



## Earl Van Ness

July 23, 1927 - October 13, 2009

Iron Mountain - Earl R. Van Ness was welcomed into the arms of his savior, Jesus Christ on October 13, 2009. Earl was met in Heaven's Gate by his parents Ernest and Helen, his first wife Loretta, brothers Ernest Jr. and Clarence along with his sister Carol.

Earl was born in Menominee, MI on July 23, 1927, graduated with the Kingsford High School Class of 1946 and went on to attend the Dundin Business College. Earl was a U.S. Navy Veteran (1945-1948), serving aboard the U.S.S Kearsarge. He was employed by the Niagara Paper Mill, retiring as a supervisor after 37 years of employment. Earl was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church in Iron Mountain and a longtime member of the Golden-K. Earl enjoyed family first, his 4-O'clock coffee with family, gardening, his many hummingbirds, wintering in Arizona, 4-wheeling and spending countless hours at Camp Six-Pak. Earl was very proud of his entire family and served as a role model for all. He will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him and will remain forever in their hearts and minds.

Earl is survived by his wife of 42 years, Betty; a daughter Gail (Gus) Glaser; a son Randy (Linda) Van Ness; a step-daughter Jody Pauly; granddaughters Lori (Daryl) Linnert, Lisa (Josh) Villringer and Emily Van Ness, a grandson Justin Van Ness; along with great grandchildren Noah, Lauren, Lily, Hayden and Kate. He is further survived by a sister, Darlene Bilder, a brother, Wally

(Gerry) VanNess and a special friend, Jim Casari.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 10:00 AM - Noon at the First United Methodist Church in Iron Mountain. Funeral services will be officiated at Noon by Pastor Peggy Paige at the church. A luncheon to share memories will follow the church service. A burial service will follow in the Iron Mountain Cemetery. The Uren-Cooper-Johnson American Legion Post 50 will conduct military graveside honors.

The family wishes to extend its heartfelt appreciation to family, friends and the medical professionals for their support during Earl's 3-year brave battle with cancer. Dr. Morel, the Dickinson County Memorial Hospital, and the doctors and staff of the Oscar G. Johnson V.A. Medical Center are to be commended for their service, care, and compassion.

Memorials will be established for the local Chapter of the American Cancer Society and to the Golden-K for their programs for Special Needs Children.

Condolences to the family of Earl Van Ness can be expressed online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

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

# Tribute Wall

CG

“ Sharon and I send Our deepest sympathy to Betty, Jodi, Gail, Randy and the rest of the Van Ness family at Earl's passing. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you all.

Chuck & Sharon Griggs

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**chuck griggs** - October 17, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ It's hard to find the wordsto express my thought's and love for Uncle Earl, all the great times we spent over the years, He and Aunt Betty spent here in Tucson from target shooting,golfing and talking about the Green Bay Packers. Most of all having him to talk to after my Dad passed away. All my love and prayers to Aunt Betty, Gail,Randy,Jodie and there families. Love Rocky and Rosemary

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**Rocky&Rosemary Bilder** - October 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ I was so sad to hear of Earl's passing, he was a fovorite here of mine and also Tracy. Earl was always so positive and upbeat and taking everything in stride with his battle. I truly enjoyed every time we would talk, it would take about 2 minutes to take care of business and then 30 minutes about camp. We will miss Earl as I know you all will too. I regret that I will not be able to attend the service as I have meetings in Green Bay all day. God Bless

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**Greg LaFreniere** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ We Will Miss Uncle Earl... He was a roll model for everyone. I will never forget the snow mobiles rides when I was younger, target shooting and his famous BBQ sauce.

Uncle Earls smile and warmness was out of this world.

Steve will always remember golfing with him last year and how he out golfed everyone and made the entire 18 they all had a great day.

Uncle Earl was a fighter and he loved his family.

Our deepest sympathy to Aunt Betty, Gail, Randy and the entire family.

Your memory will forever be with us.

Dawn and Steve Grace

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**Dawn and Steve Grace** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Uncle Earl was not only an uncle to us over the years he was a friend. There were so many great times with him while he and Auntie were in Tucson over the winters,from the laughter of the great stories about his old Navy days to the target practices with the guy?s at the gun range and afterwards the lunches,cold beer and laughs at the local Sports Lounge. Our deepest heart felt sympathy to Auntie, Randy, Gail and the entire family. There will forever be a place in our hearts with your memories. Jay and Tessie Bilder

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**Jay and Tessie Bilder** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

FV

“ How do we begin to express how much we are going to miss our Uncle Earl. Your generosity, humor, kindness, love for family and friends, positive attitude and stubbornness will be greatly missed but always remembered by those who love you. Everyone should have a wonderful Uncle like you. You were always there for us and will forever be "OUR HERO"! Our love and deepest sympathy to Aunt Betty, Gail, Randy, Jodie and the entire family. He truly loved and was proud of each & everyone of you.

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**Fred & Helen Vanley** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I don't know where to start, I have so many wonderful memories of Earl, he was so helpful to me over the years, We had a lot of fun times, and also sad times, but he was always there for me, when Jim was sick and passed away, he was there. I will miss him, he was all a sister could want in a brother, I loved him dearly. My heart goes out to Betty, Gail, Randy, Jody and the rest of the family, he loved them all so much. Our memories will live on forever.

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**Darlene Bilder** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ God has received an angel, one amazing man. There are no words to express the amount of admiration and love I feel in my heart for my Great Uncle. He has always given me the greatest advice, support, and best of love. We will miss you greatly. Our deepest of sympathy and love to Aunt Betty, Randy, Gail, and my cousins - we will keep you in our prayers and hearts. Love always, Tresa and Dennis Sutton

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**Tresa and Dennis Sutton** - October 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ We will always have many good memories of Earl and his sense of humor and always fun-loving manners. Our deepest sympathy to Randy and Gail and all of the families. Happy hunting, Earl!

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**Dan , Joan, and Brian** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ To the Van Ness family. Very sorry to hear about Earl. He was a very good man and a very good foreman. I had the privilidge to work in the mill with Earl.He will be missed very much.Take care and you are in our prayers.

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**jeff garvaglia** - October 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM