Boone through the development of many lodging facilities. He also spent many years giving back to the community through the Boone Civitan Club and the High Country Soccer Association. He received his long awaited American citizenship on April 24, 2009. He loved the High Country and it was the only place he ever called home.

He is survived by his wife of 4 years, Linda Muzquiz, of Loganville, Ga.; father, Maganlal Patel, of Dungri, Gujarat, India; sons, Jason Ashok Patel, of Raleigh, NC, and Justin Ashok Patel, of Boone, NC; daughter, Selina Patel of Boone, NC; mother of his children, Jill Atfield, of Boone, NC; sister, Sangita Nelson, of Boone, NC; niece, Sarina Patel, of Boone, NC; nephew, Shaynan Patel, of Wellingborough, England; step-sister Sharda Bose, of Edison, NJ; and step-mother Urmila Patel, of Leicester, England. He is also survived by his wife's family, who loved him dearly: mother and father-in-Law, Mary Ann and Fernando Muzquiz, of Loganville, Ga; brothers-in-law, Michael Muzquiz of Loganville, Ga, and Fernando Muzquiz, of Cheyenne, Wy.

In addition, there are cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews, too numerous to list, who were loved by Ashok and will miss him.

Private memorial services for Ashok Patel will be conducted Monday, January 14, 2013, at Hampton Funeral Home Chapel. Ashok's cremated remains will be spread in the High Country.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Watauga County Humane Society, PO Box 1835, Boone, North Carolina, 28607, or to the ASPCA, 424 East 92nd Street, New York, New York, 10128.

Online condolences may be sent to the Patel family at www.hamptonfuneralnc.com.

Hampton Funeral and Cremation Service is in charge of the arrangements.