



## Adolph "Pusty" Backlund

March 29, 1916 - March 29, 2012

Adolph M. "Pusty" Backlund 96, of Norway, formerly of Cass Ave. Kingsford, passed away on Thurs. March 29, 2012 at ManorCare Health Care Services in Kingsford. He was born on December 29, 1915, the son of the late Matthew and Johanna (Nyman) Backlund. Adolph was raised in the Felch area and was a 1934 graduate of Felch High School. After graduation he worked with the Civilian Conservation Corp. (CCC) before joining the Army. He served with the United States Army 83rd Wildcat Division in the Pacific Theatre of Operations during WWII. Following his honorable discharge from the Army, Adolph married the former Rena Ronkko in Norway on January 26, 1946. They raised their family in Kingsford while Adolph worked for the Niagara of Wisconsin (NOW) paper company in Niagara. He retired from NOW in 1979 after twenty eight years of service. Adolph was a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Charter member of the Felch-Breen Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4803 and the Carpenter-Clash-Johnson American Legion Post #50. He loved sports and especially enjoyed following the Kingford Flivvers and North Dickinson Nordics. He was an avid Green Bay Packer Football and Detroit Tiger Baseball fan. He also coached American Legion Baseball for many years.

Adolph was preceded in death by his wife Rena in 1999; two sisters, Esther Carlson and Martha Glynn; five brothers, Eskil, Arthur, Salem "Kime", Godfrey "Guts" and Albert "Silver" Backlund.

He is survived by two sons, Wayne (Susan) Backlund of Spread Eagle, WI and Kissimmee, FL, James (Mary) Backlund of Gaylord, MI and Beijing, China; three grandchildren, Rob Backlund, Zach and Max Backlund; many nieces and nephews including a special niece, Janice (Vernon) Anderson.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, April 3rd from 4:00 to 7:00pm at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home. Funeral services will be on Wednesday at 11:00am at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Rev. Lee Liverance will officiate. Burial will be in the Foster City Cemetery. Military rites will be accorded by the Felch Breen VFW Post 4803.

Pallbearers will be, John Anderson, Mark Anderson, Rob Backlund, Zach Backlund, Sandy King and Randy Rice.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his memory to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church or the American Heart Assoc.

Condolences to the family of Adolph Backlund may be expressed online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home with the funeral arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 3. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home  
901 Carpenter Ave.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

## Funeral Service

APR 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
1210 S. Kimberly Ave.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

# Tribute Wall

KN

“ Your Father was an amazing individual and neighbor. We, as a young couple could not have been more blessed by having him in our lives. I told my youngest daughter that Pusty had passed, and that he was 98...she didn't miss a beat and replied, "Oh no, what did he die of?" He had an amazingly long and well lived life! Please keep in touch and know you are all in our prayers~ Kim and Kevin Massicotte

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**Kim and Kevin Massicotte - kingsford, MI - Neighbor** - April 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Wayne, Suzie and Rob,

*Our hearts are broken for you with the loss of your wonderful Dad and Grampa. The memories you hold dear will stay with you forever. Thinking of you and keeping you in our prayers.*

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**Bob and Eileen Burnson - Poinciana, FL - friend** - April 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ Wayne, Suzie and Jim,

*So sorry to hear about Adolph's passing. He will always be remembered as one of the stalwarts on Cass Avenue and the Ford Addition. We are all family, in a sense. Adolph was a guy who made you smile or laugh when either you see him, hear of him, or think of him. There could be no greater compliment. He lived a long life so we can all smile and be glad we were able to know him.*

*Gary and Rock Mannigel  
Upper Cass*

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**Gary Mannigel - Pulaski, WI - Friends and neighbor from Cass** - April 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Hi Wayne and all,  
I was saddened to see the passing of your Dad the other day. I know he had many problems but it is still sad to have a family member missing. He was always a pleasant,patient man to care for in the hospital. I know you have many good and happy memories of him as he was a good father to you and your brother. I will always remember the trip we took to A2 for orientation those many years ago. You all are in my thoughts and prayers during these days.  
Sandi Adams

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**Sandra Adams - Quinnesec, MI - friend** - April 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ Jim... so sorry to hear of your loss.... It has to be hard on you so far away. I just wanted you to know you are missed here at home and having lost my own dad, I know some of what you are facing. hugs and prayers to you and family...Brenda

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**Brenda Dawe - St. Helen, MI - friend and co-worker of James** - April 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Wayne, Susie and Rob,  
We were so sad to hear of your father's passing. He was one of a kind. We will miss his sense of humor especially teasing us about our Buckeyes! He was a remarkable man,one who kept his smile even when that was hard to do. You are in our thoughts, jim and Mary Ann

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**Mary Ann and Jim Cox - Marshall, MI - friends** - April 04, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Jimmy, Mary, Zach and Max...wishing you peace. Eternal rest grant unto your father and grandfather, and may perpetual light shine upon him.

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**Kristy Torsky - Gaylord, MI** - April 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Wayne & Susie,  
Our thoughts are with you at this time. May you find comfort in the memories that are yours to cherish always, and strength in the companionship of those who feel your loss.  
Warmest Regards,  
Dennis & Pat

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**Dennis Chounard & Pat Plumstead - Poinciana, FL - Friend** - April 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Wayne, Sue & Rob, please accept our sincere sympathy in the loss of your Dad and grandpa. We know that you did your very best to make sure he got all the loving care he needed. He is with the Lord now and at peace. Bless all of you. Ron & Ann

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**Ron & Ann Quinn - Marshall, MI - firends** - April 03, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Jim

*I am sorry to hear of the loss of your father. My gosh he looks just like you - that same smile.*

*You and your family have my sympathies.*

*Judith*

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**Judith Grenkovicz - Atlanta, MI - Friend** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Jim,  
So sorry to hear about your loss. Our thoughts are with you and family.

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**Sinan & Anne Toprak - MI - friend** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know that you're in our thoughts and prayers. Pam Nelson and Ken Anderson

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**Pam Nelson and Ken Anderson** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Jimmy, So sorry to hear of your dad's passing. Please know that you and Mary and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. (Yes, you do look very much like your dad!)  
Shirley

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**Shirley Schaffer** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ Jimmy, I am so very sorry. I can certainly sympathize with you and your family. I can certainly see where you got your good looks and devilish smile from. I hope that many fond memories will help you through this very tough time.  
Lots of hugs your way.  
ANN

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**Ann Rice - St. Helen, MI - Friend of son James** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Jim,

*One thing you can appreciate is the long life your father had. Making it into your 90's is wonderful. I am sure your father will be missed by all and especially by you. I keep all my dad's memories close to me as I am sure you will do as well. I also send you a hug, because you can never get enough of them at a time like this.*  
*Marcell*

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**Marcell Romancky - St. Helen, MI - Faculty member** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ Wayne,

*I was saddened to read about the loss of your Father. "Pusty" always had a smile on his face and whenever he saw me the greeting was hi Bill how ya doin'?*  
*Your Father was truly a warm and gentle man.*  
*My condolences to you and your family. I must apologize for not attending the service but my wife and I are in Englewood, FL until May.*

*Regards,*

*Bill Pera*

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**Bill Pera** - April 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM