



Clarence Menghini

October 14, 2009

IRON MOUNTAIN - Clarence J. "Tony" Menghini, 89, of Iron Mountain, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009, at ManorCare Health Services in Kingsford.

Clarence was born Jan. 10, 1920, in Norway, son of the late Floriano and Edith (Enama) Menghini. He graduated from Norway High School in 1938 and was a lifelong resident of the area. Clarence attended Northern Michigan University, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in education in 1942. He eventually obtained his master's degree in education from the University of Michigan.

Clarence enlisted with the U.S. Coast Guard as an apprentice sailor and later graduated from the Coast Guard Academy. He served in the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters during World War II.

Clarence married Marjorie Rigoni on June 15, 1946, at St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Iron Mountain.

He was a teacher and coach for the Iron Mountain School District for eight years and was instrumental in forming the outdoor education program in the Iron Mountain school system. He served as director of the outdoor education program for many years and founded the school forest in the mid-1950s.

Clarence then took a position with the Niagara School District where he was principal and athletic director for 28 years until retiring in 1981.

Clarence was a member of St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church, Pine Grove Country Club, the Uren-Cooper-Johnson American Legion Post 50 and the Knights of Columbus through which he started the Columbian Squires. He was a former member of the Chippewa Club. Clarence enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing, bocce and spending time with his brothers.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Marjorie; two daughters, Cheryl Wender-Menghini (Rob Olsen) of Iron Mountain and Karen (Lothar) Mueller of Neenah, Wis.; two brothers, Floyd Menghini of Loretto and Wallace (Gwen) Menghini of Kingsford; five grandchildren, Marc (Deedee) Wender, Christie (Gary) Lofholm, Jason (Kelly) Wender, and Chris and Alex Mueller; five great-grandchildren, Ashlun, Eli and Elle Lofholm, Avery Wender and Liv Wender; and several nieces and nephews.

Clarence was preceded in death by five brothers, Ernest, Rudolph, Herman, August and Robert Menghini and a sister, Anna Zeni.

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, at St. Mary and St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at the church. Fr. Daniel Zaloga will offer the Mass of the Christian burial.

Burial will be in Iron Mountain Cemetery Park.

The Uren-Cooper-Johnson American Legion Post 50 will conduct military graveside honors.

Pallbearers will be Marc and Jason Wender, Alex and Chris Mueller, Gary Lofholm, William Menghini, Chris Rigotti, Mike Werner and Dave Menghini.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jim Verrette and Bob Rigoni.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the general scholarship funds at the Iron Mountain School System or the Niagara School System.

A special thank you for going above and beyond in Tony's care to the following at ManorCare: Krystal, Katie, Lisa, Colin, Jacquie, Ann, and Tracy. These exceptional caregivers truly love their job and it is most evident and appreciated.

Condolences to the family of Clarence J. Menghini can be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Tribute Wall

ND

“ *Dear Family*

I got to know your father at Manor Care where my Mother lived for 3 years. Life was difficult for hiim there. I am sure he is at peace now and much happier. May you find comfort remembering the good times.

Sincerely, Norma Deyaert

Norma Deyaert - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *I attended Niagara High School 1969 thru 1971. Mr. Menghini was a wonderful principle, especially helpful to me during my junior year.. I am sorry for your loss.*

Jill Hartman - December 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ *Dear Aunt Marge, Cheryl, Karen, & families,*
I was truly saddened to hear of Uncle Tony's passing. He was a great influence in my decision to become a teacher and was very supportive in offering his advice and sharing his vast knowledge of teaching experiences. He was a great uncle.

Mary Menghini Petska - October 22, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Dear Cheryl, Christie, Mark, and Jason,

My deepest sympathies on your loss. I remember your Grandpa fondly. Please know that you all will be in my thoughts and prayers as you grieve, and I am grieving along with you.

Best Regards and Deepest Sympathies,

Shelly Jacobetti-Weeks

Shelly Jacobetti-Weeks - October 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Cheryl and family:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you! Grandpa Tony was among the first people we met when we moved into the neighborhood, when you lived next door. We will never forget his smile.

Mark, Peggy, Meredith, Alyssa and Emma Pontti

Mark Pontti - October 21, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Dear Marge, Cheryl, and Karen, My condolences go out to each of you and your families. I have many fond memories of Tony from my Sundog days, whether it was from helping to build the boathouse to playing bocce ball. He was a teacher and willingly sat down to give me some advice when I went into the principalship. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Dick Stuhlmacher - October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Dear Marge, Cheryl, & Karen;
Our deepest sympathy for the loss of your loved one. Hold close to your hearts the wonderful memories you've shared & know that he is at peace in our Father's loving arms.
We will remember you in our prayers.
Gail Machus & Betty Romagnoli

A friend - October 20, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TV

“ Dear Marge, Cheryl, and Karen,

My deepest sympathy for the loss of your husband and father. My thoughts and prayers are with you. He surely was a wonderful person. Cherish the memories you have of him.

Terese Verrette-Jahnke - October 18, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Cheryl and family,
Sorry to hear of the passing of your father and grandfather. My sympathies go out to all of you during this difficult time.

Michelle (Floriano) Schneider - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ My deepest condolences go out to your family. I grew up with Mr. and Mrs. Menghini right next door and always enjoyed visiting them. Mr. Menghini was a great man who never seemed to be annoyed with my brother Bill and I whenever we would come over. Find strength in each other during this difficult time and cherish the many memories you have of this wonderful man.

Katie (Rosene) Peabody - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ Cheryl and family-My deepest sympathy goes out to your family. Our prayers will be with you.

Nicole Podgornik Walker - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ My sincere and heartfelt condolences to you all during this time. This man was truly one of my inspirations in my childhood days. Living right next door afforded my sister and I the pleasure of hearing stories on a broad range of topics. I know that Mr. Menghini was "retired" for the time that our family spent with him, but the life lessons he taught us are being passed on to new generations of students in my classroom. He was an honest man, great father, husband, and brother and he will truly be missed.

Bill Rosene - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM