



Douglas J. Nord

June 18, 1935 - March 21, 2019

Douglas J. Nord, 83, of Kingsford, passed away surrounded by his loving family after a long, courageous and inspiring struggle with Myelodysplastic Syndrome on March 21, 2019, at Evergreen Assisted Living in Kingsford, Michigan.

Doug was born June 18, 1935, in Iron Mountain, the son of the late Dewey and LaVerne (Robinson) Nord. He graduated from Iron Mountain High School in 1953, before proudly serving in the United States Army. Upon honorably completing his service, Doug married the love of his life, Mary Ann Legault, on June 21, 1958, at American Martyrs Church in Kingsford. Mary Ann preceded him in death in 2012.

Doug and Mary Ann settled in Iron Mountain, where they raised two daughters, Lisa and Robyn. As newlyweds, Doug and Mary Ann started out in the “chicken coup” – a home which was as modest as it was memorable as it was literally named. However, through an incredibly hard and tireless work ethic and resourcefulness, Doug eventually was able to buy Santoni Lumber in 1976, changing the name to Hometowne Lumber, the home of “Nord’s Boards.” Through his vision and hard work, and with the dedicated efforts of his family, Doug significantly developed the business, including adding a number of product lines, before selling it in 2000.

Prior to buying Santoni Lumber, Doug held a number of jobs as he sought to advance opportunities for his family, including working for Les Johnson Cabinets, Wisconsin Electric Power Company, Santoni Lumber & Fuel, and WB Thompson Company. Additionally, Doug served for many years in the Michigan National Guard.

Beyond the workplace, Doug was also industrious and hardworking as he was a man of many passions and hobbies. Doug successfully kept bees and made honey, distilled homemade spirits, made maple syrup, and handcrafted golf clubs, which found a home with golfers in many states and even a few countries. Doug loved to play tennis and golf, which he continued to play competitively into his mid-seventies, including on courses where he and Mary Ann would winter in Apache Wells, Arizona and Sebring, Florida, where Doug also built a number of retirement homes.

Yet, Doug still found time to be active in, and committed to, the community. He started the Hometowne Lumber Athlete of the Month, was President of the Jaycees, was a very involved member of Pine Grove Country Club, and actively involved with Kiwanis and the Pine Mountain Ski Jumps, which was the passion of his youth, and captured in the YouTube video entitled High Flying Duggy Nord, which was narrated by fabled Mel Allen.

However, what truly defined Doug was his kind, gentle and generous character. Doug was a selfless soul, a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and friend, and as humble as he was helpful, always ready to fix something in need of repair, buy dinner, visit an ailing friend, and offer practical, sensible advice, especially to his daughters and grandchildren, who revered his wisdom.

Doug is survived by two adoring daughters, Lisa (Marty) Fittante of Kingsford and Robyn Nord of Iron Mountain; grandchildren, Brad (Mindy) Wender of Iron

Mountain, Morgan Wender (Johno Pappas) of Chicago, Alexa Nord-Bronzyk of Singapore, and Dane Bronzyk of Mount Pleasant; great-grandchildren Lane, LillyAnn and Hudson Wender; sisters and brothers-in-law, Ida Nord, Marcella Izzo, Darlene Legault, Donna Legault, Wiss (Marge) Legault and Ray Legault; several nieces and nephews; and special friend, Karen Justus.

In addition to his parents and wife, Doug was preceded in death by a brother, Ross Nord; his kind and caring step-father, Stewart McFee; and a special cousin, Ione Jenkins.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 to 5:00 pm on Tuesday, March 26th at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home. A memorial service will follow at 5:00 pm at the funeral home. Father Joseph Gouin will officiate.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Douglas Nord online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

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

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **26**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Memorial Service

MAR **26**. 5:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Ave.
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Tribute Wall

KB

“ We were very sad to hear about Doug. We loved both Doug and MaryAnn and missed them terribly when they left Florida, Our sincere sympathy to Robin and Lisa. Terry and Kareen Bogart

Kareen Bogart - April 14, 2019 at 04:37 PM

Jl

“ Such a beautiful sentiment you have shared about your father's life. Lisa and Robyn - I am very sorry for your loss. Your dad was a loving family man and will surely be missed. Fondly, Jean

Jean Ivory - March 28, 2019 at 12:21 AM

CN

“ Doug was a true gentlemen, and a role model for all of us. He made this world a better place, and he will be missed by all. To Lisa, Robyn, Marty and all the family, you have our deepest condolences. We love you guys and we take some comfort in knowing that Duggy is in a better place. We're also glad to know that he and Mary Ann are together again in Heaven. We're sure that they are looking down and smiling at the rest of us while they are relaxing and watching CNN News. :)

Love,
Chris & Mary Ninomiya

Chris Ninomiya - March 25, 2019 at 10:44 AM