



David VanMarter

August 21, 1959 - May 16, 2008

KINGSFORD - David A. VanMarter, 48, of East Kingsford, died Friday, May 16, 2008, at Dickinson County Memorial Hospital.

He was born Aug. 21, 1959, in Iron Mountain, the son of Lawrence and Ruth (Revior) VanMarter.

Dave graduated from Kingsford High School in 1978. He was a welder at Customer Metal Fabrication.

David enjoyed fishing and hunting. He was a fan of the Chicago Cubs and the Green Bay Packers, and enjoyed watching the games with his son, Travis.

He was a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and a past member of the Northland Beagle Club. He was also a former volunteer fireman for Breitung Township. Dave loved children and opened his heart and home to many of them, especially his nieces and nephews. He spent the last two years playing with and caring for his niece, Lynn Secrist, whom he was in the process of adopting.

Dave married Sandy Secrist on Oct. 1, 1983, at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy; his son, Travis VanMarter of Niagara, Wis.; his mother, Ruth VanMarter of Kingsford; two brothers, Steve (Patricia) VanMarter of Newport, Ore., and Dennis (Susie) VanMarter of Iron Mountain; one sister Linda (Russ) Henderson of Ladson, S.C.; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Edward and Delores Secrist Sr.; two sisters-in-law, Gaye Lynn Secrist of Maui, Hawaii, and DeeAnn (fiance, Telly) Secrist of Draper, Utah; one brother-in-law, Edward (Ida) Secrist Jr. of Kingsford; many special nieces, nephews, and friends; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Dave was preceded in death by his father, Lawrence VanMarter; his nephew, Raymond Galbraith; and his brother-in-law, Larry Secrist.

Visitation will be Tuesday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

Funeral services will be held at 6 p.m. at the church. Rev. Lee Liverance will officiate.

Burial will be in the Quinnesec Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established.

Condolences to the family of David A. VanMarter can be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Tribute Wall

SG

“ *I am sorry to hear about David..my prayers are with the family*

Sarah Getchell - May 24, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *DEAR SANDY,
I,M SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT DAVE, MY THOUGHTS AND
PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AT THIS
TIME.CINDY FISHER*

Cindy Fisher - May 21, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *Sandy, Im so sorry to hear about Dave. I want to express my
deepest sympathy to you and the family. Dave was a great guy and
will be missed very much. I will remember him by all the good times
we all had years ago. My thoughts are with you. Take care. Dianne*

Dianne Martin - May 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ *So sorry to hear about Dave.
He was a great guy and will be deeply missed.*

Scott Johnson

scott johnson - May 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Sandy and Travis~ You have my deepest sympathy. Dave (PackRat) will always be remembered as one of the "EK Gang". There are just so many fond memories of things we did and shouldn't have done. We never got together in our adult years like we did back then but every time we saw each other in the stores, it was talking non-stop about anything and everything. That is just like Dave, isn't it? Always remember the good and you will get through this like the trooper that you are. You are in my thoughts.

Leila

Leila Canavera - May 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

AO

“ Sandy I am so sorry to hear about Dave, I no longer work in Aurora and have moved to Texas, my heart goes out to you and your family. Andrea (Shannon)

Andrea Oman - May 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RY

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss.
The Hagerty Family

Ryan - May 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Sandy and Travis,

*I am so very sorry for your loss. Dave was a wonderful kind man.
He will be missed.*

Sara Huuki - May 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ *My Dear Sandy*

My heart is with you and I can't even imagine the pain you are feeling at the loss of your sweet David. He will always be the sweetest and best brother in law I ever had. I have loved him from the day I first met him when he was 10 years old. I was so happy when he married you because you were so down to earth and as sweet as he was. I didn't get to spend a lot of time with you and him due to the circumstances of life but the times we did meet at different places were always special to me. My special time with David when I visited Iron Mountain when Steve was in Vietnam and we went Trick or Treating I will never forget. He took me to everyones house to see if they would recognize my southern draw when we yelled trick or treat. Then would tell me not to say anything till he said I could. He would then tell me to say "trick or treat" and ask them if they knew who I was. Then he would laugh like someone had tickled his funniest spot. He was such a delightful person to be around and I will miss not being able to run into him unexpected and get a hug or just his sweet husky voice saying hello. He will always have a special place in my heart.

Love you always Sandy,

Karen

Karen Paulin - May 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM