



Dean P. Nelson

June 27, 1957 - May 12, 2025

Dean P. Nelson, 67, of Iron Mountain, passed away on Monday, May 12, 2025, at the Community Living Center, Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain.

Dean was born June 27, 1957, in St. Ignace, Michigan, son of the late Paul and Charolette (Martinson) Nelson. After graduating from Iron Mountain High School in 1975, Dean enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as a Security Policeman and later served as a Medical Service Technician. Dean married Kelley (Coleman) Nelson on October 15, 1977, and they had two sons, Scott and Christopher. After serving nearly 18 years in the U.S. Air Force and achieving the rank of Technical Sergeant, Dean was medically retired due to a Multiple Sclerosis (MS) diagnosis. Dean lived with, and battled, MS for almost 35 years. Before he was diagnosed with MS, Dean's hobbies included fishing, golfing, singing to Queen songs on road trips, and telling dad jokes. Dean later developed a love for playing bingo in the Community Living Center and giving the staff at the VA a hard time with his jokes, 'whatever' attitude, and occasional bad words!

Dean is survived by his sons, Scott Nelson of Colorado Springs, CO, and Christopher Nelson of Omaha, NE; a daughter-in-law, Bridget (Dahlke) Nelson; three grandsons, Cole Nelson, Aiden Nelson, and Connor Nelson; two brothers, Don Nelson and his wife Pam, and Daryl Nelson and his wife,

Sonya; three nieces, Sherri (Nelson) Porath, Michelle (Nelson) Backlund and Jessica Nelson; one nephew, John Nelson; and many cousins, friends and extended family.

Dean is preceded in death by his father, Paul Nelson; his mother, Charlotte (Martinson) Nelson; and his brothers, Paul Nelson and David Nelson.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Memorial Funds at <https://donate.nationalmssociety.org/campaign/Dean-Nelson-s-Memorial-Fund>.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, June 7th, at the Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Iron Mountain. Visitation will be from 9:00-10:30 a.m. with a memorial service at 10:30 a.m. followed by a burial ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery in Crystal Falls at 1:45 p.m.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Dean P. Nelson online at www.ernashfuneralhome.com

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

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Memorial Cemetery

Crystal Falls
MI 49920

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 7. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

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

Memorial Service

JUN 7. 10:30 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

GM

“ Dean and I met as youngsters at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church. We shared the days of Sunday School, Confirmation and with the acolyte group. He was always a steady friend, with a smile on his face. Our parents were friends, and it was clear that Dean came from good stock. It appears that Dean had plenty of challenges on his journey and I’ve got to believe he is resting comfortably in God’s arms. Blessings to the family - gm

Gary Mannigel - June 10, 2025 at 08:09 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dean P. Nelson.



May 19, 2025 at 05:12 PM

LI

“ I met Dean when my Dad was a Resident at the OGJVAMC in 2018-2019. Then I met Dean again in 2023-2024, as a part-time caregiver. I believe Dean is one of the of the finest gentleman I have ever met. May his precious, strong soul rest in eternal peace. Sincerely, Lisa A. Lawrence

Lisa - May 15, 2025 at 10:28 PM

TC

“ We were so sorry to hear of our cousin Dean's passing. We haven't seen him in a long time but always remember his happy personality and big smile. God bless you all. Tom and Evelyn (Jacobs) Carlson now living in Tennessee.

Tom Carlson - May 14, 2025 at 03:09 PM