



Donald B. Fornetti

May 31, 1926 - January 20, 2017

Donald B. Fornetti, 90, of Breitung Twp., passed away on Friday, Jan. 20, 2017 at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center.

Don was born on May 31, 1926 in Iron Mountain , son of the late James and Anna (Manko) Fornetti. He has been a lifelong resident of this area and was a 1944 graduate of Iron Mountain High School. Upon his graduation, Don joined the United States Navy and served aboard the USS Ray K. Edwards during WWII. He was honorably discharged in 1946. Don married Mildred Poupard in August of 1947. They began raising their family in this area while Don worked various jobs. He started with Michigan Bell Telephone Co. in 1948 and retired from AT &T Telephone after 34 years in 1982. Mildred preceded him in death in 1979. Don married the former Dorothy Elliott in 1990 and Dorothy passed away in 2008.

Don was a member of the Communication Workers of America and served as CWA president for many years. He was also a member of the Telephone Pioneers of America, Oak Crest Golf Club, AARP and placed lifeline phones for the elderly. Don was an avid hunter and fisherman. Over the years he traveled on hunting trips to Canada, Newfoundland and Alaska. He also enjoyed golfing, gardening and traveling.

Don is survived by his daughters, Trudy (David) DeGroot and Susan (Matthew) Fornetti Hecimovich; two grandchildren, Heather (Eric) Hiatt and Tara

(Edward) Herr; two great grandchildren, Addison and Logan Herr. Also by several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife Mildred, he was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy and his brother, George Fornetti.

At Don's request, private services were held.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Donald Fornetti online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Cemetery Details

Cemetery Park

101 Cedar Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall



“ *Trudy, Dave, Susie - I just, today, learned of Don's passing. I am so very sorry. We tried to reach him this summer and fall to meet for lunch again, but never did get a hold of him. He will be missed!*

Deb, Rich, & Gina Trombly
Email: debtkmg365@gmail.com

Deb Giancola Trombly - February 24, 2017 at 02:07 PM

KT

“ *Dear Trudy and Susie, So sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Sending "HUGS" to all.*

Kathy (Peanut) Tronti



Kathy Tronti - January 30, 2017 at 04:08 PM

JR

“ *Dear Trudy, Heather, Tara and families; Please accept our sincere condolences in the passing of Donald. Pat and Jack Richtig*



Jack Richtig - January 29, 2017 at 05:52 PM

BO

“ *We enjoyed Don/Strech's visits to Florida. He will be missed.*

Bruce and Gloria Opland - January 29, 2017 at 02:43 PM

MH

“ *May he Rest In Peace ...thoughts to his family .*

Marian Hiatt - January 28, 2017 at 08:57 PM

AF

Hello Trudy, Dave and Family. Sorry to hear of Don's passing. It was always a pleasure talking with him. Always a smile, always brightening my day. We will miss Cousin Don

Tony and Darlene Fornetti

Anthony Fornetti - February 08, 2017 at 09:54 AM

GP

“ *Dear Trudy and Sue and family,*

*I want to send you my sympathy for the passing of your dad.
Thinking of you during this time. Gladys (Manko) Polzien*

Gladys Polzien - January 28, 2017 at 02:39 PM

JF

“ *Dear Trudy, Sue, Dave, Heather, Tara,*

Sure sorry to hear about Uncle Don's passing. We will keep your family in our prayers.

Our sympathy.

Jim/ Winnie Fornetti

Jim Fornetti - January 27, 2017 at 03:59 PM