



## Elroy Mattson

March 18, 1928 - March 18, 2012

Elroy "Red" Mattson, 84, of Iron Mountain, passed away on Sunday, March 18, 2012 at Dickinson County Healthcare System.

Red was born April 11, 1927 in Metropolitan, MI, son of the late Emil and Ida (Wickman) Mattson. Before completing high school, he entered the U.S. Navy and served his country during WWII. Upon his return from the war, Red continued his schooling and graduated from Felch High School in 1947. He then completed two years of college at an Agricultural Institute for farming. Red married Denyce Blomquist on September 13, 1947 at Zion Lutheran Church in Metropolitan. He started out working in the woods and at the stone quarry in Felch. He was then employed by Grede Foundry for ten years as a molder. Red began his career in law enforcement as an officer with the Iron Mountain Police Dept., serving 18 years and receiving a Medal of Valor. During this time, he and his wife, Dee, owned and operated Mattson's Service Station in Felch for several years. Red served the last 12 years of his career as the Dickinson County Sheriff, retiring in 1988. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Metropolitan where he was baptized and confirmed. Red was also a member of First Lutheran Church in Iron Mountain where he was active in the Horseshoe and Softball Leagues. He enjoyed all sports and was an avid Detroit Tigers fan. He also enjoyed playing cards, trips to the casino, fishing and hunting.

Red is survived by his wife, Denyce; three children, Elyce Yunowich of Beecher, WI, Esley (Sharon) Mattson of Munising, MI, and Dennis (Gerry Lynn) Mattson of Iron Mountain; a brother, David Mattson of Iron Mountain; six grandchildren, Heather (Mike) Johnson, Esley Mattson, Jeanne (Paul) Jerks, James Yunowich, Melissa (Dave) Green and Mike (Shawn) McDonald; 11 great-grandchildren, Brandon & Carissa Johnson, Mackenzie & Malcolm Jerks, Cody, Tara, David, & Tony Green, and Collin, Morgan & Chance McDonald; brothers and sisters-in-law, Sally Mattson, Frank DiBiase, Donna (Jack) Cootware, Daniel (Shirley) Blomquist, David (Mary Lou) Blomquist and Diane (Roger) Adams; special friend, Dr. John Loewen; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two infant sons, Paul and Earl Mattson; two brothers, Esley and Donald Mattson; and two sisters, Lois DiBiase and Phyllis Bongi.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 4:00 to 7:00pm at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain and on Thursday from 10:00 to 11:00am at Zion Lutheran Church in Metropolitan. Funeral services will follow at 11:00am on Thursday at the church. Pastor Joel Smeby will officiate. Burial will be in the Felch Cemetery. The Felch-Breen VFW Post #4803 will conduct military graveside honors.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Elroy "Red" Mattson 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.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 21. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

MAR 22. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church  
W4703 Metropolitan Rd.  
Felch, MI 49831

## Funeral Service

MAR 22. 11:00 AM (CT)

Zion Lutheran Church  
W4703 Metropolitan Rd.  
Felch, MI 49831

# Tribute Wall

BE

“ *My deepest sympathy..a nice guy. Also on your loss of hubby & mother~in~law.*

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**Barbara Van Laanen Brown - La Crosse, WI - friend of Elyce** - September 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *My condolences to Dee and all the Family. I knew Red since the 60s when my father was sheriff and he would stop by the jail kitchen .Every school day while in grade school I walked past his home and he'd always say hello. He was very kind when my father passed and later when I was a fireman in Iron Mountain. He was a very good man and peace officer. I will miss him.. Jason Julian*

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**Jason Julian - Dewitt, MI** - March 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *Sorry for your familys loss*

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**Amy Mattson** - March 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ *We will always remember Red with a smile on his face and a soft spot in his heart for Missy and her horses.  
We pray for comfort to those who will miss him most.*

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**Mike and Cindy Michalski - Hardwood, MI - friend** - March 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ On behalf of the deputies and staff of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Office I would like to extend our deepest sympathy for the loss of Sheriff Mattson. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance to the family.

*Sheriff Lee Teschendorf*

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**Leland Teschendorf - Caro, MI** - March 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ So Sorry to hear of Red's passing into a better world. He was so much fun and pleasant to be around. He was loved by all and especially his wonderful family. Special thoughts for you all when dealing with your grave loss. May the lord guide you in the following days. Hugs and We Love You.!

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**Mark and Jeanne Berdinner - Foster City, MI - friends** - March 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ I was saddened by the passing of Sheriff Elroy Mattson (once a sheriff always a sheriff) Our prayers are with him in spirit and we pray God to take his family in his hands and comfort them during their time of grief. He will be missed by everyone, God;s peace will be with the family during this difficult time.

*Sheriff Bradley D. Balk*

*Sheriff of St. Joseph County Michigan.*

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**Bradley D. Balk - Centreville , MO - Sheriff of St. Joseph County** - March 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ So sorry for your loss. Always enjoyed talking with "Red' and watching the old timers play cards. Lots of good memories. Love, Randy

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**Randy Shivy - Hope Mills, NC** - March 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ You will all be in my daily prayers during this difficult time. May the promise of the resurrection won through Jesus Christ bring you great comfort. Love and prayers, Cori

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**Cori Johnson - Wallace, MI - Relative** - March 21, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ Dear Auntie Dee and family,

*We are so sad to hear about Uncle Red's passing and wished we lived closer so we could be there for the funeral.*

*He was so good to mom while she was sick and after she passed he did so many nice things to help dad. Besides being a good husband and father he was a wonderful brother and brother in law. We will be forever grateful for that.*

*We hope to get to Iron Mountain as soon as we can arrange it and hope to see you all then.*

*Until then please know our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this most difficult time.*

*Love you all,*

*Tom and Yvonne*

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**Tom and Yvonne Sericati - New Baltimore, MI - neice** - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *Dear Dee and Family,*

*Tom and I are spending the month of March in Florida, we are in the Clearwater/Largo area. Just read the Daily News and was so sad to hear of Red's passing.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this most difficult time. Please know Dee that if we were home I'd be there for you, just like you were always there for me when Mom died.*

*God bless you!*

*Love, Shirley and Tom DeRidder*

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**Tom and Shirley DeRidder - Escanaba, MI - Friend - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

MF

“ *Sympathy and prayers.*

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**Mary Lou (Kenny) Baldrice - Henderson, NV - Friend - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

JM

“ *Dennis and family,*

*Sure sorry to hear of your loss. My deepest sympathy. You are in my prayers. Red was a good man!*

*Once again- my sympathy.*

*Jim Fornetti*

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**Jim Fornetti - Iron Mountain, MI - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM**

CN

“ Dear Aunty Dee and family:  
I just saw Uncle about a month ago and thought what a great guy to come see my dad when he wasn't feeling well himself. My thoughts and prayer are with u and all of your family during this difficult time. I gave him a kiss when i saw him and said, you look just like my grandma. Davey was with and said who do I look like the mail man. Just a sweet memory to lighten your grief. lub

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**Cindy Reynolds - IRon Mountain, MI - Niece** - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LU

“ Dear Auntie Dee, We are so sorry for loss of Uncle Red. I often remember his great sense of humor. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Bob and Luanne Hanson

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**Luanne Hanson - Blaine, MN - uncle** - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RF

“ Denise,  
We send our deepest sympathy to you and your family. May the love of family and friends give you comfort, and the love of God give you peace. Let the happy memories replace the sadness in your hearts. Roger and Ruthie Solberg

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**Roger and Ruthie Solberg - Ishpeming, MI - Friend** - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM