



David L. Carey

June 22, 1958 - July 21, 2015

David Lawrence Carey, 57, of Iron Mountain, died Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at his home with his loving family at his side. Dave fought courageously in a battle with cancer for the past three years. He was born June 22, 1958, in Iron Mountain, the son of the late Lawrence and Lucile (Anderson) Carey.

Dave was a lifelong resident of the central Upper Peninsula, graduated in 1976 from North Dickinson High School, and received an Electrical Certificate from Bay de Noc College in 1977, returning in the mid-1980s to continue his education in computer programming, business and accounting. He was honored in 2005 by Bay College as alumnus of the year, and proudly gave commencement addresses at both Bay and North Dickinson. He owned and operated the Office Planning Group (OPG) in Iron Mountain for 24 years. Dave served on the Economic Development Board, the Bay Foundation, and the Zoning Board of Breitung Township.

He was a member of Grace Presbyterian Church in Sagola, the Iron Mountain Elks Lodge #700, and the Masonic Lodge. Dave enjoyed bee keeping, making maple syrup, hunting, fishing, trapping, exploring the woods with his dog Max, savoring solitude at the lake cabin known as Mobergs, and the nuanced art of negotiating a deal. Although his greatest pursuit was a devotion to family magnetism, drawing his kin together and especially mentoring and doting on his nephews, nieces and children.

Dave married Sandra Hendricks on June 26, 1993 at Sawyer Lake in Channing.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy; son, Jeremy (Jessica) Zawada of Iron Mountain; daughter, Cayla Carey of Iron Mountain; and a precious and timely gift, his soon-to-be-born grandchild; his brother, Larry (Debbie) Carey of Appleton, WI and their children Megan and Ryan; his brother, Michael (Colleen) Carey of Iron Mountain and their children Katie, Alex, Luke, and Sam; his sister, Judy (Wes) Carey of Manitowoc, WI, and her children Rick (Marti) Carey and Andy (Dyan) Carey; and his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Jim and Nina Hendricks of Niagara, WI; his sisters-in-law, Patricia (Tim) Hammill of Norway, MI and Debbie Richtig of Madison, WI; his brothers-in-law, Mike (Laurie) Hendricks of South Pasadena, CA, John Hendricks of Sparta, WI, and Paul Richtig of Green Bay, WI. He was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Richard Carey, Sr.

Dave and his family were inspired and grateful for the outpouring of love and support during his sickness. The visits, food, calls, emails and texts reassured Dave and his family of the broad network of affection they could rely upon. Dave and his family were especially grateful for the thoughtful care of his hospice providers as well as the supportive OPG team who operated the business in the times when Dave and Sandy could not be there.

Visitation will be Saturday, July 25, 2015 from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm (noon) at the First Presbyterian Church in Kingsford. Funeral services will be held at 12:00 pm at the church. Rev. Michael March will officiate. Burial will be in the Channing Cemetery. His nephews will serve as pallbearers: Ryan, Luke, Andy, and Rick Carey, Calvin Richtig and Anders Hendricks. Honorary pallbearer will be Tim Carey.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Bay College Foundation (Bay West Campus), the North Dickinson School or Grace Presbyterian Church.

Condolences to the family of David L. Carey may be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Channing Cemetery

Byers Rd.
Channing, MI 49815

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 25. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
395 Hamilton Avenue
Kingsford, MI 49802

Funeral Service

JUL 25. 12:00 PM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
395 Hamilton Avenue
Kingsford, MI 49802

Tribute Wall

BL

“ *Sandy, I followed Dave's journey through the email program you set up. There was a lot of hope that he would recover. I really enjoyed knowing Dave. He was such a visionary for business. May the Lord bless and keep him and give him peace!*

Bill Lehman

Bill Lehman - August 04, 2015 at 11:10 AM

SD

“ *Sandy and Family,*

We are so sad to hear of Dave's passing. We have such fond memories of being with you both and so enjoyed his wonderful spirit and humor! We also are so sorry that he suffered for so long. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all as you go through this difficult time. Steve and Susie Dauber

Steve and Susie Dauber - July 31, 2015 at 08:38 PM

KM

“ *Dear Carey Family,*

I am very sorry to hear of your loss. Dave was such a great person, he will live in our hearts and memories forever. May knowing you are in the thoughts and prayers of others help you in this difficult time.

God Bless you all,

*Keith McNally
Spirit Group*

Keith McNally - July 31, 2015 at 03:11 PM

VK

“ *To Sandy and Family*

Sandy I regret not being there to share in Dave's Celebration of life, And that is exactly what it was, a Celebration of his life with his family and friends, To know Dave was to love him and he certainly was all about his family, and never forgot his friends. And if you were sitting in church and got this big ole bear hug from behind, you never needed to look to see who it was, you could feel it was Dave. a kind and gentle soul with a huge heart. God Bless you and your family, just as we were all blessed to have Dave in our lives.
Venessa Kuzak

Venessa Kuzak - July 27, 2015 at 09:43 PM

SK

“ *Dear Carey family,*

Our condolences and thoughts are with you. It is never easy to lose the ones we love especially too early! We hope you find peace in all your memories. Not knowing David in recent years it was nice to see the photos and what great memories you will have!

God Bless!

Sandy (Carey) Knight and Don (Archie) and Jean Carey

Sandy Knight - July 27, 2015 at 03:31 PM

CA

“ *Sandy, I'm so sorry for your loss - and that I couldn't be here to sing with the girls. I loved that Dave seemed to truly enjoy our music! He was such a great guy, and fought a long, hard battle. You and Cayla were the world to him...take care, and God Bless you all. Love, Connie and Larry.*



Connie Anderson - July 26, 2015 at 11:03 PM

RB

“ Dear Sandy and Family,
My deepest condolences to you and all who loved David and will deeply miss him. Hold close all those wonderful memories of the precious times you shared together. I truly enjoyed the photos you posted, I especially admired the one of Dave on the dock with the sunset....beautiful. He will never be far from you as he is a part of you. In Christ, it is not good-bye, but see you later. And until you see him again, I pray that God's great love and comfort would give you peace.
Blessings,
Renee Beck



Renee Beck - July 26, 2015 at 05:06 PM

CB

“ Dear David's Family, I am so very sorry for your loss. David was such a wonderful and caring man. His family and their welfare was his priority. One thing is for sure, you have a true Guardian Angel in heaven watching over you as he did on earth. My prayers are with all of you. God bless, Christine Burns

Christine Burns - July 25, 2015 at 02:40 PM



“ 130 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Erickson-Rochon-Nash Funeral Home - July 24, 2015 at 01:52 PM

KH

“ *I have had the privilege of working with/for Dave for over 24 years. As many of you know, a moment spent with Dave, left you with some sort of story that you will carry with you for the rest of your life! So, obviously, I have been blessed with countless stories. He was a second father to me, and always had something to teach you (Whether you knew it or not, or if you ever even realized it until some later point in time!). They say you are never done learning, and he sure made sure of that!*

Our thoughts and prayers go out to ALL of Dave's families. He will be missed greatly!

Kevin, Deb, Josh, Zach & Christina Hanson

Kevin Hanson - July 24, 2015 at 12:50 PM

GM

To David's family. My condolences to all of you. It's never easy to lose a loved one and Dave was loved by all. I knew him for many years and he was always such a nice person to talk to and be around. He will be missed!

Greta Michaud

Greta Michaud - July 27, 2015 at 03:48 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David L. Carey.*



July 24, 2015 at 10:29 AM

BH

“ *Bev Herrmann lit a candle in memory of David L. Carey*



Bev Herrmann - July 24, 2015 at 09:31 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of David L. Carey.*



July 24, 2015 at 08:31 AM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of David L. Carey.*



July 23, 2015 at 04:28 PM



“ *Kevin Romitti purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of David L. Carey.*



Kevin Romitti - July 23, 2015 at 02:59 PM



“ *Dave truly made a mark on many lives. I always enjoyed his zest for life and business. My deepest condolence to his family. Won't be a sugar season go buy without thinking of you Dave. May God comfort you all.*

Kevin Romitti

Kevin Romitti - July 23, 2015 at 02:51 PM



“ *Debbie Wodenka lit a candle in memory of David L. Carey*



Debbie Wodenka - July 23, 2015 at 12:31 PM

TP

“ Our Deepest Sympathies to the Dave Carey Family. Mike and I knew Dave from our years working for Larry Serratti at JB Vending and grew very fond of Dave. We have many fond memories and shared many laughs with Dave. Dave will be missed by the whole community. Dave is a great inspiration and role model for many. We pray that those happy times help pull you through this sad time.

God Bless you all!

Mike & Terry Priddy

Terry Priddy - July 23, 2015 at 12:20 PM

JW

“ Sandy, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. Dave was an extremely thoughtful person who cared about his employees as well as his family/friends.

I'm blessed and thankful that my husband had the opportunity to work with Dave at OPG for the past 3 years. Dave had a vision for his company and he achieved that vision. He left his mark on everyone he met and although he left us too soon, he will never be forgotten. Always remember if there is anything you need, you know we are there to help/guide you along the way. God Bless you and your family.



Welcher Family

Jeff & Mary Ellen Welcher - July 23, 2015 at 10:46 AM

MD

“ Dear Carey Family,

I was saddened and also relieved to hear that David was starting a new and exciting life. Even though we are left behind, I am convinced that this is not a forever situation. I know the memories and love that he left you with are only a part of everything he was to you, but I pray these will somehow ease your pain. My recollections of David go back to my earliest memories, when we were little kids playing together in Channing. Then also of the home my family moved to in the early 70's - which was the home that David's Dad built on Turner Road. This home remains the most precious and peaceful spot I have ever experienced - especially the back yard and woods, and the front drive at sunset. I remember David with a quick and easy smile, lots of patience and somehow a serenity beyond understanding. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Mary Lu Daniels

Mary Lu Daniels - July 23, 2015 at 10:42 AM

LF

“ *I don't need to tell you what a special person David was or how much he is going to be missed. I only knew him a couple of years but in that short time, he made a huge impact in my life. I will always remember the guidance, wisdom and humor that he shared. His passing leaves a big hole in my heart. My thoughts, prayers, and hugs go out to Sandy, Cayla, Jeremy, Jessica and the rest of the Carey Family. May God bless you all.*

Lora Fiss

Lora Fiss - July 23, 2015 at 09:34 AM

JJ

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you all at the passing of Mr Carey. Dad (Dave Johnson) and Mr Carey were friends for years and we got the chance to grow up knowing such an amazing man. I know that he will be missed in our family also.

Jennifer Johnson-Gonzales - July 23, 2015 at 08:57 AM

TM

“ Tammy Martell lit a candle in memory of David L. Carey



tammy martell - July 23, 2015 at 08:15 AM

WW

“ Dear Sandy and Family - our deepest sympathies to all of you. Dave was so good to me through the years. Such a great person, friend and gentleman. My one and only ride ever in a limousine, was when he had it pick a group of us up at Champion, Inc. to go and watch the demonstration on the "new" colored copier. He was great Sandy! I especially remember how he planned your surprise wedding. God Bless You all and be with you. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Wendy and Tony Welch

Wendy Welch - July 23, 2015 at 07:47 AM



Cassandra Dykhuis

“ Thoughts and Prayers going out to the whole Carey family. Dave was a kind man and will be missed by many.

Cassandra Dykhuis - July 22, 2015 at 09:00 PM

JR

“ So sorry for your loss Cayla and Sandy. David was loved by many people including Les and I. Wishing you well in the future.

Jeri & Les Reinhard

Jeri Reinhard - July 22, 2015 at 07:09 PM

KB

“ My heart aches at this time over the loss of not just a boss, but a mentor, dear friend and wonderful human being. He will forever teach me life lessons as I continue my career journey and carry out his constant wishes for me to "think outside the box" and believe I am stronger than I think and can do anything. Sandy, you will have to take over for him at work telling me books to constantly read when he knew I barely made it through an edition of *The Daily Newspaper* and that came from a guy who would read the first 2 sentences of your email and then call it good! ... :) In seriousness, you know how hard this has been for me and I give my deepest sympathies to you, Cayla, Jeremy, Jessica and baby, too!!! Dave more than left his mark in this world and we are all better people for knowing him. I am blessed to be a part of his business and have spent so much time with him! Love to you all - Kelly Benjamin

Kelly Benjamin - July 22, 2015 at 04:39 PM

BM

“ Bernie Moland lit a candle in memory of David L. Carey



Bernie Moland - July 22, 2015 at 04:23 PM

DW

“ *Sandy and family; Cindy and I considered Dave a true friend. We shared some interesting times together. We will be out of town during his funeral, but wanted to send our condolences. He was a special guy and will be missed.*

Dave and Cindy Wicklund

Dave Wicklund - July 22, 2015 at 03:43 PM

BF

Am so very sorry to hear of Dave's passing. He was always in such good spirits. My heart goes out to you, Sandy and your family.

Barb Fugere - July 22, 2015 at 04:18 PM