



Edward Kukuk

January 10, 1927 - January 10, 2006

Edward Kukuk

IRON MOUNTAIN - Edward H. Kukuk, 79, of 1114 Houghteling St., Iron Mountain, died Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2006, after fighting a courageous battle of heart disease and cancer, with the prayers of many faiths.

Ed was born Jan. 18, 1926, in Marquette, the son of the late Edward Sr. and Martha (Bohlman) Kukuk. Ed was a graduate of Marquette Graveraet High School in 1943. He participated in many sports including playing semi-pro hockey in the Michigan Ontario League.

While in the Naval Air Corp, he attended the University of Notre Dame and the University of North Carolina. Ed received his bachelor of science degree from Northern Michigan University and his master's degree from the University of Michigan.

In 1948, he married the former Geraldine Beaudry in Marquette. He was employed by the Stambaugh Public School System from 1948-1965. He taught health, physical education, science, and industrial arts for eight years and was the principal of the high school for nine years. While at Stambaugh High School, he coached varsity basketball and tennis, and was assistant coach of the football team under Willard Anderson. Ed was employed by the Iron Mountain Public Schools from 1965-1980. He spent three years as the high school principal and 12 years as the superintendent.

He was a member of the First Lutheran Church in Iron River and then the First Lutheran Church in Iron Mountain. He served on both church councils and

sang in the church choir for more than 50 years. He served on many school-related committees and was a member of several community organizations. He received the NMU Distinguished Alumni Award, was an NMU and U.P. Sports Hall of Fame Inductee, and was an active member of the NMU Alumni Executive Committee for 29 years.

Ed was an avid hunter and fisherman, enjoyed spending time at camp, and camping with his family at Golden Lake.

Ed is survived by his wife, Geraldine "Gerry;" his daughter, Julie (Ron) Tass of Iron Mountain; a brother, Norman "Boots" (Grace) Kukuk of Marquette and Florida; three grandchildren, Brian (Anne) Tass of Novi, lower Michigan, Michelle (Tom) Phelps of Kingsford, and Steven Tass of East Lansing; a special brother-in-law, Mike Quilliam; and nine nieces and nephews and their families.

Visitation will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be at 3 p.m. on Saturday at First Lutheran Church of Iron Mountain.

Burial will be in Iron Mountain Cemetery Park.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in his memory to First Lutheran Church and the Iron Mountain Schools.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Edward Kukuk online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

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

Tribute Wall

TS

“ We send our condolences while we celebrate the passing of a principal who had the personal touch of a loving heart. Mr. Kukuk was always said with respect and appreciation. Gerry, a special thanks for the cookies for the paperboy. I always enjoyed coming by your house, hoping to see you or Ed because you always treated me with a kind, friendly greeting. Both of you have made a significant difference in many lives. Many, many thanks. What a special treat to see you at the last 'all school' reunion and hear Ed share so many coaching stories. Tom & Donna Swanson, Lowman, ID

Tom & Donna Swanson - January 25, 2006 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ Dear Gerry & family,

While in Iron River for a meeting last Thursday I noticed Ed's obituary in the Daily News. God be good to him and to you. I am very sorry to hear of his passing and am thankful to have known him. During my years at SMSJ Pairsh it was always a delight to see Ed at the Crystal Lake COmmunity Center Pool in the mornings... and to see him at Mass with you, Gerry. Know of my prayers and sympathy. God's peace!

Father Larry Van Damme :)

Father Larry Van Damme - January 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ Dear Gerry, Julie and family,

I am terribly saddened to hear of Ed's passing. He was a wonderful man and inspiring educator. He helped to open doors for me, and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know him. Please accept my condolences and deepest sympathy.

Peter Trembath

Peter Trembath - January 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ January 13, 2006

*To the Family of
Mr. Edward Kukuk ?48*

It was with sincere regret that I learned of the death of Ed. He was a valued member of our NMU family and will be missed.

Please accept my deepest sympathy. May it comfort you to know that our thoughts are with you in your time of sorrow.

Sincerely,

*Leslie E. Wong
President*

*cw
c: Ms. Deanna Hemmila ?88
Director of Alumni Operations*

NMU President Dr. Les Wong - January 13, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ Gerry - I just saw on the internet that Ed passed away. So sorry. He was a great educator and gentleman and always with a smile on his face. He will be missed.
Lowell & Shirley Lindstrom

Lowell & Shirley Lindstrom - January 13, 2006 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ I was very sorry to learn of Ed's death. I will always remember him as "Mr. Kukuk", the Stambaugh principal. He was a very fine man.

Torgor G. Omdahl - January 13, 2006 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Please accept my condolences during your time of grief. I'm sure Ed will be missed by all.
Sincerely
Nell St.Onge
Marquett, MI

Mrs. Pete St.Onge - January 12, 2006 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Mr. Kukuk was a wonderful man. My blessings & prayers to your family.

Carrie Jo (Nelson) Mellinger - January 12, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Hi Gerry and Family,

We will be unable to attend Ed's funeral as we are in Denver until the first part of February. We mourn with you - Ed left his mark in this world.

Love, Dave and Mary Lou

Dave and Mary Lou Blomquist - January 12, 2006 at 12:00 AM