



## Elmer J. Eckhardt

May 24, 1942 - March 2, 2019

It is with great sadness that the family of Elmer John Eckhardt Jr. announce his passing after a brief illness, on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at the age of 76.

Elmer will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 55 years, Donna and his beloved daughter, Tonia (Kenny) Chafetz. Elmer will be greatly missed by his two granddaughters Jessika and Kasey Chafetz and his constant companion, his dog Buddy. In addition he will be warmly remembered by his sisters, Carol Rasmussen of Marengo, Illinois and Dona Schwedersky and Penny Chamberlin of Belvidere, Illinois.

Elmer was preceded in death by his father and mother, Elmer and Gladys Eckhardt as well as his brother, Bill Eckhardt and brothers in law, James Schwedersky, Mike Chamberlin and James Anderson.

Elmer was born and raised in Belvidere, Illinois. Elmer moved to Iron Mountain over forty years ago where he was surrounded by many friends and family members that included Elwood and Carolyn Anderson, Alan and Elizabeth Anderson and Diana Anderson as well as countless nieces and nephews that were near and dear to him.

Elmer was self employed and owned several businesses that included E&E Petroleum Maintenance in Belvidere, Illinois and Elmer's Excavating in Iron

Mountain. Elmer later started building custom homes and is responsible for well over 100 homes in the area. Elmer enjoyed scuba diving, boating, archery, metal detecting and anything in the great outdoors.

Services to celebrate Elmer's life will be held at the First Covenant Church, 125 East "H" Street, Iron Mountain, Michigan on Friday, March 8th. Visitation will be in the church Fireside Room from 10:00am to 12:00 pm followed by a memorial service noon. Pastor Thomas Lach will officiate.

Burial will be in Iron Mountain Cemetery Park.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Elmer Eckhardt online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

First Covenant Church  
125 East H Street  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

## Funeral Service

MAR 8. 12:00 PM (CT)

First Covenant Church  
125 East H Street  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

# Tribute Wall

BS

“ Donna;  
We were shocked and very sad when Jeff told us about Elmer Saturday morning. We had hoped that he was out of the woods after all his time in the hospital here. I've known Elmer for 60 years, since I used to run around with his brother Bill. We sure had fun diving out at Spread Eagle with you guys.

*Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. We will always hold fond memories of our time together, and will never forget Elmer.*

*God Bless You*

*Jan & Bill Steinborn*

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**Bill Steinborn** - March 07, 2019 at 02:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Elmer J. Eckhardt.



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March 07, 2019 at 09:17 AM

RF

“ Donna, so sorry for your great loss. We will all miss Elmer. I will never forget all our good times together.

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**Ray Famiani** - March 06, 2019 at 04:12 PM

JH

“ So many memories from the last 12 years! I guess the greatest one is that you guys were our first ever customers when we moved to the UP and bought the campground. Our friendship started there and continued on with many great dinners, games of pool, stopping by for coffee and little adventures like kayaking and our one attempt at x-country skiing! We will always remember Elmer's stories about boating and that one time you stayed at our campground in your boat all summer! He was a special friend to us and we will always cherish the memories!

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**Jerry and Carol Hammonds** - March 06, 2019 at 11:25 AM

SC

“ Donna. I was so sad to see that Elmer passed away. I'll keep you in my prayers.

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**Sally Champeau** - March 06, 2019 at 09:57 AM

JA

“ I will always be grateful for my friendship with Elmer and Donna and the knowledge I got while helping them with one of their beautiful homes. Rest in Peace my friend. You earned your place in Heaven  
Jerri Applin

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**Jerri Applin** - March 05, 2019 at 05:08 PM

GL

“ Donna and Family,  
I am so sorry for your loss,  
Elmer was such a wonderful man. He always had a smile, and a kind word,  
for everyone. I was privileged to know him, and call him my friend.  
I am grateful, to have known him, and I will always remember him...  
Gene Levenburg

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**Gene Levenburg** - March 05, 2019 at 04:54 PM

DG

“ Dear Donna and Family, So sorry to hear of Elmer's passing. You are in my thoughts and prayers.  
Donna Carlson Gunter

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**Donna Carlson Gunter** - March 05, 2019 at 02:02 PM

CW

“ Carl and Judy Weinert purchased the Heartfelt Memories for the family of Elmer J. Eckhardt.



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**Carl and Judy Weinert** - March 04, 2019 at 07:31 PM

KO

“ Dear Donna and Tonia and family, My deepest sympathy to you all on the passing of our friend and loved one Elmer. I thank him for his friendship with my brother Ed. Elmer taught him a lot and Ed loved him dearly. May the Good Lord welcome him with open arms and may He give his everlasting love and guidance to you all. Rest in peace Elmer. Gone but never forgotten.

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**Kathy O'Connell** - March 04, 2019 at 07:17 PM